



SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

TU' HA BUTS LEARNING CENTER CRITICAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR INDIAN TRIBES AND ALASKA VILLAGES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT

OCTOBER 6, 2022

The Squaxin Island Tribe is planning to pursue the 2022 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages grant (ICDBG) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) that was released on July 29, 2022. The purpose of the ICDBG Program is the development of viable Indian and Alaskan Native Communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low- and moderate-incomes. The minimum award per applicant in the Northwest Region is \$500,000 with the maximum being \$2,000,000. The entire amount of funding for Tribes located in the Northwest Region is \$4,057,802.

Scope of Work

The Squaxin Island Tribe proposes to submit the ICDBG for the following project:

- 1) **Tu' Ha Buts Learning Center Critical Improvement Project** – Under this project the Tribe will provide improvements to the TLC (Tu' Ha Buts Learning Center) facility which is in critical need of repairs and upgrades that will lead to a safer and functionally sound facility adequate to the needs of the Squaxin community. The Tu' Buts Learning Center provides services to Tribal members and descendants that include youth activities, summer recreation, tutoring, mentoring, school counseling and higher education. Many design aspects are lacking the layout needed to best serve our children safely. In addition, the facility is in need of necessary improvements to bring the building up to code and to provide a facility that is ADA complaint. All environmental work, site prep work, assembly of the project will be carried out in accordance with HUD required regulations. The TLC facility is located on property owned by the Tribe within the boundaries of the Reservation.

The Department of Planning and Community Development has successfully completed similar projects such as construction of the Fitness Center, Wellness Center/Pool expansion of the TLC, Water Reclamation Facility and Slocum Ridge II and III.a.

Once funded, the Tribe will conduct a competitive solicitation process to select a highly qualified contractor to complete the project. The project includes design and engineering, improvements and upgrades. The Director of Planning and Community Development and the Deputy Director will work closely with the selected contractor's project manager throughout the process. Once all work has been completed, final inspections will be done to ensure that all work is performed in accordance with HUD regulations.

Service Area and Population

The project area in Shelton, WA is located on the Squaxin Island Reservation, in the Washington 35th Legislative District and the 6th Congressional District. The population to be served is the Squaxin Island Tribal community and members of the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Integral to the Community

The 2022 TLC (Tu' Ha Buts Learning Center) Critical Improvement Project meets an essential community development need that will contribute to the viability of the Squaxin Island Tribe by providing a decent facility, primarily for persons with low- and moderate-income persons. Once awarded, the 2022 ICDBG will provide the Tribe with funds to address substandard issues that the Tribe faces with the TLC facility and bring the building up to code.

The project is slated to begin in March 23, 2023 upon notification of award and with a target completion date of March 25, 2026. The project budget will be up to \$1,666,093 and will be funded with a proposed HUD ICDBG grant. Please find attached the maps below that show the project location and low- and moderate-income homes located adjacent to the Tu' Ha Buts Learning Center.

In accordance with 24 CFR 1003.604, the Tribe invites the Squaxin community to review and provide feedback on the proposed project as well as the Tribe's performance under any active community development block grant. Currently the Tribe has two active ICDBG projects which include, 1) *The Tiny Homes Project* and, 2) *Slocum Ridge III B. apartment complex* (which consist of one building with 6 two-bedroom apartments that will be constructed adjacent to the existing Klabsch Lane Apartments.

Please contact Penni Restivo, Planning/Community Development Director by email at prestivo@squaxin.us or at (360) 432-3877 with any questions, concerns, or other feedback regarding the proposed or ICDBG active projects listed above. Comments are due by Wednesday, October 12, 2022.

TLC Critical Improvement Project Map



Figure 1: TLC (Tu' Ha Huts Learning Center) Improvement Project Location - 70 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584 **Low and**

Low and Moderate Income Homes

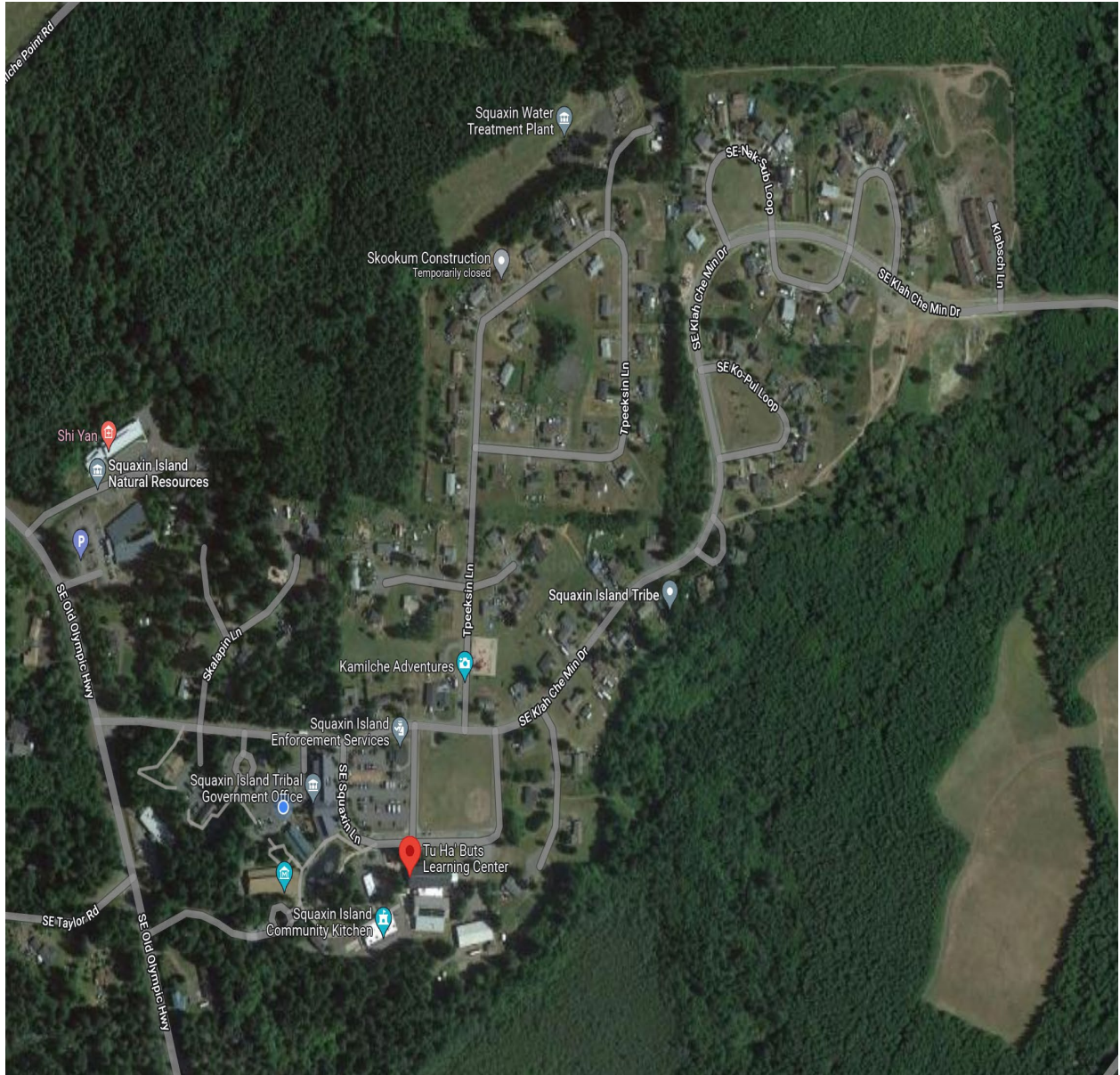


Figure 2: Low and Moderate Income homes (constructed with HUD funds) located adjacent to the proposed project