



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

August 19, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) seeks Tribal input on utilizing new Congressional funding to acquire fractional interests in trust or restricted land. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–103) provided the BIA with \$7,000,000 to acquire fractional land interests as authorized under the Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000 (Public Law 106–462), and the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–374). The BIA will continue to acquire fractional interests after the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (LBBP) ceases operations in November 2022. Your answers to the questions below are needed to provide guidance to the BIA in utilizing this new funding.

- What acquisition priorities should the BIA focus on?
- How should Tribes be involved in the acquisition process?
- What aspects of the current LBBP should be continued or modified?

The BIA will conduct two virtual listening sessions listed below and will accept oral and written responses. Please register in advance for the session you plan on attending. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please note that these Tribal listening sessions will be closed to the press and the public to protect confidential information that may be discussed during the sessions.

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time

Please register in advance at:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1600514047?pwd=L3ppL25jWG5GMGZQM2ZmNIRPR3NsUT09>

Thursday, September 15, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time

Please register in advance at:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604055252?pwd=bzdVMMJNOFRBTjA1cDBBbERDbTFFUT09>

If you have any written input you would like to provide, please send to consultation@bia.gov by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 30, 2022 to ensure timely consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Julius Snell, Senior Advisor – Tribal Relations, 202-329-1165, julius_snell@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,

Darryl LaCounte

Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs