

13TH Annual National Tribal Land Staff Conference Planet Hollywood Las Vegas, NV

April 2-4, 2024



PLANNING & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Presented April 2, 2024, by
Amy J. Wilson, Founder & Principal Consultant

Social Economic Energy & Resource Renewal, LLC (d/b/a SEE Renewal)

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Presenter



AMY J. WILSON

Founder & Principal Consultant
SEE Renewal, LLC

Proven commitment to Indian Country and experience in advising, leading, coordinating, collaborating and meeting organizational goals.

14 years experience in planning and policy at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels of government. Developed economic, land-use, infrastructure, natural resources, extra-territorial, emergency, and program plans and reports. Managed two federal grant programs; facilitated a Tribal Utility Authority Restructure; developed and executed processes and procedures for investigating and determining land trespass on Indian lands; developed a federal fluid minerals estate program plan; assisted in developing Indian Loan Guarantee Program plan; formulated policy for tribal and local government; and performed development review.

Senior Program Analyst @ Division of Energy and Mineral Development, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs
City Planner @ City of Fort Lupton, Colorado
Legal Intern @ Colorado Oil and Gas Conversation Commission, State of Colorado
Planning Intern @ Clarion Associates

Master of Urban and Regional Planning @ University of Colorado, College of Architecture & Planning
Master of Legal Studies in Energy & Natural Resources @ University of Denver, Sturm College of Law
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology @ Colorado State University
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts @ San Juan College



SEE RENEWAL SERVICES AND PRODUCTS

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Sectors

Market Segment



Tribal Government



**Tribal Enterprises &
Private-Sector
Businesses**



Intermediaries

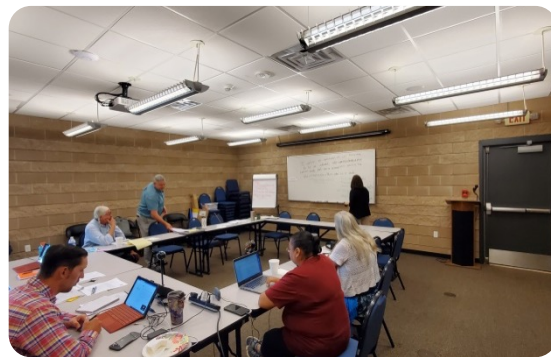


Service & Product Offering

Action-oriented solutions and renewable strategies that enhance opportunities.



Advisory



Technical



Economic Recovery



Support & Training



Clients



SESSION OVERVIEW

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**Advancing Tribal Sovereignty
in the Digital Age**


**Planning & Community Involvement
in the Digital Age**



Source: SEE Renewal, LLC



Session Agenda

- Learning Objectives
- Digital Age Defined
- Planning & Community Involvement
- Digging Deeper
- Making Connections/Application
- Group Activity

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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Planning and Community Involvement in the Digital Age

Learning Objectives

1. Illustrate the relationship between the digital age and planning and policy.
2. Express the effects of the digital age on the community and economic development, government and public involvement.
3. Evaluate and share lessons learned.

DIGITAL AGE DEFINED

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Digital Age Defined

“A time when large amounts of information are widely available to many people, largely through computer technology.”

Source: Collins Dictionary



Digital Age Defined (Alternative)

“The modern age regarded as a time in which **information has become a commodity** that is quickly and widely disseminated and easily available especially through the use of computer technology.”

Source: Merriam-Webster



PLANNING & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

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Planning & Community Involvement in the Digital Age

Build consensus



Justify funding request



Streamline decision making



Maximize investments



DIGGING DEEPER

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Digging Deeper

Conceptualizing the Community in the Digital Age

- **Fragmentation**
 - Urban-form disconnected from function in a larger network
- **Opportunities**
 - Mismatch between activity and place

Digging Deeper



01

**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**



02

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**



03

**PUBLIC
INVOLVEMENT**



04

CULTURE



05

GOVERNMENT

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Education



Social services



Elders



Health care



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Jobs & Employment



Private-sector Businesses



Tribal Enterprises



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



Formal



Informal



CULTURE



Customs



Language



Values



GOVERNMENT



Make & Enforce Laws



Manage Land & Resources



Provide Services



Represent Members



MAKING CONNECTIONS

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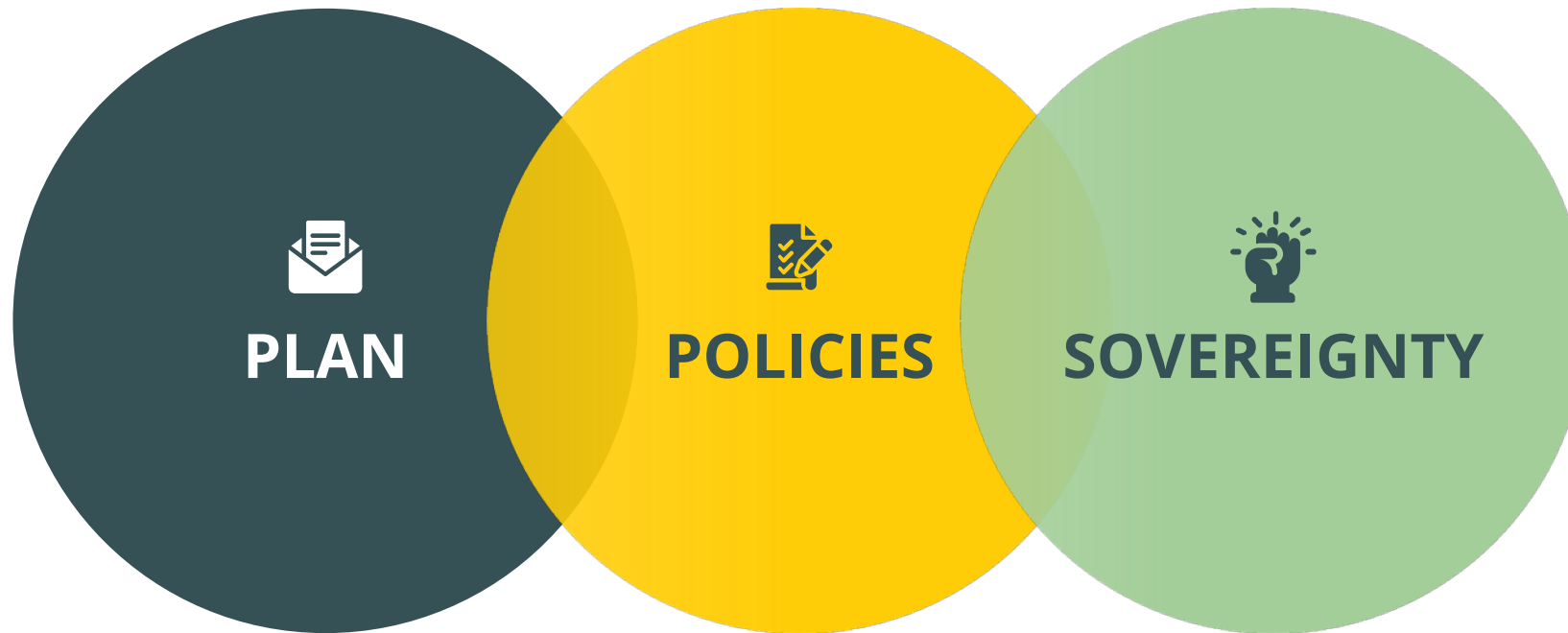
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Making Connections

Planning & Policy to Advance Tribal Sovereignty in the Digital Age



Community Development, Economic Development, Public Involvement, Government



Making Connections

Sovereignty

“[Indian sovereignty] is the principle that those powers vested in an Indian tribe, are not, in general, delegated powers granted by express acts of congress, but rather **inherent powers of a limited sovereignty which as never been extinguished.** Each **Indian tribe begins its relationship with the federal government as a sovereign power,** recognized as such in treaty and legislature.”

Source: Felix Cohen, Handbook of Federal Indian Law (1942)



Making Connections

- **Community Development**
 - Understand your population and evaluate solutions
- **Economic Development**
 - Promote e-commerce, remote jobs, and innovative enterprises
- **Public Involvement**
 - Engage the community in new ways

Making Connections

- **Culture**
 - Protect and enhance
- **Government**
 - Use information to inform plans and decision-making

APPLICATION

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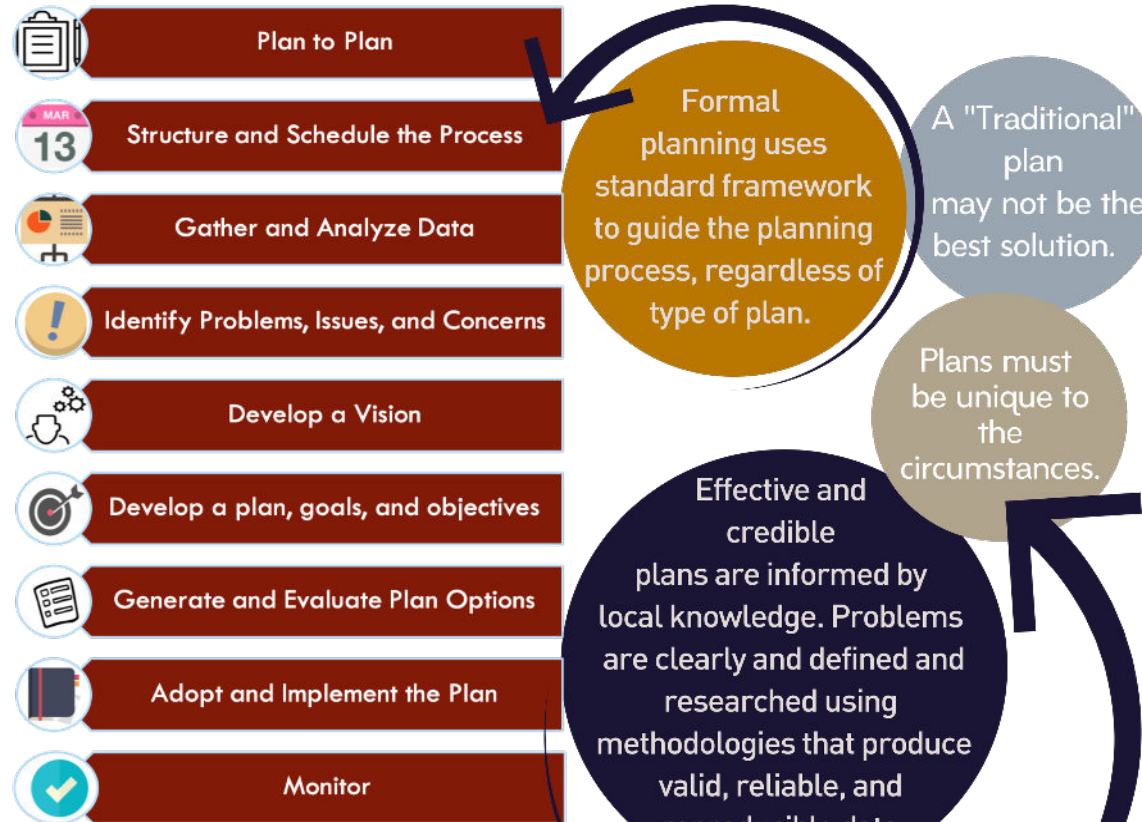
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Application

Planning Process



Source: SEE Renewal, LLC



Application

Planning Outcome



Application

Public Records Laws

- Tribal public records laws
- Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
- State public records laws (*Worcester v. Georgia, 31 U.S. 515 (1832)*)



SESSION REVIEW

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Session Review

Promote Planning & Community Involvement To Advance Sovereignty

- Information is a commodity that can be managed through tribal planning and policy to build consensus, streamline decision-making, justify funding requests, and maximize investments.
- The digital age promotes fragmentation and creates a unique opportunity for tribes and their members to increase competitiveness.
- Exercise and assert inherent powers through well-thought-out planning and coordinated public involvement to maximize opportunities and protect tribal interests.
- Consider adopting and implementing tribal public records laws to protect against unwanted commoditization or dissemination of information.



QUESTIONS

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GROUP ACTIVITY

Group Activity

1. Consider the topic areas discussed (i.e., community development, economic development, public involvement, culture, government) and use the post-it notes provided to write the effects of the digital age on your community.
2. Consider the positive and negative ways your tribal government and its departments, programs, and members are utilizing technology and information, and evaluate what needs to be addressed.
3. Post the notes you are comfortable sharing to the respective flip-chart paper (i.e., community development, economic development, public involvement, culture, government) for the larger group to consider.
4. Reconvene for group discussion to exchange ideas on what you can do in your role as tribal staff or leader to maximize benefits/minimize negatives of the digital age on your community.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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