

# Tribal Transit

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Accessing Federal Transit Funding to Develop  
Your Transit System

# Successful Models of Tribal Transit

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- ❑ Chickasaw Nation, OK
- ❑ Choctaw Nation, OK
- ❑ ONC, AK
- ❑ Menominee, WI
- ❑ Southern Ute, NM
- ❑ Stillaguamish, WA
- ❑ Ft. Belknap, MT
- ❑ Bad River, WI
- ❑ Oglala Sioux, SD
- ❑ Rosebud Sioux, SD
- ❑ E.B. Cherokee, NC
- ❑ Navajo Nation
- ❑ Sitka, AK
- ❑ Blackfeet, MT
- ❑ Red Lake, MN
- ❑ White Earth, MN

# Funding

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- FTA 5311c
  - Administered by Regional FTA
  - No match requirement
  - Planning, Start-up and Enhancement
  - Must be Federally recognized
  - Considerable competition

# Other Funding Sources

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- FTA Section 5311 – Rural public
  - Match required 80/20 admin/capital, 50/50 operating.
  - Administered by the state
  - Follow state regs
- FTA Section 5310 – Seniors and Disabled
  - Capital program or contracted service
  - Primarily for seniors and disabled
  - 80/20 Match requirement
  - Administered by the state
  - Coordinated Human Service Plan
- Older Americans Act – Title VI
- Indian Reservation Roads (IRR)
- Indian Health Services (IHS)
- Tribal Industry

# Planning

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- Develop plan to meet tribal and local needs
  - FTA 5311c – Planning - \$25,000
  - CTAA/USDA – Technical Assistance Program
  - FTA 5311 – Rural Public
  - State Demonstration Grants
  - TTAP
  - RTAP

# Planning – First Steps

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## □ Identify the need for transit

- Need for Non Emergency Medical Transp. (NEMT)
- Employment Transportation
- Intercity Service
- Nutrition Transportation
- Shopping
- Social services
- Visiting
- Tribal office

## □ How

- Public Meetings
- Surveys
- Meet with Agency heads
- Radio
- Tribal Council
- Talk to Employers
  - Industry
  - College/Schools
  - Tourism

# Planning - Resources

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- Identify existing resources that might be included
  - Community Health Representatives
  - Elder Programs
  - Tribal Head Start
  - Boys and Girls Clubs
  - Casinos
  - Tourism
  - Indian Health Svcs.
  - Workforce Investment (TERO)
- How
  - Agency meetings/surveys
  - Vehicle usage
  - Insurance requirements
  - Agency needs
  - Potential funding assistance
  - Coordination potential
  - Facility sharing
  - Maintenance
  - Training
  - Structure – contract, tribal agency



# Planning – The Plan

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Develop a plan that explains the needs, potential coordination, existing resources and service design.

This plan can then be used to gather support for the initiative and used to apply for various grants.



# Service Implementation

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Once service is running:

Continue to monitor performance

Pursue diversified funding

Develop partnerships

Modify service based on needs

# Choctaw Nation, OK

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- Needs
  - Transportation services for tribal members to medical and tribal services
  - Avoid duplication of existing transportation services
  - Coordination with existing public transit services and tribal programs

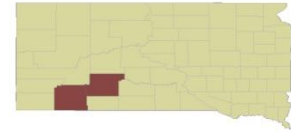
# Choctaw Nation, OK



- ❑ FTA 5311c recipient
- ❑ Transit merged w/CHR
- ❑ Coordinate with four local public transits
- ❑ Provide medical trips and soon to provide state employment trips



# Oglala Sioux, Pineridge, SD



## □ Needs

- Transportation services for carless households, elders, and students (after school & tribal college).
- Transportation to tribal services, intercity jobs and tribal college.
- Transit facility(s) – multi-purpose, vehicle storage, admin offices, and two district facilities.
- Tribal members walking miles along highways in inclement weather.

# Oglala Sioux, Pineridge, SD

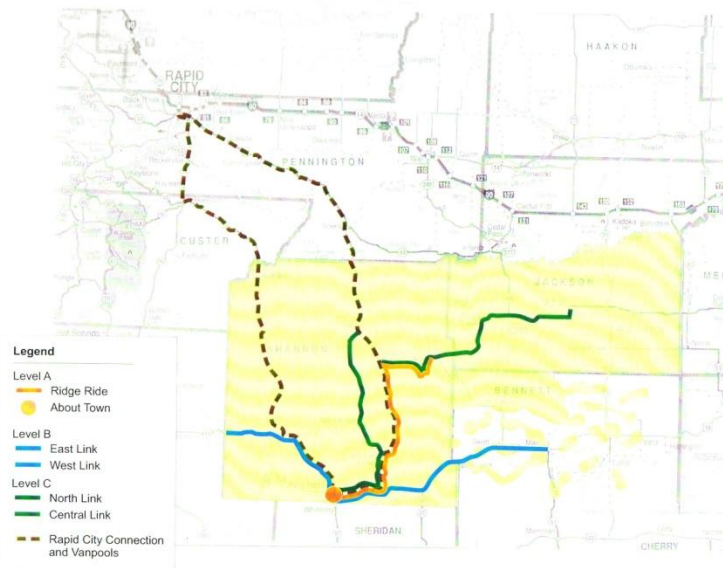
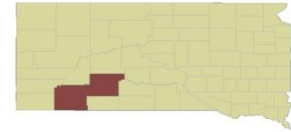


Figure 2  
Proposed Transit Service Plan

- ❑ Started with Transit Plan
- ❑ Received earmark from Congress
- ❑ Building transit facility
- ❑ Using IRR to match 5311 funds
- ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> largest tribal land area in US

# Orutsaramiut Native Council

## Bethel, AK

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### □ Needs

- Severe climate and isolated location only accessible by plane in the winter.
- Transportation for elders to program services and life sustaining health services.
- Include city in transit design.
- Cabs are the only means for most and can be expensive for daily needs - \$4 one way.

# Orutsaramiut Native Council

## Bethel, AK



- ❑ Tribe and City Partnership
- ❑ Specialty vehicles
- ❑ Used existing senior center transportation infrastructure
- ❑ Creative system design



# Contact

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Thank-you