



A RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS TO APPROVE THE ELDERS DUPLEXES ARPA PROJECT THE “COTTAGES”

RESOLUTION 2024-14

Sponsored by Bonnie Jo Griffith

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribal Council is authorized by Article V of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Delaware Tribe of Indians to represent and act in all matters that concern the general welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the Tribe’s governing body is the Delaware Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribe of Indians has a shortage of homes with just six in inventory to serve a tribal membership of nearly 12,000. Unfortunately, the Tribe’s housing crisis is not unique and has been highlighted as a contributing factor of COVID-19 spread during the pandemic.

WHEREAS, in 2009, Congress directed HUD to produce a national assessment of Native American housing needs. The research finds that housing conditions for Native American households are substantially worse than for other U.S. households. More Native Americans live in housing that is overcrowded, lacks complete kitchens and bathrooms, has heating and electrical problems, or is structurally unsound than do their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, overcrowding affected 16 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native households in tribal areas and 10 percent in urban areas compared with 2 percent of all U.S. households. The problem of overcrowding overlaps with the doubling-up phenomenon; 17 percent of households in Indian country had one or more people staying with them only because they had nowhere else to go; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribe of Indians has a need for new housing for Tribal elders within the reservation’s boundaries. This was voiced at Tribal Council meetings and identified on the Community Needs Assessment assessed to better understand how COVID-19 has impacted Delaware citizens; and

WHEREAS, with a shortage of housing, there is a strong possibility that one small family, or generations of one family, that all live in one home, may deal with the deadly ramifications of Covid-19. If one person within the household, unknowingly, brings any of the Covid-19 variants into the home, this could lead to hospitalizations and even death for those different generations, especially elders. Households also have no space to create a “quarantine room” if there is a need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians does hereby authorize and approve the Elders Duplexes project from ARPA funding for the creation of the COTTAGES for the use of Tribal Elders in need of housing.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing was considered by the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and adopted this 22 day of DECEMBER 2023 with a vote of 7 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstaining.


Brad KillsCrow, Chief


Attested by: Bruce Martin, Secretary

