U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000



OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

September 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Tribal Consultation on the Implementation Plan to Develop a Coordinated Environmental Review Process

On May 27, 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a <u>Dear Tribal Leader</u> letter announcing a consultation session, on June 21, 2021, to solicit input on the <u>Implementation Plan</u> to develop a coordinated environmental review process. As of August 25, 2021, HUD has received no verbal or written comments. To promote engagement, HUD is holding two additional consultation sessions and extending the timeframe for Tribes to submit written comments.

Since 2015, HUD has led an interagency workgroup to develop a coordinated environmental review process. In 2015, the workgroup issued a Final Report identifying measures that could be taken to coordinate agencies' environmental review processes within the existing framework. Between 2015 and 2017, HUD has held six Tribal consultation sessions and ten roundtables to receive input to develop and inform the Final Report, a draft Memorandum of Understanding, and a draft Implementation Plan. These documents along with additional background on the coordinated environmental review process can be found on CodeTalk.

I encourage you – and especially your staff who prepare the HUD environmental reviews – to review the Implementation Plan and provide feedback. HUD is interested in your thoughts on the proposed action items in the Implementation Plan, as well as any ideas you have to address the Final Report recommendations and inefficiencies in the environmental review process. Comments, which must be received by October 22, 2021, at 11:59:59 EDT, can be sent via email to Codetalk@hud.gov. Comments and input will be considered before the Implementation Plan is finalized.

The consultation sessions will be held on September 13, 2021, from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM EDT and October 7, 2021, from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM EDT.

The call-in details are below and will also be posted on CodeTalk.

September 13, 2021, details here:

Step 1: Dial into the consultation session (you may join 10 minutes early)

Dial-in: 888-251-2949 or 215-861-0694

Access Code: 1207201#

Step 2: Join the consultation session on your computer. **Entry Link:** https://ems8.intellor.com/login/840669

October 7, 2021, details here:

Step 1: Dial into the consultation session (you may join 10 minutes early)

Dial-in: 888-251-2949 or 215-861-0694

Access Code: 7151573#

Step 2: Join the consultation session on your computer. **Entry Link:** https://ems8.intellor.com/login/840670

(We understand that some people have difficulty logging into WebEx. We recommend that you use the Google Chrome web browser to log into WebEx.)

HUD greatly appreciates your continued partnership and collaboration in serving Indian Country.

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Frechette

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs