



SMALL TRIBES ORGANIZATION of WESTERN WASHINGTON

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February 8th, 2007

Nancy Theodore
USDA – FNS, Food Dist. Division
3101 Part Center Drive, Room 506
Alexandria, VA 22302

Re: Funding Methodology.

Dear Ms. Theodore:

The formula would be fair to all ITO's, if it provided for extra services rendered. If each ITO receives the same base amount, the same percentage of budget history and participation base amount, than it is not equitable to those ITO's who have extra costs necessary to operate their programs.

In looking at the "FY 2006 FDPIR Administrative Funding Allocations and Per Participation Amounts", column E shows the varying difference each ITO receives. It is apparent that the funding has not been equitable. Therefore using past history amounts of unfair budgets does not seem like an equitable way to distribute funds.

There also needs to be consideration for cost of living by geographical area. I have enclosed the Cost of Living Index. Our area is one of the most expensive places to live. We need to be able to maintain our staff and pay them accordingly.

We are *not* able to support the current proposed formula. There needs to be a more definitive formula to address the high cost of extra services necessary to some ITO's. We would appreciate those costs included in the formula, and not part of the regional negotiated amount. All ITO's should have enough money to run their programs and should never receive less money than the previous budget year.

We certainly recognize the fact that many people have worked hard trying to develop a fair formula. We would like to give our continued support in this effort.

Sincerely,

Cecile Hanson, Chair
Board of Directors

cc: Nancy Egan, WAFDPIR President
Madeline Viens, Western Region



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Cost of Living Index for Selected U.S. Cities¹

Component index weights	100%	13%	29%	10%	9%	4%	35%
	Composite index ²	Grocery items	Housing	Utilities	Trans- portation	Health care	Misc. goods and services ³
<u>Montgomery, Ala.</u>	96.1	96.5	92.6	99.4	98.1	86.5	98.5
<u>Juneau, Alaska</u>	131.6	139.7	136.6	137.6	117.5	148.3	124.3
<u>Phoenix, Ariz.</u>	98.2	100.0	92.1	91.8	107.6	99.5	101.8
<u>Los Angeles, Calif.</u>	153.1	120.2	245.4	121.3	116.5	114.2	111.7
<u>San Diego, Calif.</u>	141.0	116.6	212.4	93.0	119.7	119.4	112.5
<u>San Francisco, Calif.</u>	177.0	137.9	308.2	107.0	125.9	126.6	121.8
<u>Colorado Springs, Colo.</u>	96.5	103.1	99.0	79.7	103.6	102.2	94.4
<u>Denver, Colo.</u>	103.5	107.2	110.6	88.5	96.7	104.6	102.3
<u>Washington, DC</u>	137.8	114.5	201.2	106.1	112.8	122.0	111.3
<u>Jacksonville, Fla.</u>	92.4	103.0	86.7	80.8	100.2	96.6	93.9
<u>Atlanta, Ga.</u>	97.2	96.5	93.6	88.3	101.4	108.4	100.5
<u>Honolulu, Hawaii</u>	162.4	153.6	243.8	143.7	130.1	115.1	117.3
<u>Chicago, Ill.</u>	128.6	117.8	169.5	109.0	107.7	121.0	110.7

Springfield, Ill.	92.1	90.7	85.9	102.1	99.7	92.9	92.8
Des Moines, Iowa	94.4	86.9	95.5	99.9	94.2	92.7	94.9
Topeka, Kans.	92.0	87.9	81.6	97.9	100.1	92.3	98.2
Baton Rouge, La.	104.1	113.1	95.4	113.1	102.8	100.5	106.0
<u>Baltimore, Md.</u>	107.6	105.7	115.0	110.5	101.1	105.3	103.1
<u>Boston, Mass.</u>	136.8	115.7	180.8	144.8	109.7	129.4	113.7
<u>Detroit, Mich.</u>	106.6	100.0	121.7	102.8	101.5	100.6	99.5
<u>Minneapolis, Minn.</u>	102.6	97.3	103.0	102.2	95.5	95.1	107.0
Jackson, Miss.	92.3	86.5	85.2	109.5	93.4	87.0	95.7
<u>St. Louis, Mo.</u>	99.9	103.4	96.5	94.6	96.9	100.9	103.7
Billings, Mont.	97.5	104.2	85.8	103.1	99.5	103.4	101.8
Omaha, Neb.	92.3	89.6	86.0	104.9	99.4	94.1	93.0
<u>Las Vegas, Nev.</u>	109.8	110.8	121.7	91.6	109.4	112.7	104.6
<u>Albuquerque, N.M.</u>	103.3	100.2	107.9	122.3	100.0	96.8	96.8
Buffalo, N.Y.	98.8	102.9	90.8	130.8	103.6	95.6	94.0
New York (Manhattan), N.Y.	212.1	137.1	399.2	146.6	117.4	139.2	136.2
<u>Charlotte, N.C.</u>	93.5	94.3	84.7	85.3	99.4	104.7	100.0
Cincinnati, Ohio	95.1	92.5	85.1	110.4	101.0	101.5	97.8
<u>Cleveland, Ohio</u>	102.7	112.9	100.0	115.2	100.8	101.5	98.3
<u>Oklahoma City, Okla.</u>	92.0	89.0	86.0	96.4	97.4	96.2	95.1
Eugene, Ore.	109.5	104.2	120.4	85.1	102.3	112.1	111.0
<u>Portland, Ore.</u>	110.9	116.8	109.0	117.1	107.1	111.6	109.5

<u>Philadelphia, Pa.</u>	119.0	116.4	126.5	125.6	103.5	110.4	117.0
<u>Memphis, Tenn.</u>	89.9	92.8	77.6	89.7	94.0	99.3	97.0
<u>Dallas, Tex.</u>	95.2	93.6	84.4	97.1	102.5	102.3	101.5
<u>El Paso, Tex.</u>	91.5	105.6	80.3	98.7	95.0	100.0	91.7
<u>San Antonio, Tex.</u>	94.2	83.5	97.2	80.4	89.1	97.3	100.5
<u>Salt Lake City, Utah</u>	97.3	103.8	93.2	88.4	97.5	108.0	99.4
<u>Richmond, Va.</u>	101.0	108.4	97.9	102.3	95.0	98.0	102.4
<u>Seattle, Wash.</u>	118.6	111.8	132.5	109.2	110.2	123.4	114.0
<u>Milwaukee, Wis.</u>	101.0	95.1	110.1	93.7	103.4	92.6	98.2
<u>Cheyenne, Wyo.</u>	107.7	114.8	115.6	111.9	95.2	96.9	101.7

1. Data are from the second quarter 2004 through first quarter 2005.

2. Indicates relative price levels for consumer goods and services. The average composite index for the nation is 100%, and each city's index is read as a percentage of the overall average.

3. Miscellaneous goods and services readily available across the U.S., including fast food, haircut, toiletries, denim jeans, newspaper subscription, movie ticket, beer, and wine.

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index. ACCRA, P.O. Box 100127, Arlington Va., 22210. Web: www.coli.org.

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Producer Price Indexes by Major Commodity Groups

U.S. Economy and the Federal Budget

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