ESTABLISHMENT OF A USET TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes’ leadership; and

WHEREAS, USET is dedicated to enhancing the development of strong and stable tribal governments, and assisting member Tribes and their governments in dealing with public policy issues; and

WHEREAS, transportation issues impact virtually every aspect of a community, such as economic development, education, health care, travel, tourism, planning, land use, and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) Program is regulated by both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Transportation and undergoes continuous changes due to congressional appropriations, legislation, technical corrections, as well as changes in agency policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of tribal communities continue to be at risk by the lack of adequate planning, development, construction and maintenance funding of transportation systems for the USET member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the issue of consultation, cooperation and coordination among tribal, federal, state and local agencies in developing transportation programs and securing funding is a matter of great interest and concern to USET for the advancement of sound, appropriate government-to-government relations at all levels; and

WHEREAS, Tribes have the ability to individually determine the level and method of IRR administrative responsibility they wish to assume, based on their own transportation interests and relative needs; and

WHEREAS, inefficient communication and the continued lack of administrative and technical assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Region has negatively impacted the development and funding capabilities of the transportation/roads programs for the Tribes within the Eastern Region; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors hereby establishes a Transportation Committee to continually seek innovative ways to improve and strengthen transportation and infrastructure needs of its member Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Marksville, LA, on Thursday, May 24, 2001.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”