

MEMORANDUM

August 5, 2022

To: TRIBAL HOUSING CLIENTS

From: Ed Clay Goodman & Cari Baermann (HORRS STRAIG DE LA CARIE D

HOBBS, STRAUS, DEAN & WALKER, LLP

NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting; Treasury Programs Update; ERA and HAF Re:

Programs; and Introduce Additional Funding Opportunities under ARPA

This memorandum provides a synthesis of information presented during the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Legislative Committee meeting held on August 4, 2022, including an update from the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury) officials on Emergency Rental Assistance and Homeowner Assistance Fund Program issues and guidance. NAIHC Executive Director Tony Walters presided over the Legislative Committee meeting.

I. NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting

a. Legislative Update

Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) reauthorization efforts are continuing. There are two versions of the NAHASDA bill that have been introduced: S.2264 and H.R.5195. Key provisions of the Senate version of the bill (S.2264) include:

- Authorizing NAHASDA programs through 2032;
- Creating an Assistant Secretary for Indian Housing at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban development (HUD);
- Re-establishing a Drug Elimination Program for tribal communities;
- Consolidating the environmental review requirements for housing;
- Recognizing tribal sovereignty to govern maximum rent requirements;
- Allowing tribal housing programs to access the Indian Health Service (IHS) sanitation funding:

- Making tribes eligible for HUD Housing Counseling grants;
- Including HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) provisions; and
- Leveraging by using NAHASDA funding as a match for other federal grants.

The Senate bill (S.2264) has ten bipartisan co-sponsors. It has passed out of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA), and the next step is a vote by the full Senate. Additionally, the S.2264 bill version of NAHASDA was included in the Senate's draft fiscal year (FY) 2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) appropriations, which was released on July 27, 2022.

NAIHC is currently working to identify another must-pass bill to which this NAHASDA bill can be added so that it passes the Senate. If the Senate NAHASDA bill passes the Senate, it would still then have to pass the House. However, the House has already expressed concerns with this S.2264 bill. For example, the House leadership does not support the change to the 30% rule for rents and homebuyer payments contained in S.2264. Furthermore, the House leadership would like to add language that targets the five tribes ("Five Tribes") in Oklahoma (Cherokee Nation, Seminole Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Chickasaw Nation, and the Choctaw Nation). Specifically, the House leadership has proposed withholding NAHASDA funding from the Five Tribes unless they provide housing assistance to Freedmen descendants.

The House NAHASDA bill, H.R.5195, has one sponsor, Financial Services Committee Chair Maxine Waters (D-CA). It has passed out of Committee, but will be need to be added to the House calendar. This bill was not included in the House THUD appropriations. H.R.5195 includes the following key provisions:

- Creating an Assistant Secretary for Indian Housing at HUD;
- Total Development Cost (TDC) allowances for energy efficiency upgrades;
- Five percent (5%) tribal set-aside for United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs;
- Making tribes eligible for HUD Housing Counseling grants;
- HUD-VASH provisions;
- Exemption from the Flood Insurance Program; and
- Providing for tribal court jurisdiction over Section 184 loan foreclosures.

However, H.R.5195 also contains some concerning provisions that NAIHC does not support. First, it has a cap on annual Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) appropriations at \$680 million per year. That amount is lower than what the Biden Administration included in its budget proposal, and is of general concern because it could set, what becomes perceived as, a hard cap in subsequent appropriations cycles. Second, as discussed above, H.R.5195 targets the Five Tribes, withholding NAHASDA funding unless they

provide housing assistance to Freedmen descendants. The SCIA held a hearing concerning the Freedmen descendant issues on July 28, 2022.

Native American Rural Homeownership Improvement Act of 2021 (NARHI Act). The NARHI Act has nine bipartisan cosponsors in the Senate (S.2092) and three in the House (H.R.6331). The NARHI Act would provide \$50 million from the USDA Single Family Home Loan Program to Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) to provide home loans in tribal communities. It would also expand a demonstration project currently operating only in South Dakota. To prioritize lending on trust land, it would also waive the 20% match requirement for loans on tribal land. In addition, it authorizes an operating grant for Native CDFIs who relend under this program and it appropriates \$1 million annually for technical assistance to Native CDFIs. The bills were introduced in June 2021, and there were subcommittee hearings held in July 2021 and February 2022. NAIHC continues to work with bill sponsors to advocate that this bill be passed, and they will be creating a template letter for tribal housing programs to send to their Members of Congress. The House Committee on Agriculture also recommended that appropriations include a set-aside for NAHASDA. On Thursday, June 23, 2022, the Native CDFI Network hosted an action-focused webinar regarding the NARHI Act with examples of how it could strengthen the USDA Section 502 Home Loan Program. The full webinar can be viewed here, and the Native CDFI Network will likely be holding additional webinars soon.

Tribal Trust Land Homeownership Act, S.3381, would establish timelines for the Realty/Land Title process at the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and would create a Realty Ombudsman in BIA to hold BIA accountable for meeting these timelines. The bill has bipartisan support. There was a hearing in February 2022, and the bill was voted out of the SCIA in May 2022.

Native American Direct Loan Improvement Act, S.4505. On July 12, 2022, Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) introduced a bill involving the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Native American Direct Loan (NADL) program in the Senate. The Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs (SCVA) held a hearing on July 13, 2022 to consider the new bill. The NADL program allows eligible Native American Veterans to buy, build, or improve a home on federal trust land. The NADL may also be used to refinance an existing loan to reduce the interest rate. Last year, Senator Rounds requested a Report (#GAO-22-104627) by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (U.S. GAO) on the effectiveness of the NADL program, which can be found here. The new bill addresses some of the issues found in the GAO Report and would provide funding for Native CDFIs to do more outreach for the program to increase veteran participation. Additionally, the bill would adopt the relending model through Native CDFIs, which would provide Native CDFIs with more flexibility to use the funding in a way that fits Native communities. One of the participants on the call recommended that tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) reach out to their Members of Congress to encourage support for the bill, particularly Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Senator Jon Tester (D-MT). The next step is for the SCVA to report the bill out of SCVA to be considered by the full Senate, which will likely occur in September 2022.

b. Budget and Appropriations

In March 2022, Congress passed, and President Biden signed, a \$1.5 trillion omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2022. This bill was the first major increase in IHBG funding in years. The IHBG formula was increased to \$772 million (almost a 20% increase), and the IHBG competitive grant was increased to \$150 million. The bill largely mirrored the Biden Administration's budget request (moving \$50 million from the IHBG competitive grant to the IHBG formula grant). Still, the appropriations have not kept up with inflation from the initial NAHASDA appropriations in 1996, meaning that while it does provide more money for tribal housing, that money has less purchasing power. It is also a smaller percentage overall of the HUD budget than in years past.

The Biden Administration released its FY 2023 budget in March 2022, and the numbers are nearly identical to the FY 2022 IHBG budget. The budget requests \$1 billion for tribal housing, including \$772 million for IHBG grants; \$150 million for IHBG Competitive grants; \$70 million for Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program grants; \$7 million for training and technical assistance (T/TA); and \$1 million for Title VI loan guarantees. The budget request also contains some additional provisions: a waiver of various housing nondiscrimination laws for tribal continuum of care projects; inclusion of the USDA 502 Pilot; and \$14 million in funding for the BIA Housing Improvement Program (HIP).

NAIHC's recommendations are higher: \$1.062 billion for the IHBG formula grant; \$100 million for ICDBG Program grants; \$7 million for T/TA; \$1 million Title VI loan guarantees; and \$10 million for HUD Section 184 loan guarantees. Other requests from NAIHC include: more funding and relending authority for the VA NADL Program; asking for a USDA tribal set-aside; and \$23 million for the BIA HIP.

On June 30, 2022, the House Appropriations Committee approved the draft FY 2023 THUD Appropriations Subcommittee bill. The bill proposes \$62.7 billion for HUD's affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs, which is a \$9 billion (or 17%) increase over FY 2022-enacted levels. Below is a breakdown of how the House draft THUD bill compares to the Senate draft THUD bill.

House THUD	Senate THUD
\$1 billion – tribal housing	\$1.052 billion – tribal housing
\$772 million – IHBG	\$819 million – IHBG
\$150 million – IHBG Competitive	\$150 million – IHBG Competitive
\$70 million – ICDBG	\$70 million – ICDBG
\$7 million – Training/Technical Assistance	\$7 million – Training/Technical Assistance
\$1 million – Title VI Loan Guarantees	\$1 million – Title VI Loan Guarantees

c. HUD ONAP Regional Update

1. HUD Grants

The FY 2022, IHBG formula grant final amounts have been posted and grantees should be receiving grant agreements soon. The FY 2023 IHBG grant estimates was posted on June 1, 2022. One participant asked whether the FY 2023 final IHBG formula grant fund allocations are expected to be significantly higher than the estimates. Mr. Walters responded that HUD has not released the final numbers yet.

The FY 2022 IHBG competitive grant provides up to \$5 million per grant. This year, there will be \$130 million available nationally, so tribes and TDHEs are encouraged to apply for this funding, even if they already have an IHBG grant. Awards will range from \$500,000 to \$7,500,000. Applications, to be submitted through grants.gov, are due by11:59 P.M. EST on **November 17, 2022**.

On July 29, 2022, HUD issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the ICDBG grant program. Awards will range from \$500,000 to \$7,500,000. Applications are due no later than 11:59 P.M. EST on <u>October 24, 2022</u>.

The FY 2021 ICDBG-ARP grant has been fully awarded, with around \$280 million being awarded out to tribal housing programs. The IHBG-ARP grant provided \$450 million through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). HUD's Office of Native American Programs(ONAP) required tribes to submit Abbreviated Indian Housing Plans (IHP) to HUD to access supplemental funding. As of May 6, 2022, over 330 IHPs were submitted, consisting of \$20 million of IHBG-ARP funds. Tribes and TDHEs had until July 5, 2022 to submit the IHPs. The ARPA implementing statute allows HUD to move unused IHBG-ARP funds to the ICDBG-ARP program. Approximatively \$20 million remains and HUD has indicated it will move these funds to the ICDBG-ARP grant program after July 5, 2022.

The HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to empower and engage with communities to end homelessness. Through a special Notice of Funding Opportunity ("Special NOFO") under the CoC Program, HUD recently released resources to address unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments, including funds set aside specifically to address homelessness in rural communities. The funding under the Special NOFO is intended to enhance communities' capacity to effectively address unsheltered homelessness by connecting vulnerable individuals and families to housing, healthcare, and supportive services. CoCs will have the opportunity to submit projects for two funding opportunities through this Special NOFO: (1) Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and (2) Rural Set Aside. Applications for the Special NOFO are due to HUD by 8:00 p.m EDT on October 20, 2022. Additional information and the Special NOFO can be found here.

One participant asked whether there will be any technical assistance workshops for tribes interested in applying for the CoC. Mr. Walters responded that NAIHC has not gotten a request from HUD to provide such training, but will look into it.

Another participant asked about the number of tribes that had scoring issues on their FY 2021 IHBG competitive grant applications. Another participant stated that Gary Cooper at HUD Headquarters confirmed that HUD did have some scoring issues and was therefore conducting an internal audit to review the scores. HUD will release further information soon.

II. Treasury Programs Update

Treasury staff joined the call to discuss updated guidance regarding the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program and the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) Program, as well as additional funding under ARPA.

a. ERA Program

As we have reported in prior memos, Tribes received an \$800 million set-aside from the ERA Program funds to assist eligible households who are facing eviction due to unpaid rents and utilities, or the inability to pay prospective rents and utilities. Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (CAA), Treasury is required to recapture "excess funds" from amounts that grantees have "not obligated" from their initial ERA allocations. The statute required Treasury to begin recapturing these excess funds on September 30, 2021. The statute further granted the Secretary of Treasury with the discretion to determine what qualifies as "excess funds." Treasury must then reallocate those funds to grantees that, at the time of the reallocation, have obligated at least 65% of their initial ERA allocation.

On July 18, 2022, Treasury released a "Notice Regarding Recapture and Reallocation of Tribal ERA1 Funds" ("Treasury Notice") regarding the Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("ERA Program"). In the Treasury Notice, Treasury states that it has determined that it will not involuntarily recapture ERA funds from tribes or tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs), even if such funds may be considered "excess funds." The Treasury Notice encourages tribes to voluntarily return any ERA Program funds they do not anticipate obligating by the September 30, 2022, the deadline by which they must "obligate initial allocations." The Treasury Notice, as well as past Treasury guidance, do not clarify what qualifies as "obligating initial allocations." The deadline to voluntarily return funds is August 19, 2022. To return funds, tribes should reach out to the Treasury staff via email. After August 19, 2022, Treasury will reallocate any of the funds that tribes and TDHEs voluntarily return to Treasury.

The Treasury Notice specifically states that "any funds from the initial ERA1 disbursement (not including funds received through reallocation) that are unobligated on September 30, 2022, must be returned to Treasury at that time. This is a statutory requirement, and Treasury cannot provide flexibility on this deadline." The Treasury Notice further states that tribes and TDHEs may be permitted to use reallocated funds through December 29, 2022, if the funds qualify for this 90-day extension. Treasury will be providing further guidance on the extension in the future.

ERA Program funds remain available to provide financial assistance and housing stability services to eligible households only through **September 30, 2022**. According to Treasury staff,

this means that financial assistance payments may cover only: rent; utility and home energy expenses; rental or utility and home energy costs arrears; or other expenses related to housing arising before that date. Tribes and TDHEs may not provide prospective rental or utility assistance or cover costs for other expenses related to housing, or for housing stability services, for any period beyond September 30, 2022. Please note that we have been attempting to persuade Treasury to change its position on this issue. However, funds can be used for administrative expenses beyond the September 30, 2022, deadline.

Furthermore, Tribes that receive <u>reallocated</u> funds have until December 29, 2022, to spend those reallocated funds. Treasury staff noted that voluntarily returning funds to Treasury will therefore allow the funds to be reallocated to other tribes, which would then have additional months during which they could spend those funds. When a tribe submits a request for reallocated funds, Treasury will automatically provide an extension.

One participant asked whether giving a portion of the ERA Program funds back would allow them to have until December 29, 2022, to spend any funds that they keep. Treasury staff responded that tribes may not do so—any initially allocated funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022.

Treasury staff also remarked that they have met with members of Congress and White House staff regarding the statutory ERA Program deadline. The Treasury staff commented that Congress has not heard from tribes regarding whether Congress should pass a legislative extension of the deadline for tribes and TDHEs to spend ERA Program funds for tribes. Congress therefore does not currently have a plan to extend the deadline by which tribes must spend ERA Program funds. However, Congress has indicated that they would welcome hearing from tribes on this point. Tribes that are interested in advocating for an extension of the deadline should contact their Members of Congress as soon as possible.

NAIHC is working on efforts to extend the deadline, including advocating to Congress on the importance of this extension. NAIHC has drafted letters that tribes can use to send to their own Members of Congress.

Treasury confirmed that tribes are subject to the Treasury guidance requirement that say ERA Program grantees must obligate 30% of the initial allocation of funds in order to be able to use 10% of the funds for administrative costs. One participant asked whether Treasury would recommend that tribes that are considering voluntarily returning funds keep an amount that reflects that 30% requirement. Treasury staff responded that it is up to Treasury's discretion as to how to apply that 30% requirement. If a grantee voluntarily returns funds to Treasury, then Treasury will not likely apply that requirement. Tribes have significant leeway as to how to use funds for administrative purposes. Treasury staff encouraged any tribe or TDHE that has specific questions on this to contact Treasury by emailing veronica.soto@treasury.gov.

Another participant asked whether there will be any special reports required for closing out the ERA Program. Treasury staff responded that Treasury is working to provide a resource guide and closeout checklist on closing out the ERA Program. However, Treasury will likely

only require one full composite report, in addition to the remaining quarterly reports. Treasury will release information on audits as well. Additional information on the audits can be found at this link.

NAIHC hosted a webinar on June 1, 2022, that outlines the various ERA Program timeframes and procedures. The webinar can be found on <u>NAIHC's YouTube page</u>.

b. HAF Program

ARPA provides approximately \$498 million in funding to tribes for the HAF Program. This Program provides mortgage assistance to homeowners to prevent the foreclosure or post-foreclosure eviction of a homeowner due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding for the HAF Program is allocated through the Treasury for distribution. Allocations are based on the IHBG formula for FY 2021.

Tribes or TDHEs that wished to receive HAF funding were required to submit a Notice of Request for HAF funding by December 15, 2021. At least half of the tribes have now received Treasury approval of their HAF plans. As of August 4, 2022, over 131 tribes have received HAF plan approval and funds.

NAIHC has training funds available for both the ERA Program and the HAF Program. The application form for these training funds is available by contacting training@naihc.net.

NAIHC is also launching a new webpage to help Native homeowners find ERA Program and HAF program resources website.

c. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

ARPA authorized the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), to provide \$350 billion in assistance to state, territory, local, and tribal governments; of which \$20 billion is reserved for tribal governments. Treasury has released updates to the <u>frequently asked questions</u> (FAQs) of the SLFRF Final Rule.

The updated FAQs include a number of new and revised FAQs. In particular, FAQs 2.14 and 4.9 have been updated to enable state, local, and tribal governments to use SLFRF funds for the full value (including the principal) of long-term affordable housing loans, including low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) loans. Those FAQs also expand presumptively eligible uses for affordable housing. Specifically for Tribal governments, affordable housing projects are eligible uses of SLFRF funds if they would be eligible for funding under the IHBG program, the ICDBG program, or the BIA HIP.

Additionally, Treasury will be releasing an <u>Affordable Housing How-To Guide</u>, a simplified summary of SLFRF guidance on affordable housing and examples of how recipients can layer funds with federal resources. Treasury will release details for webinar briefings on the final rule FAQs, including, one specifically on affordable housing development in the following

weeks. For overall information about the program, see Treasury's websites on the SLFRF, <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. For general questions, please email <u>SLFRF@treasury.gov</u>.

d. Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF)

The LATCF provides \$2 billion to eligible tribal governments and revenue sharing counties as a general revenue enhancement program, with allocations based on a recipient's economic conditions. LATCF monies are distributed in two (2) tranches, for each of fiscal years (FY) 2022 and 2023. For tribal governments, The LATCF sets aside \$250 million for each FY 2022 and 2023, for a total set-aside of \$500 million. The purpose of the LATCF is to provide support for general revenues for costs incurred by the recipient on or after March 15, 2021. The presenters stated that funds are available to recipients until expended or returned to Treasury.

Recipients have broad discretion on the use of LATCF monies; recipients are permitted under statute to use the monies for "any governmental purpose" other than lobbying activities. Eligible uses include those services and expenditures traditionally provided or made by a government (including, e.g., the provision of health and education services, capital expenditures in infrastructure and land, and investments in activities undertaken by tribal enterprises). Treasury does not pre-approve proposed projects, and thus there is no requirement that recipients send proposed projects to Treasury for approval.

Tribes must expend and account for expenditures in accordance with applicable procurement laws that apply to the tribe's expending of and accounting for its own funds. The Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA) generally applies to expenditures funded by LATCF monies. However, BABAA does not apply, to (1) non-infrastructure projects, or (2) infrastructure expenditures undertaken in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency or in response to, or in preparation for, other major disasters or emergencies declared by the President under the Stafford Act.

Treasury has requested a waiver of the BABAA's application to the LATCF program. However, until that waiver is approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (which entails a public comment process), distributions of LATCF funds will be subject to the BABAA.

<u>Allocation and disbursement of funds</u>. 90% of the funding allocation is based on pro-rata shares of tribal enrollment, and 10% is based on "banded" employment per capita. Both portions of the allocation are based on tribally self-reported data. There is a maximum allocation of \$3 million per FY 2022/2023 per tribal government (i.e., \$6 million total), and a minimum of

¹ The presenters stated that tribes are sorted into five (5) groups based on their enrollment-to-employment ratio, and those tribes with lower enrollment-to-employment ratios (i.e., experiencing higher rates of unemployment per capita) will receive a proportionally higher per-capita allocation. Additionally, the presenters stated that "employees" of a recipient tribe do not include employees of consortia operated in conjunction with other tribes.

\$50,000 per FY 2022/2023 for tribes with enrollment of 30 or greater (i.e., \$100,000 total), and \$25,000 per FY 2022/2023 for tribes with enrollment of below 30 (i.e., \$50,000 total).²

The first disbursement of LATCF monies will be made available immediately to tribes as they apply. The second tranche of funding will be disbursed in FY 2023, and Treasury will release more guidance on the FY 2023 distributions.

<u>Eligible recipients</u>. Eligible tribal governments are defined similarly as the ARP Act's State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA-SLFRF) program. Eligible tribal governments include the recognized governing bodies of any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation individually identified (including parenthetically) in the list published most recently as of the date of the ARP Act's enactment in the Federal Register.

<u>Applying for funds</u>. As of July 29, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. ET, tribes are able to view and apply for their FY 2022 allocation by accessing Treasury's Submission Portal. Tribes, in addition to viewing their FY 2022 allocation, will also be able to see their anticipated total allocation in the Portal.

<u>Deadline to request funds</u>. Eligible tribal governments must request payment of their FY 2022 allocation through Treasury's Submission Portal by <u>October 31, 2022; 11:59 PM AKDT</u>. <u>If a tribe does not request funding by this deadline, it will be ineligible to receive both its FY 2022 and 2023 allocations of LATCF monies</u>. Unclaimed FY 2022 allocations (i.e., FY 2022 allocations for tribes that do not apply by the deadline) will be added to the total FY 2023 funding pot for tribes that did apply by the October 31, 2022, deadline.

Further information can be found here.

e. Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund

The Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF) is designed to address infrastructure challenges in rural America, Tribal communities, and low- and moderate-income communities. The CPF is intended to help ensure that all communities have access to the high-quality modern infrastructure, including broadband (needed to access critical services). Additional information can be found here.

The CPF will deliver \$100 million in funding for Tribal governments. Treasury is now reviewing and approving Tribal Government projects. Treasury has already approved a number of Tribal projects, making funds available for eligible investments. Treasury will continue to update this list of Capital Projects Fund Awards for Tribal Governments to share information

² The presenters encouraged tribes to consult Treasury's "Summary of Allocation Methodology" guidance document, linked <u>here</u>.

about the approved projects. Tribal governments may now request their CPF allocation using the Capital Projects Fund Portal. All applications must be submitted by **August 15, 2022.**

Treasury holds CPF Office Hours for Tribal Governments to provide information on the Capital Project Funds. The next one will be held Aug 11, 2022, at 03:00 PM ET. Tribes can register here.

III. Other Matters

a. NAIHC Legislative Conference and Legislative Committee Meetings

The annual NAIHC Legislative Conference will be held in person in Washington, DC on September 19–21, 2022. During the Legislative Conference, NAIHC will help set up meetings between tribes and Members of Congress. Registration for the conference is open.

The NAIHC Legislative Committee meetings will continue to be held the first Thursday of each month on a video conference platform. The next meetings will be held on September 1, 2022. Anyone who would like to submit questions prior to the calls may do so through the link provided in the NAIHC email sent out prior to each call. Sending in questions and comments ahead of time allows NAIHC to provide detailed responses during the call. Participants can reach out to NAIHC staff with any questions or comments by sending an email to Twalters@NAIHC.net.

b. Additional Monthly Forums and Other Updates

NAIHC will continue to hold additional monthly forums to focus on more in-depth conversations, which will be held on the second Wednesday of each month. The forums will cover a rotating discussion on a single topic. Currently, NAIHC is holding forums on the three following topics: (1) Treasury programs; (2) HUD Continuum of Care; and (3) HUD Housing Counseling. NAIHC welcomes any other topics individuals would like covered during these monthly forums. NAIHC is also asking for volunteers to help lead discussions during the forums.

NAIHC will continue to provide virtual and in-person training and technical assistance. NAIHC sends out a Native housing newsletter every two weeks. Any tribe who does not currently receive the newsletter can go to the NAIHC website to sign up here.

Conclusion

If you have any questions about this memorandum, please contact Ed Clay Goodman (at egoodman@hobbsstraus.com) or Cari Baermann (at cbaermann@hobbsstraus.com), or by phone at (503) 242-1745.