

He Sapa Black Hills Center for American Indian Arts and Performance by ATTA

DATE: January 23, 2012
FROM: Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates
RE: Progress Report – Vision 2012 Project Status/Update
TO: Mayor Sam Kookier
Members, Rapid City Common Council

The Vision 2012 project awarded to the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates remains fully engaged for fund-raising at this time. Wyss Associates has completed the pre-construction design documents and has advised that the project is “ready for bid”. Needless to say, this is a difficult economic climate to be raising any kind of capital or funding, public or private. However, we are moving forward and hope that more partnership and marketing components come together to make a convincing plan to allocate resources towards capital construction efforts.

In September 2011, ATTA obtained a resolution of support from the Great Plains Tribal Chairman’s Association (see attached). This resolution of support in combination with other key elements of tribal support will be submitted for funding requests. This particular resolution of support is now helpful in moving forward on a number of tribal investment fronts.

As a significant note, in December 2011 ATTA submitted a request for match funding to the Shakopee Mdewankanton Sioux Community in Minnesota. Due to pending resolutions creating a less than ideal time-frame, the ATTA request was made at towards the end of the year. While ATTA was denied this round we were advised to re-submit in the 2012 program year. We are preparing another submission to be submitted at the earliest possible time but with more support from surrounding tribal entities.

This work was completed in October 2011. In February 2011, we were notified of a grant opportunity called “Our Town” with the National Endowment for the Arts. The application process was two-stage and ATTA was invited as a finalist to apply with a full proposal which was done in April 2011. During the month of October 2011, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts arrived to Rapid City to announce an award given to the Red Cloud Indian Heritage Center in a much lesser amount that what ATTA had requested. We were advised that there were other submission opportunities coming up and we will be checking on the details with NEA staff in Washington DC.

There are few federal grants that include construction as an allowable cost; however, we continue to network and contact federal program officers in various agencies for advice and guidance.

We continue to be busy with programming, content development, employment training strategy planning, artist engagement, and outreach to entities such as the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC; Standing Bear Museum and Foundation in Oklahoma, Archway Monument Kearney Nebraska, and now we are in

preliminary contact with the Floreman Group who is designing and developing a Native American culture interpretive center to be sited in North Omaha off the I-680. This project is very similar market plans and scope for Native American cultural themes and focal points.

I will be spending 10 days in Washington DC in February to continue to scope possible federal funding and private foundations that might have an interest in supporting the project construction needs.

We are requesting an additional two (2) year extension on the lease agreement so that we might comfortably continue financial planning and development given the nature of the financial climate and challenging grant environment that we experience today. We are confident the market value will rise to the top in our tribal investment sector as federal support funds and grants become less and less in the coming years. It is all about timing and we ask that you be patient with us and continue forward our efforts accordingly. We expect support to be gradual and continuing along in the coming months.

With best regards



Randy Ross

Project Manager

Vision 2012 project

ATTA



GREAT PLAINS TRIBAL CHAIRMAN'S ASSOCIATION

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Resolution No. 28-9-28-11

GREAT PLAINS TRIBAL CHAIRMAN'S ASSOCIATION (GPTCA)

Support for the project and efforts of ATTA to seek funding to redirect tourism revenues into the Great Plain Tribes Reservations

- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association (GPTCA) is composed of the 16 elected Chairs and Presidents or their duly appointed representatives of the sovereign Indian Tribes and Nations recognized by Treaties entered into with the United States that are within the Great Plains Region of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association was formed to promote the common interests of the Great Plains sovereign Indian Tribes and their members in the states of ND, SD and NE; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has recognized the sovereign status of Tribal Nations through the U.S. Constitution, treaties and by numerous federal statutes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates (ATTA) was organized in 1993 by tribal governments in South Dakota under the Rosebud Sioux Tribe law and order code as a 501c(3) non-profit corporation, the ATTA tribal consortium works to enhance and promote cultural tourism as a means of economic development and growth, while maintaining respect for tribal traditions and lands; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates (ATTA) exists in service to the Indian reservations and tribal communities in South Dakota and tribes in the Northern Plains region; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Tourism industry in South Dakota is over \$1 billion annual impact and is the number 2 revenue producer for the State and through market force economics grounded in the ATTA Vision 2012 project seeks to obtain a greater market share of direct impact for Indian people in South Dakota and the region by re-directing high impact tourism traffic from Rapid City to the reservations and thus keeping visitors in the area for longer periods of time; and,

- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association hereby appreciates and recognizes the City of Rapid City for committing \$812,000 in Vision 2012 funding towards the "He Sapa Center for Northern Plains Indian Arts and Performance", established as a focal point Vision 2012 funded project of the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates (ATTA) with a Phase 1 cost estimate of \$1.5 million and a total project cost estimate of \$4.5 million through Phase III.
- WHEREAS,** the "He Sapa Center for Northern Plains Indian Arts and Performance" features a 4,000 (four thousand) seat amphitheater with multi-use purposes, an Native Arts pavilion, a living history village, a Native image sculpture garden, Native food concessions, and daily reservation excursion tours, extensive digital mapping and internet/social networking marketing information services featuring reservation tourism opportunities; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association further recognizes the City of Rapid City for executing a long term lease with the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates for 3.3 acres of land located adjacent and contiguous, or just north, of the Rapid City Journey Museum located at 222 New York Street; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association hereby recognizes the market force impacts and value of the ATTA Vision 2012 project in building bridges, providing cultural education, showcase historical truths, creating a larger proportional market opportunity for increased international visitors to surrounding Indian reservations in the Black Hills vicinity and region.
- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association supports and recognizes the potential for an expanded Northern Plains Native American art marketing opportunities that will provide a greater economic benefit to Native artists of the area and region; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association appreciates and recognizes the City of Rapid City for its efforts to work with the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates and it's partners in addressing effective market force economics that will benefit the Mni Luzahan Oyate (Rapid City Indian community), bring greater tourism visitor traffic to surrounding Indian reservations, increase visitation for the State, and Region for a larger proportional market share increase in Native arts marketing, increased international tourism visitation, and improved Tribal relations; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Wyss Associates architect firm has construction documents ready for bid and City of Rapid City has \$812,000 ready for construction once matching funds are achieved; and,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association hereby expresses strong support for the project and support the efforts of ATTA, as a tribal-based tribally chartered consortium non-profit, to obtain financial support from the Shakopee Mdewankaton Sioux Community in at least a 50/50 match of funds committed from Vision 2012 funding or a request of \$812,000.00 to be matched by Vision 2012 funding which stands ready in escrow by City of Rapid City.

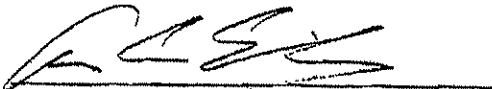
Resolution No. 28-9-28-11

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was enacted at a duly called meeting of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association held at Rapid City, South Dakota on September 28, 2011 at which a quorum was present, with 10 members voting in favor, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstaining, and 6 members not present.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2011.

ATTEST:



**Secretary,
Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association**

Attest:



**Chairman, Tex Hall, Chairman, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations (Three
Affiliated Tribes)
Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association**