



AUG 9 2021

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to update you on our ongoing Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer concerning modernization of the Health Information Technology (HIT) infrastructure supported by the Indian Health Service (IHS). My letter to you on April 1, 2021, provided the Agency decision to move forward with Full Replacement of the Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS).

In the interim, the acquisition planning process has continued. On May 21, 2021, the IHS hosted a virtual Industry Day event. We convened two Listening Sessions on this topic for Tribal and Urban Indian Organization leadership on June 15, 2021, and June 17, 2021. We have also released a Request for Information for interested vendors.

As a next step, the IHS is following established Federal contracting processes by posting draft acquisition documents for review and comment by HIT vendors. Contracting staff posted a draft Statement of Objectives <https://sam.gov/opp/1c9347a64fc4400e82a1e7e01d8bcc50/view> on July 29, 2021. The Statement of Objectives will be the focus of the upcoming Request for Proposals. The Statement of Objectives describes the business objectives and applicable scope and constraints for IHS HIT modernization, and offers vendors greater flexibility to respond with solutions that will meet those objectives. Getting feedback from vendors on these documents will help the IHS refine and improve our solicitation, which we expect to release in the first quarter of fiscal year 2022.

We also want to ensure that you have an opportunity to review and comment on these documents. Feel free to share the draft documents posted in the above link within your organization. Please send your comments and recommendations to ihsmodernization@mitre.org. We would appreciate receiving written responses by **September 6, 2021**.

If you have questions or concerns about this process, please contact Mr. Mitchell Thornbrugh, Chief Information Officer, IHS, by telephone at (240) 620-3117, or by e-mail at mitchell.thornbrugh@ihs.gov.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support for the HIT Modernization initiative. We have made a commitment to keep you apprised of our progress throughout the HIT Modernization acquisition process. We look forward to updating you on our progress.

Sincerely,

/Elizabeth A. Fowler/
Acting Director