



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

February 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Strengthening Tribal Consultation

Dear Tribal Leader:

On January 26, 2021, President Biden issued a [Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships](#). The Memorandum affirms the Administration's commitment to Tribal sovereignty and to fulfilling our Federal trust responsibility. The Memorandum also reaffirms the policy announced in [Presidential Memorandum of November 5, 2009 \(Tribal Consultation\)](#), which directed Federal agencies to develop and periodically revise their tribal consultation policies to ensure that Federal agencies consider Tribal feedback when developing policies that have Tribal implications, consistent with [Executive Order 13175](#).

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been committed to engaging in consultation early on before the agency begins drafting policy and continues to engage and incorporate Tribal input until the adoption of policy. However, we welcome additional insight from you on how we can make the process even more robust and meaningful.

In accordance with the January 26<sup>th</sup> Memorandum, HUD will now develop a plan of actions that HUD will take to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. To do this, HUD is now seeking feedback from Tribal leaders on how we may strengthen Tribal consultation with our Tribal partners. Our goal is to ensure that we always engage in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation in the development of HUD policies that have Tribal implications.

If you have any recommendations or comments on how HUD could improve its Tribal consultation practices and policy, please submit your feedback via email to [tribalconsultationpolicy@hud.gov](mailto:tribalconsultationpolicy@hud.gov). We ask that you provide your feedback by April 5, 2021. Our current consultation policy can be found at: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/ih/regs/govtogov\\_tcp](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/regs/govtogov_tcp)

We are organizing virtual consultation sessions. The first consultation session is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2021 from 1 PM – 2:00 PM EST. The call information is as follows:

**Step 1:** Dial into the conference.

Conference Line: 888-251-2949 or 215-861-0694

Access Code: 4755419#

**Step 2:** Join the conference on your computer.

Entry Link: <https://ems8.intellor.com/login/836860>

Details for a second consultation session will come at a later date. Call-in information will be posted on the [CodeTalk website \(www.hud.gov/codetalk\)](http://www.hud.gov/codetalk) as well as sent out via a Dear Tribal Leader letter with the log-in details. Please keep in mind that due to the current COVID-19 National Emergency, in-person consultation sessions cannot take place.

This is an excellent opportunity to provide feedback and constructive thoughts on how HUD can engage in regular, meaningful, and robust tribal consultation. I strongly encourage you to participate.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in serving Indian Country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi J. Frechette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heidi J. Frechette  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Office of Native American Programs