



PRESIDENT'S REPORT
SFTHC COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 11, 2023

1. U.S. Bank Account Proceeds. The San Francisco Community Tlingit and Haida Community (SFTHC) Council in its December 11, 2022 meeting discussed our inability access the Council's U.S. Bank accounts under the control of the SFTHC Council Treasurer and the apparent failure of certain SFTHC Council Officers for the prior term of 2000 to 2022 to fulfill their duty to collaborate in the transfer of account access authority to the Council Treasurer elected for the current 2022 to 2024 term. In accordance with the adopted SFTHC Council Resolution No. 22-02, *SFTHC Council Directives Concerning Treasurer Authority and Its U.S. Bank*, this matter has been referred to the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) for appropriate action. The SFTHC Council and Tlingit & Haida have contacted all SFTHC Council Member John J. Silva and U.S. Bank representatives seeking immediate resolution. Tlingit & Haida is conducting an investigation of the matter is fully engaged. Tlingit & Haida has determined the U.S. Bank conveyed a cashier's check in the amount of the SFTHCC bank account balances payable to Council Member Mr. John J. Silva. Further actions are pending. The SFTHC Council may not comment further while this most serious matter is resolved by appropriate authorities.

2. SFTHC Council Rules, Guidelines, and Ethics. The SFTHC Council is its actions in the meetings in November and December meetings, and but its actions in today's meeting, are ensuring and clearly disclosing its processes consistent with the Tlingit & Haida Constitution and SFTHC Constitution as articulated in its parliamentary rules, internal controls, and Council guidelines and ethics.

3. SFTHC Council Vacancy. The SFTHC Council in its December 11, 2022 meeting adopted SFTHC Council Resolution No. 22-03, Affirmation of Rules of Election and Adoption of Parliamentary Authority and Procedure, affirmed and clarified the SFTHC Constitution provides SFTHC Council and Delegate elections are conducted in accordance with the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) Rules of Election. The Tlingit & Haida Constitution and Rules of Election supercedes the SFTHC Constitution and parliamentary rules when in disagreement, however, the SFTHC Constitution is in full agreement with the Tlingit & Haida Constitution and Rules of Election where applicable, with the SFTHC Resolution No. 22-03 clarifying the Tlingit & Haida Rules of Election provisions applicable to SFTHC Council and Delegate elections.

The SFTHC Council in its December 11, 2022 meeting authorized a review of the Rules of Election applicable to the vacancy in the Council caused by the resignation of its Vice President

Ms. Robin Montano. The vacancy is in the SFTHC Council seat only. The Tlingit & Haida Rules of Election¹ provides the rule for filling a vacancy as follows:

RULE 16. TERM OF OFFICE; LIMITING EXECUTIVE OFFICE; FILLING VACANCIES

Section 1. Delegates shall be elected for terms of two (2) years and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified to Tlingit & Haida except that Delegates seated from Communities that do not hold a regular election shall not be eligible to hold any Executive Office in Tlingit & Haida.

Section 2. The Local Community Council shall fill a vacancy occurring during the term of office of a Delegate to Tlingit & Haida. Options include:

- A. The selection of the next highest vote-getter in the most recent Election of Delegates; or
- B. A random method agreed to by the majority vote of the Community Council in an official meeting.

The SFTHC Council will consider the filling of the vacancy for the Council in accordance with the Tlingit & Haida Rules of Election Rule 16 Section 2 in its June 11, 2023 meeting.

I propose the SFTHC Council authorize a special election to fill the Council vacancy.

4. T&H ARPA Allocation to SFTHC. The SFTHC Council in its December 11, 2022 meeting authorized the development of a plan for Tlingit & Haida use of the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds intended to benefit our Community. Based on the SFTHC Council authorization for a framework program that makes available to SFTHC enrolled members for individual and business assistance, the Tlingit & Haida ARPA team proposed options for the Community Directed ARPA funding to support the community priority of supporting and providing supplemental relief to tribal citizens affected by the negative economic impacts of COVID-19. The San Francisco community Council-Directed Priorities Fund's balance is \$2,422,426.

The Department of Treasury established guidance that includes as allowable use of funds payments to enrolled Tribal citizens that are presumed to be disproportionately impacted by the public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic. Because this presumption applies, cash assistance may be provided to those households without additional analysis.

Below is a brief description of the projects and how they meet the Treasury guidance for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

PROJECT 1 – SUPPLEMENTAL HOUSEHOLD RELIEF

- Proposed SFTHC Supplemental Household Relief Project. SFTHC to provide supplemental Household relief in the amount of \$750 to Tlingit & Haida Tribal citizens of all ages who are enrolled in the SFTHC Community that the COVID-19 pandemic has economically impacted. Parents or legal guardians of children who are T&H citizens can apply on behalf of children if they are under the age of 18. If more than one application is filed on the behalf of a particular child who qualifies for assistance provided through this project, only one of those applications will be granted.

¹ <http://www.ccthita-nsn.gov/government/legislative/GoverningDocs/RulesofElection2022.pdf>

Tlingit & Haida would operate the project using online applications for San Francisco. The SFTHC enrollment is 1,077. If all enrolled SFTHC members applied, the amount paid out would be \$807,750.

PROJECT 2 – SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

SFTHC Council also requested a program benefitting SFTHC member small businesses.

- Support for Small Businesses Economically Impacted by COVID-19. SFTHC to provide support for SFTHC enrolled member small businesses that are financially distressed by the economic impact of COVID-19. This program would be limited to 100 San Francisco tribal citizens operating small businesses with one-time support in the amount of \$2,500 from the T&H Community-Directed ARPA Priorities fund.

The Tlingit & Haida Small Business Grant Department would administer this program using online applications for San Francisco. If all 75 available awards were paid, the amount paid out would be \$250,000.

PROJECT 3 – TLINGIT & HAIDA CALIFORNIA OFFICE

SFTHC proposed the use of remaining funds, after Project 1 and 2 allocations, for acquisition of an office property for operation of Tlingit & Haida programs and services serving SFTHC Community members, and for use by the SFTHC Community for its Community activities.

- Acquisition of Tlingit & Haida California Office. The Tlingit & Haida purchase of a property would establish an office for delivery of Tlingit & Haida programs and services to SFTHC Community members either in-person or virtually, would establish space for SFTHC Community events, and would enable the application of lease rent funded by the Federal government towards the continued maintenance and improvements of the facility.

The SFTHC Council proposes the evaluation criteria for a property include, at a minimum: location within the 100 mile radius of San Francisco wherein enrollment with the SFTHC Community is mandatory. The Tlingit & Haida programs and services to be operated in this facility, either in person or virtually, would be the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) services, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Vocational Training, Compliance (enrollment), Tribal Court peacemaking, and others. The SFTHC Council recommends this facility be provide the following property features:

- High speed broadband services – broadband services to conduct business online.
- Road access – reliable and safe road access from major streets and highways.
- Parking – parking at the facility and public parking nearby is a key consideration.
- Security – external locks and area lighting.
- Meeting area – a large area within the facility for a large gathering.
- Kitchen facilities – kitchen facilities for food preparation and storage.
- International airport access.

The proposed budget for Project 3 is between \$1,383,926 and \$1,508,926. The project budget is below:

Supplemental Household Relief

\$807,750

Support for Small Businesses Economically Impacted by COVID-19	\$250,000
Total ARPA Project Plan	<u>\$1,057,750</u>
SFTHC Council-Directed Priorities Fund Remaining Balance	\$1,364,676*

*Funds not expended in any Project (1-3) would be re-allocated to the other Projects.