



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

March 18, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader,

Last week, I was confirmed as the Secretary for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). I am honored that the Biden-Harris Administration has entrusted me with leading such an important agency and working with our Tribal partners to improve access to housing and community development in Indian Country.

I am a strong believer in HUD's programs and mission to serve those in need. Throughout my career I have devoted myself to a life of service and I stand ready to join you in addressing the priorities of Tribal communities while honoring our Federal Trust responsibility and the government-to-government relationship.

I know one of the best ways I can serve Tribal communities is to engage with Tribal leaders when formulating Federal policy. For that reason, I will be participating in HUD's next Tribal Consultation session, which is **scheduled for March 23, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.**

This consultation session is being held as part of HUD's response to President Biden's Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships, which directs HUD and other Federal agencies to engage with Tribal leaders to discuss how to improve Tribal consultation and the implementation of Executive Order 13175. I look forward to hearing directly from you on how HUD can improve its consultation policies and practices.

As Secretary, I plan to work closely with Tribal Nations and across the Federal Government to ensure that we improve equity in housing, tackle the pandemic, and proactively address the climate crisis in Tribal communities. I especially look forward to working with Deb Haaland, Secretary of the Interior, on these critical issues, as well as on working to expand homeownership on trust land.

Our work begins immediately with the recent enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which provides \$750 million dollars in HUD resources to Indian Country to support the continued fight against COVID-19. I am committed to getting these resources to your communities as quickly as possible as we work in collaboration to end this crisis.

I am honored to assume this new role as Secretary and look forward to engaging with you during HUD's upcoming Tribal Consultation session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marcia A. Judge".

Secretary,
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development