



**Deputy Secretary Adrienne Todman
Regional Tribal Roundtables
Recommended Action Items
March 2022**

Background

Consistent with President Biden’s [Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships](#), one of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD’s) top priorities is to provide regular and robust engagement with Tribal leaders while ensuring that HUD is effectively delivering on its mission to provide housing resources to Indian Country.

In the fall of 2021, Deputy Secretary Adrienne Todman represented the Federal Government in six regional roundtables to engage Tribal leaders and to discuss housing issues in Indian Country and their Tribal Nations. The six regional roundtables were held in October, November, and December 2021.

The following is a summary of some of the major issues discussed and the actions that HUD will take to help address each issue. HUD will continue to work daily to do all it can to support Tribal Nations in their efforts to ensure that every family has a decent place to call home.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Issue Discussed</u>	<u>Action Item</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
Homelessness	Tribes shared a need for additional funding for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program (both formula and competitive) and the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program to build more affordable housing in Indian Country, construct more homeless shelters, and provide wrap-around services.	HUD requested increased funding for Native American programs in the FY 2022 President’s Budget. HUD will continue to seek additional resources for critical Indian housing programs.	Ongoing
	Tribes shared information on homelessness in their communities, and the unique challenges	HUD’s Office of Native American Programs has been providing support to the Office of	Ongoing

	<p>they face with respect to both literal homelessness and severe overcrowding. Tribes also shared a desire to participate in the Continuum of Care (CoC) program.</p>	<p>Community Planning and Development’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs to address any policy issues related to ensuring that the CoC program is available to Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs).</p> <p>HUD has already tasked technical assistance providers with supporting the development of the first Tribal CoC.</p> <p>HUD has also conducted multiple consultation sessions seeking Tribal feedback on the CoC program.</p>	
<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>Tribes asked how HUD funding could serve as a catalyst to support skills development (local construction training) and shared some promising practices on how HUD programs can provide economic opportunities and help develop local job skills.</p>	<p>HUD will host a Tribal housing best practice webinar highlighting the Chickasaw Nation work force development program as a model for other Tribes to reference.</p> <p>Additionally, HUD continues to participate in the White House Council on Native American Affairs and the Economic Development Subcommittee on coordinating interagency collaboration on economic development in Indian Country.</p>	<p>Spring 2022 and ongoing</p>
<p>Housing Construction Costs</p>	<p>Tribal leaders conveyed concerns related to increased construction and shipping costs and the ongoing impact of inflation on addressing community housing needs.</p>	<p>HUD will update PIH Notice 2019-19 (Total Development Costs) to reflect recent increases in construction costs and inflation.</p> <p>HUD will continue to track trends related to construction and shipping costs and explore</p>	<p>Spring 2022 and ongoing</p>

		<p>ways it can provide Tribal grantees with assistance, support, and regulatory relief, where appropriate.</p> <p>This is a high priority area for the Administration and there are ongoing efforts to address this challenge of housing construction costs on many fronts.</p>	
Other Funding or resources for Indian Housing	Tribes conveyed an interest in exploring additional resources such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) to support the construction of Tribal housing.	<p>HUD will work closely with Federal partners at the Department of the Treasury to identify opportunities to expand the LIHTC for Tribal projects.</p> <p>HUD will prioritize identifying and promoting best practice examples that include LIHTC funding.</p>	Ongoing
Section 184 Mortgage Loans	The Section 184 program is a vital resource for Native American homebuyers. Tribes shared an interest in expanding program capacity to support more Native American families.	<p>HUD will explore opportunities to expand ONAP staff capacity to better assist Tribes by expediting processing times.</p> <p>HUD continues to make progress towards modernizing the Section 184 program. HUD is developing <i>Native Advantage</i>, which is a multi-year information technology modernization initiative that will improve processing times, improve lender user interface, expedite the loan guarantee process, and more. HUD launched the Claims module in December 2021 and will continue to expand system functionality in 2022 and 2023.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>FY 2023</p>

		<p>HUD will work to prioritize and finalize the Section 184 Proposed Rule and Publish it for public comments.</p> <p>HUD will encourage more Tribes to participate in the flexibilities offered under the HEARTH Act and seek Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) approval of their leasing regulations so that Tribes can approve leasing without having to secure BIA prior approval.</p>	Ongoing
Climate Change	Tribes discussed the impacts of climate change and Alaska Native village relocation and asked how HUD will be supporting Tribes in addressing climate change.	HUD is actively coordinating with BIA, the Denali Commission, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other partners to support the effective implementation of new Tribal programs funded in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. In addition, in February 2022, HUD launched a new Tribal Climate Resilience and Adaptation website, which provides case studies, best practices examples, and other resources for Tribes.	Ongoing
Environment	Tribes shared that environmental reviews can be complex, cause delays, which in turn can increase total project cost. Additionally, Tribes shared that there needs to be some form of flexibility or limitations on what types of activities should not have environmental reviews.	<p>In 2020, HUD re-established the Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure Interagency Task Force (THRIITF). HUD is leading this effort to streamline the environmental review process and provide additional support for Tribes.</p> <p>HUD is also providing support to the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council and is exploring how HUD can work with it</p>	Ongoing

		to support Tribes' compliance with environmental review requirements – particularly with respect to larger infrastructure projects.	
Infrastructure	Tribes discussed several challenges and opportunities related to developing infrastructure in Tribal communities.	HUD will highlight Tribes taking advantage of HUD funds to improve infrastructure via a best practice webinar. Additional resources will be posted on Codetalk along with recordings of all webinars.	Summer 2022
Broadband	Tribes discussed the need for Federal agencies to work together and improve coordination of Federal funding for broadband.	<p>HUD will work with Federal partners at the Departments of Commerce and Transportation on how to better coordinate funding infrastructure projects to address permitting and incorporating broadband infrastructure when roads are being built and to provide last mile broadband to homes.</p> <p>ONAP has participated in a series of broadband webinars some with other Federal agencies and will continue to post broadband related resources on Codetalk. Additional resources will be posted on Codetalk along with recordings of all joint webinars.</p>	Spring 2022
Indian Health Service	Tribes shared a desire to remove regulatory barriers that prevent comingling Indian Health Service (IHS) water and sewer infrastructure funding with HUD-funded housing.	HUD will work with its Federal partners at the IHS to discuss barriers that limit Tribes' ability to efficiently develop water and sewer infrastructure.	Ongoing
Income Limits	Tribes shared a desire to address the housing needs of more Tribal members, including – in	HUD has authority to grant additional flexibility to allow Tribes and TDHEs to	Ongoing

	<p>certain circumstances – families with incomes that exceed existing limits, stating that doing so would be in furtherance of the Federal trust responsibility.</p>	<p>serve over-income families under certain circumstances. Under NAHASDA, Tribes may only provide housing assistance to non-low-income Native families if they meet certain eligibility requirements. HUD recently published a Notice allowing additional flexibilities in this area for Tribal communities impacted by Presidentially declared disasters. HUD will continue to explore ways to extend additional flexibility to Tribes.</p>	
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