



JUL 15 2021

Dear Urban Indian Organization Leader:

On behalf of the Indian Health Service (IHS), I am writing to initiate Urban Confer to seek your input on developing and implementing an infrastructure study on facilities operated by Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs).

The December 27, 2020-enacted Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. No. 116-260) (the Act), provides the IHS with a total fiscal year (FY) 2021 appropriation of \$6.4 billion. The Act’s Joint Explanatory Statement for Division G provides appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the IHS, Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and related agencies for FY 2021. Specifically, \$1,000,000 is provided to conduct an infrastructure study for facilities run by UIOs. The infrastructure study will be a first step towards creating a comprehensive action plan to address the most critical challenges faced by UIOs.

URBAN CONFER SESSION (VIRTUAL): Please make plans to join us for a virtual Urban Confer session on *Thursday, July 22, 2021*. Urban Indian Organization Leaders are encouraged to provide comments on the scope of the IHS Urban Indian Organization Infrastructure Study.

URBAN CONFER SESSION IHS Urban Indian Organization Infrastructure Study	
DATE:	Thursday, July 22, 2021
TIME:	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., ET
ZOOM INFORMATION:	Access Zoom by Telephone: (833) 568-8864 Zoom Meeting ID: 161 963 5644 https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1619635644?pwd=QWJYNElNSEFpOHE4bjVqa1loQ2hWUT09

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Please send your comments and recommendations on the IHS Urban Indian Organization Infrastructure Study by *Monday, August 23, 2021*, as follows.

By E-MAIL to: urbanconfer@ihs.gov - Subject Line: **Urban Indian Organization Infrastructure Study**.

I look forward to reviewing your comments and recommendations on the Infrastructure Study and the most effective framework for meeting the facility needs of all UIOs. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Rick Mueller, Deputy Director, Office of Urban Indian Health Programs, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-3787, or by e-mail at rick.mueller@ihs.gov.

Sincerely,

/Elizabeth A. Fowler/
Acting Director