

Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) Tribal Consultation Policy

Substantive Policy Statement

This Substantive Policy statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes section 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

Arizona Department of Housing
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ADOH Mission

To provide housing and community revitalization to benefit the people of Arizona.

Agency Description

The Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) was established to provide housing and community revitalization to benefit the people of Arizona, by addressing the unique and changing housing needs in Arizona. As Arizona grows and the economic and special needs of its population change, ADOH will be positioned to recognize those unique and changing needs and to respond to those needs throughout the State. Creative solutions will be developed to be responsive to rural and urban areas as well as to special populations. As the population grows, the Agency will work toward sustaining current initiatives and simultaneously growing the options to respond to the new demands for affordable housing.

Introduction

ADOH has been involved in a number of efforts to increase the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing on tribal land. Arizona has the third largest amount of tribal land within its boundaries, only exceeded by Oklahoma and California.

In an effort to target resources to areas with the greatest need, the ADOH created the Tribal Liaison position to provide technical assistance and outreach to the 22 federally recognized tribes in Arizona. This creation came at the recommendation of the *State of Housing in Arizona 2000* report and with reinforcing data provided in the *Arizona Affordable Housing Profile* that notes significant housing needs on tribal land.

There are a variety of reasons for the lack of affordable housing and viable communities on tribal land. ADOH will continuously strive to resolve this issue through accountability, integrity, ethical behavior, high standards, and respect for others in working with tribal governments.

Findings

ADOH acknowledges the unique relationship between the state government and Indian tribes of Arizona. Dealings between ADOH and the Indian tribes of Arizona shall be consistent with the principles of tribal sovereignty as described by federal law.

ADOH supports the strengthening of tribal capacity that will make way for affordable housing opportunity.

ADOH is committed to developing cooperative relationships with Tribes in order to lessen the gap of affordable housing in Indian Country for tribal members.

ADOH recognizes and commits to a government-to-government relationship with Federally-recognized tribes.

ADOH recognizes tribes as the appropriate non-federal parties for making their policy decisions and managing programs at the local level for their constituents.

Policies

1. ADOH shall maintain the Tribal Liaison position to help build rapport with tribes and maintain open lines of communication with tribal entities and the Department.
2. ADOH will proactively invite tribal governments and housing entities to training programs when and where appropriate.
3. ADOH will solicit tribal officials and leaders for participation on boards, commissions, and working groups that will either directly or indirectly affect tribal nations, and so that there will be equitable representation from tribes.
4. ADOH shall be guided by the aforementioned principles in its planning and management activities, including its budget, operating guidance, legislative initiatives, management accountability system and ongoing policy and regulation development processes for all programs affecting tribes.
5. ADOH shall take appropriate steps to address existing programmatic impediments to working directly and effectively with tribes on housing and community development programs administered by ADOH.
6. ADOH shall work with other federal departments, state agencies and non-governmental entities to enlist their interest and support in cooperative efforts to assist tribes to accomplish their goals within the context of all ADOH programs.

Implementation

Responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the ADOH Director, Deputy Director(s), Division Administrators, and all ADOH staff.

Approved by:

Arizona Department of Housing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Ditmore', written over a horizontal line.

Carol Ditmore,
Director