



FEMA

March 10, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) remains committed to its responsibility to engage in consultation and collaboration with tribal officials, consistent with Executive Order 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*, reaffirmed by President Biden’s “Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships.”

President Biden directed federal executive departments and agencies to work more inclusively with Tribal Nations. To advance this priority, I directed the development of a national tribal strategy to improve Agency support to federally recognized Tribal Nations in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters. The goals and objectives in the draft “2022-2026 FEMA National Tribal Strategy” (National Tribal Strategy) are a direct result of tribal feedback received over the past several years on actions that Tribal Nations would like FEMA to address. FEMA believes this effort strengthens nation-to-nation relationships and once finalized, will serve as a roadmap for working with Tribal Nations to achieve the common goal of more equitable outcomes in Indian country.


FEMA will coordinate virtual feedback sessions – one national tribal feedback session and ten (10) regional sessions – to seek input and recommendations from Tribal Nations on the proposed National Tribal Strategy. During these sessions, the Office of External Affairs, Intergovernmental Affairs team – led by our National Tribal Affairs Advisor – will provide a brief overview of the draft National Tribal Strategy, which is organized into three goals, aligned with the published 2022-2026 FEMA Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Instill Equity as a Foundation of Emergency Management
- Goal 2: Lead Whole of Community in Climate Resilience
- Goal 3: Promote and Sustain a Ready FEMA and Prepared Tribal Nations

FEMA will announce the feedback session schedule in a separate correspondence. FEMA intends to offer these sessions in March 2022. We invite you to join us for a regional or national feedback session to share your input and recommendations on the draft National Tribal Strategy.

You can submit written comments and questions on the draft Strategy to the Office of External Affairs, Intergovernmental Affairs Division, at FEMA-Tribal@fema.dhs.gov by Monday, April 11, 2022. We look forward to working closely with you and your designated representatives during this process to listen to your concerns and comments and ensure that your input is given full consideration as we work to finalize the National Tribal Strategy.

Sincerely,



Deanne Criswell
Administrator

cc: Tribal Emergency Managers

Attachment: Draft National Tribal Strategy