

2015 THPO/SHPO Summit
What does consultation mean to me? (post-it note exercise)

Post-it notes were grouped according to like subjects.

What it is NOT:

- DAD = decide, announce, defend “paternalism”
- Just sending notification letters or generic comment letters
- A letter or phone call

Timing:

- Should be early and often
- Start as early as possible and continue until the project is approved. Agencies shouldn't assume they know what tribes want

Listening:

- Listening to all with respect and willingness to work together
- Listening to what I have to say
- Listening to tribal people

Respectful Relationships:

- Building relationships
- Respect on the part of all involved
- Face-to-face dialog – not just letters and phone calls
- A process to build trust that leads to open and honest dialog. Ideally it leads to a partnership, improves/informs the decision-making process, results in the best over-all alternative, and builds a lasting relationship
- Government to Government relationship is important
- Recognize some tribes only have one person doing all the work

Active Engagement:

- Active engagement to identify, evaluate cultural resources, identify effects, and resolve effects, Key word is active
- Being authentic and genuine and transparent.
- Focus on positive solutions
- The chance to be heard and actually have concerns be addressed, not just “noted.”
- Recognizing local expertise. Finding solutions
- Collaboration
- Honest and straightforward communication
- Collaborating, developing trust and making commitments, following through.
- Ability to listen and understand opposing views and compromise to make a decision. Be present at the table
- Allowing everyone to voice their opinions and working together to accommodate different interests

Other:

- Protecting land, animals, plants, medicinals, traditional foods, water, history, cultural resources, people, our children