



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities and Tribal Housing Authorities Public Engagement Listening Session on HUD's Draft 2024-2028 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is in the process of developing its 2024-2028 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan. The Department is inviting Tribal leaders and representatives to participate in the Department's upcoming public engagement listening session on the development of the Strategic Plan. This is an opportunity for tribal representatives to hear specifics from HUD officials regarding the development of the Environmental Justice Strategic Plan and to provide feedback on the priorities HUD should consider in the development of this strategic document. During this listening session, HUD will provide an update on the development of the strategy and engage with tribal representatives regarding the desired outcomes of the strategic plan. HUD will also ask open-ended questions so as to hear from those who attend on their specific feedback, opportunities, and concerns related to environmental justice within Tribal communities that may improve the strategic outcomes of the document and its priorities.

HUD will host a virtual public engagement listening session specific to Tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, and Tribal Housing Authorities via webinar on **Tuesday, April 30, 2024**. The webinar begins at **2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time** (you may join the conference 10 minutes prior). Please register for the listening session using the link below.

- **Environmental Justice Strategic Plan Listening Session I: Tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities and Tribal Housing Authorities – April 30, 2024, 2:00pm ET**
https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIsd--trjoiH_RQ2Kz10rGVhyoxFgAS6ko

HUD will also hold two additional listening sessions open to the general public, which Tribal Leaders and representatives are encouraged to join if they are not able to make the Tribal specific listening session on April 30. These sessions will occur at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, and Thursday, May 2, 2024. For more information about the listening sessions and to register, please use the links below.

- **Environmental Justice Strategic Plan Listening Session II: General Public Stakeholders – May 1, 2024, 2:00pm ET**
<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIfuCppjMjHJnpBlqxwIfuinZ9QhIbgBY>
- **Environmental Justice Strategic Plan Listening Session III: General Public – May 2, 2024, 2:00pm ET**
https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIIfuqhbjMsEngtR_tHwkoRZyh4lEd5Oiw

HUD seeks to finalize its draft 2024-2028 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan during Summer 2024. HUD has also engaged with the Department's Tribal Interagency Advisory Council (TIAC) and will continue to seek advice and recommendations from the Council as the Department works towards finalizing and implementing the strategic plan.

Additional Background

The mission of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is to create strong, sustainable, and inclusive communities. Included also in that mission are the goals of consumer protection, nondiscrimination, and improving the quality of life for HUD housing residents. These goals are intrinsic to the concept of environmental justice ("EJ") at HUD.

On April 21, 2023, President Biden signed [Executive Order 14096](#) on "Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All". E.O. 14096 sets out to fulfill the Nation's promises of justice, liberty, and equality, and states that every person must have clean air to breathe; clean water to drink; safe and healthy foods to eat; and an environment that is healthy, sustainable, climate-resilient, and free from harmful pollution and chemical exposure.

HUD is in the process of developing the Department's 2024-2028 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan. The recent signing of E.O. 14096 reinforces the 1994 [Executive Order 12898](#) on Environmental Justice, calling all agencies to update or develop their EJ Strategic Plans by October 2024. HUD's updated Environmental Justice Strategic Plan overlaps with several of the core goals in [HUD's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#) and builds upon the environmental justice work at the Department over the last decade.

The outcome of HUD's Strategic Plan for Environmental Justice will be a focus on Department actions, programs, initiatives, and resources that pertain to direct environmental challenges, promoting environmental equities, improving public health considerations, as well how best to consider the disproportionate environmental impacts felt in communities by a changing climate. HUD's draft 2024-2028 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan will incorporate pertinent content from prior versions, ensure compatibility with the broader HUD Strategic Plan, and meet requirements as memorialized by E.O.s 12898 and 14096.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's programs in Indian Country.

Sincerely,

Kristin L. Fontenot
Director, Office of Environment and Energy