

PLAN OF OPERATION FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

1. Establishment, Purposes and Powers

- (a) The Cultural Preservation Committee of the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council is hereby established as a standing committee of the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council.
- (b) The Cultural Preservation Committee shall have the following purposes and powers:
 - (1) To be responsible for coordinating the activities of the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council relating to cultural, religious, historic and archaeological resources, sites, customs, traditions or events occurring or located within the Nation, or within the boundaries of the historic Papagueria, and, in consultation with the elderly of the Nation, to review and recommend legislation, regulations and resolutions relating to the preservation and protection of such resources, sites, customs, traditions or events.
 - (2) To have legislative oversight over any legislation and activities which would adversely impact upon cultural, religious, historic and archeological resources, sites, customs, traditions or events occurring or located within the Nation or within the boundaries of the historic Papagueria, and, in consultation with the elderly of the Nation, to recommend to the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council appropriate legislation, regulations and resource or land use planning which will preserve or protect such resources, sites, customs, traditions or events.
 - (3) In coordination with the Natural Resources Committee to advise the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council of all practical means, consistent with other essential considerations of the Tohono O’odham national policy, to improve and coordinate the plans, functions, programs and resources to the end that the Nation will preserve the important historic, cultural, religious and natural aspects of Tohono O’odham national heritage; will maintain whenever possible, an environment which supports diversity of individual choice; will assure for all members safe, healthful, production and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings; and will fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations.

2. Membership; Selection; Term of Office; Officers

- (a) Membership. The Committee shall consist of five members of the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Legislative Council shall be ex officio, non-voting members of the Committee.

- (b) Selection. The five members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council in the first regular session of the Legislative Council following each general election.
- (c) Term of Office. Committee members shall serve for a term of two years or until their successor is appointed.
- (d) Officers. The Officers of the Committee shall be elected in accordance with Article XII, Section 3(J) of the Legislative Rules. The Committee shall designate one of the remaining members to act as Secretary.

3. Meetings; quorum

- (a) Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held at the time designated therefor by the Tohono O’odham Council during regular sessions of the Council. Special meetings shall be held on the call of the Chairman, Vice Chairman or two members of the Committee.
- (b) At any meeting, a quorum shall consist of three of the five members.
- (c) Place.
 - (1) All meetings shall be held in Sells, Arizona unless a different location is set by the Committee during a meeting at which a quorum is present, and except as provided in this subsection (c).
 - (2) If the Committee determines there is good cause in accordance with this subsection (c), it may by consensus or majority vote:
 - a. permit a member or other individual who provides advance notice, to the extent possible, to attend a committee meeting by phone, a meeting application, or other technology;
 - b. hold a meeting by phone, a meeting application, or other technology; provided that the committee chairperson or vice chairperson shall provide advance written notice to the Council officers.
 - (3) For purposes of this subsection 3.(c), examples of good cause include: when necessary to achieve a quorum or maximize participation; to address transportation or health issues, or weather conditions; for efficiency; or in response to emergency conditions.
- (d) Until such time as the Tohono O’odham Council adopts rules of procedure for standing committees of the Legislative Council or for this Committee, the Committee is empowered to develop its own procedures for the conduct of meetings, provided that any formal, substantive actions shall be initiated and undertaken by written resolution certified by the presiding officer, or

memorialized by written memorandum setting forth the action taken and signed or initialized by the presiding officer and filed with the Legislative Secretary of the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council.

4. Reimbursement

Members of the Committee will, upon presentation of proper vouchers, be reimbursed for travel expenses for such meeting during which its assigned business was conducted.

5. Conflict of Interest

Committee members who have personal business interests or family relationships in business or personal matters before the Committee will not be eligible to participate in any Committee proceedings or to vote on the topic.

6. Amendments

This Plan of Operation may be amended from time to time by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council upon recommendation of this Committee and approval of the Rules Committee of the Council.