

# Indian Health Service All Tribes Call

- RADM Michael D. Weahkee, Acting Director



# Welcome

- Rear Admiral Michael D. Weahkee  
Acting Director, Indian Health Service



# HHS Updates

- HHS Secretary Declares Public Health Emergency to Address National Opioid Crisis



# Meeting with CMS Administrator



# IHS Priorities

- People
- Partnerships
- Quality
- Resources

# People

- RADM Michael Toedt
- Dr. Julianna Sadovich
- RADM Kelly Taylor
- RADM Kevin Meeks
- CAPT Travis Watts



# Partnerships

- YRTC Opening in Oregon
- Chemawa-Western Oregon Rededication
- CRIHB Meeting, plus 2 site visits



# Additional Partnerships





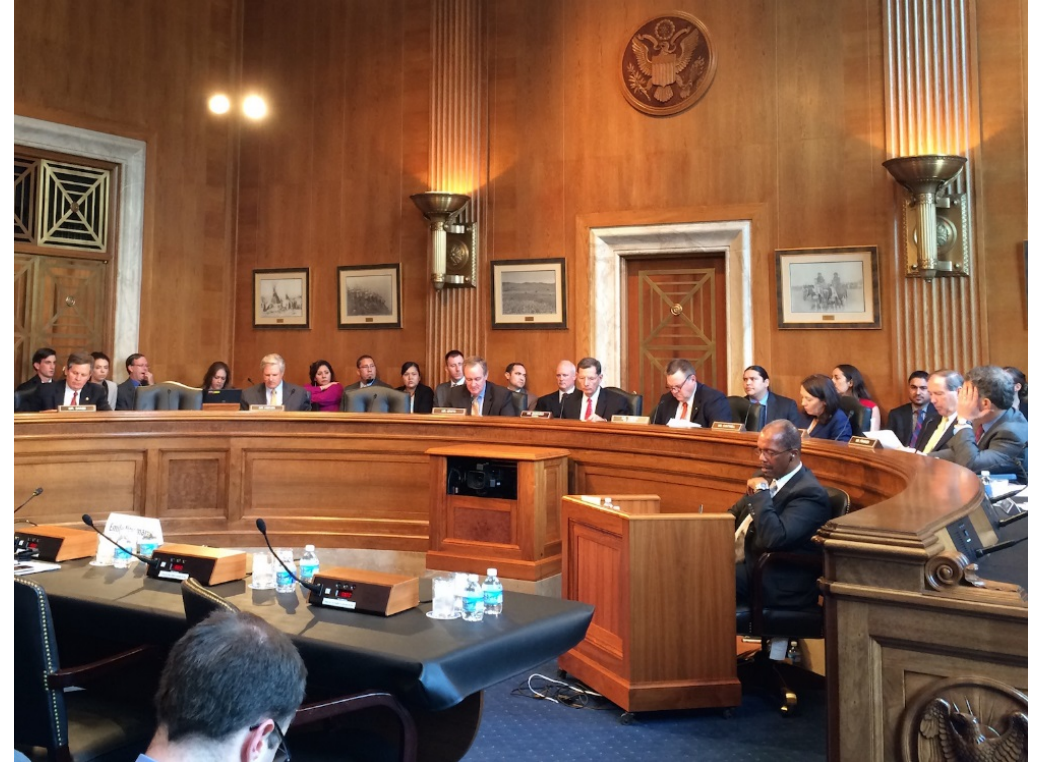
# Quality

- Awarded a master contract for accreditation of hospitals
- Implemented Emergency Department telehealth consultation in the IHS Billings Area



# Resources

- Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Independent Audit of the IHS Act of 2017
- Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Confronting the Crisis: the Opioid Epidemic in Indian Country

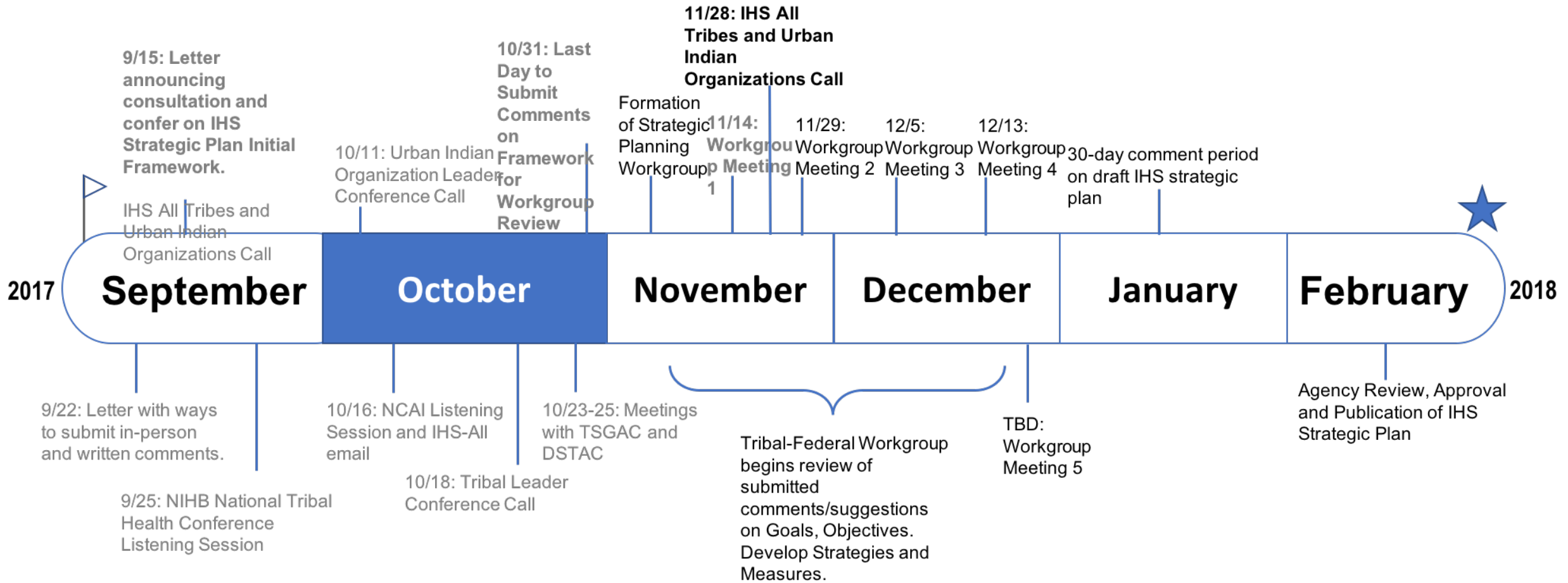


# IHS Strategic Plan for 2018-2022

## UPDATE

- Comment period ended October 31
  - 137 comments from Tribes, Tribal Organizations and Federal employees
  - Several in-person meetings and conference calls during September and October
- Continue to provide written comments through the duration of the Strategic Planning Process. To contact, email the [consultation desk](#) or the [urban confer](#) via email, writing “IHS Strategic Plan 2018-2022” as subject line.
- Workgroup
  - Recommendation from IHS Direct Service Tribes and Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committees
  - Representation from IHS Office of Urban Indian Health Programs

# IHS Strategic Plan Proposed Timeline



# Workgroup

- Purpose
  - Draft final mission, vision, goals and objectives with appropriate strategies and measures.
  - The final workgroup documents and recommendations will be reviewed by senior staff and a final 30-day comment period.
- Composition
  - Tribal Representatives
  - Area Representatives
  - Headquarters Office staff
  - Senior staff
- Meeting Timeframe
  - Five meetings starting November thru December

# Website Updates

- Visit the [IHS Strategic Planning Website](#) to view and download the draft framework and comments received to date
- If you have questions, email the IHS [Strategic Plan](#) office.

The screenshot shows the Indian Health Service website. The header includes the IHS logo, the text "Indian Health Service" and "The Federal Health Program for American Indians and Alaska Natives", a search bar, and navigation links for "A to Z Index", "Employee Resources", and "Feedback". A secondary navigation bar contains links for "About IHS", "Locations", "for Patients", "for Providers", "Community Health", "Career Opportunities", and "Newsroom". The main content area is titled "Strategic Planning" and features a sidebar menu with options like "Strategic Planning", "Area Planning Officers", "Facility Planning and Tools", "RRM References", "Evaluation", "Research", "Staff", and "Contact Us". The main text area is titled "IHS Strategic Plan 2018-2022" and contains the following text: "IHS is seeking comments on the following question and initial framework: *Do the IHS Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives reflect the direction and priorities you feel the IHS should pursue over the next 5 years?* Initial Framework: **Mission** - To raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. **Vision** - A health system that promotes Tribal ownership and pride. **Goal 1:** To ensure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people. Objectives:". On the right side, there is a "Comments" section titled "A summary of recent comments are available for review." with a list of four comment records, each with a "Download" link and a PDF file name and size (e.g., "StrategicPlanCommentRecd-10-12-2017 (PDF - 100 KB)").

# Website Updates: Workgroup

2017

- **September 15:** IHS issues letters to initiate [Tribal Consultation](#) and [Urban Confer](#) on the IHS Strategic Plan for 2018-2022.
- **September 22:** IHS issues letters to [Tribal leaders](#) and [Urban Indian Organization leaders](#) on ways to provide in-person and written comments.
- **September 25:** IHS listening session held during the National Indian Health Board's 2017 National Tribal Health Conference in Bellevue, Washington.
- **September – October:** 30-day comment period on draft IHS Strategic Plan goals and objectives framework at listening sessions, webinars and in-person meetings.
- **October 11:** Urban Indian Organization Leaders Conference Call
- **October 16:** Listening Session at NCAI 74th Annual Convention, Milwaukee, WI
- **October 18:** Tribal Leaders Conference Call
- **October 23:** Joint DSTAC and TSGAC Meeting presentation
- **October 24:** DSTAC Quarterly Meeting presentation
- **October 25:** TSGAC and technical workgroup presentation
- **October 31:** Deadline to submit comments for workgroup consideration
- **November – December:** Tribal-Federal Workgroup to review input and draft IHS Strategic Plan goals, objectives, strategies and measures.
- **November 14:** Workgroup Meeting #1
  - [IHS\\_SP\\_Mtg1\\_Wkgrp\\_Summary](#) [PDF - 177 KB]
  - [IHS\\_SP\\_Wkgrp\\_Mtg1\\_Agenda](#) [PDF - 57 KB]
  - [IHS\\_SP-ProcessToDate\\_Mtg1](#) [PDF - 236 KB]
  - [IHS\\_SP\\_2018-2022-WGChargeProcess](#) [PDF - 219 KB]
  - [IHS\\_SP-Planning\\_Framework\\_Mtg1](#) [PDF - 340 KB]
  - [WorkgroupMtg1\\_Discussion](#) [PDF - 247 KB]
  - [IHS\\_SP\\_CommentList\\_updated11.06.2017](#) [PDF - 171 KB]
- **November 29:** Workgroup Meeting #2
- **December 5:** Workgroup Meeting #3 (proposed)
- **December 13:** Workgroup Meeting #4 (proposed)
- **TBD:** Workgroup Meeting #5 (proposed)

# L.N.F – What is it?

- Level of Need Funded (LNF) Methodology
- Calculates resource needs compared to cost of insuring the IHS user population with Federal employee health insurance
- Calculated for IHS as a whole, for IHS areas, and individually for each local level service delivery area
- 2 primary purposes:
  - A benchmark to help justify IHS budget requests
  - Allocate by formula certain earmarked funds to local level service delivery areas



# L.N.F – History

- Basis in law – S1621 of Indian Health Care Improvement Act
- Funds Needed – Funds Available = Funds Deficiency
  - Factors to calculate Need: Population, Costs, Health, Local
  - Factors for Funds Available: IHS, Federal, state, private
- 2000-2001 Tribal/IHS workgroup developed technical details based on framework specified in law
- IHS adopted LNF methodology in 2001 after national Tribal consultation
- Methodology is unchanged, but a few data sources have evolved or improved.

# Formula Allocations

- A related part of the methodology is an allocation formula based on LNF scores (funding deficiency)
- Formula does not allocate base recurring IHS funding
- Formula applies only to funds that Congress earmarks for the IHCIF, e.g., none in recent years
- Formula concentrates funds to those local level service sites with the lowest LNF scores, e.g., those most resource deficient
- With agreement among Area Tribes, formula allocations within an Area may be adjusted for additional local circumstances, e.g., formula allocations elsewhere are unaffected

# 2017 Update

- IHS is in the process of updating LNF scores for nearly 300 local level service delivery areas
- Area offices are submitting detailed data
- Consistency checks and related forms of data verification is scheduled for December
- The calculation methodology itself is unchanged
- Preliminary results are expected in January 2018 in time for budget formulation and formula allocation (if any)
- A final report is expected in Spring 2018