



RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY
★ CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

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January 29, 2025

This letter is to provide an update regarding the new U.S. Administration's memorandum from the Office of Management and Budget that ordered a spending freeze on federal assistance, which sent all governments and organizations, especially our tribal governments, into chaos to figure out how programs will be affected.

The new U.S. Administration ordered the spending freeze to conduct a comprehensive analysis of whether the spending aligns with President Donald Trump's recent executive orders, such as, reevaluating foreign aid spending, rolling back protections for transgender individuals, ending diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) program, the immigration crackdown and protecting the American People against invasion.

Late yesterday afternoon, Federal Judge Loren L. AliKhan for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia put a temporary pause on the order to consider arguments from the U.S. Government and the plaintiffs in the court case who filed a restraining order against the government to stop the funding freeze. The court case hearing was scheduled for Monday, February 3rd. The plaintiffs include state attorney generals; including Nevada's Attorney General, Aaron Ford; non-profits, public health organizations and small businesses.

Fortunately today, January 29th, we received a memo from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget Matthew Vaeth stating the "federal spending freeze directive is rescinded until further notice".

Vaeth also said in a CBS News interview, "The executive orders issued by President Trump on funding reviews remain in full force and effect and will be rigorously implemented by all agencies and departments. This action should effectively end the court case and allow the government to focus on enforcing the President's order on controlling federal funding."

We recognize the immense impact that this order had for our tribal community. All tribal nations rely on federal funding to address essential needs including public safety, healthcare, education, housing, social services, and the basic needs of our most vulnerable citizens.

As we make provisions for the Trump administration and the incursion of Executive Orders, the Tribal Council and I are closely monitoring and strategizing with the aid of our federal lobbyist George Waters, who's in Washington D.C., and our state lobbyist, Strategies 360. Our main concern is the government trust responsibility to tribal nations.

At this moment, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony is organizing to build and strengthen alliances to maintain the progress of Indian Country and we're committed to the protection of our tribal sovereignty. We will be writing to and meeting with our Congressional leaders; both Republican and Democrat; to support and continue to fulfill the United States treaty & trust obligations to Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and all tribal nations.

The RSIC Finance Office is compiling a financial report for Tribal Council to assess exactly what programs will be affected if the federal funding freeze is reinstated. The Tribal Council and I are also working on a contingency plan; for both short-term and long-term; to provide continued funding for all RSIC tribal programs and services for as long as possible.

Additionally in light of the Trump Administration's immigration sweep, we advise all Tribal Members to carry your tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB); plus your state identification card or driver's license; with you at all times. There have been a couple reports of tribal members across the nation who have been questioned about their U.S. citizenship and some have been detained by ICE. If you need to get an updated tribal ID, please contact our Enrollment Office at 775-785-1306.

Let me assure you, the Tribal Council and I will be advocating in the best interest of our tribal members and community.

We understand the uncertainty these changes may cause. RSIC Tribal Council and I want you to know we are exploring every avenue to address this situation effectively. We will provide updates and information as it becomes available. Let's work together to create solutions.

Respectfully,



Daryl D. Gardipe
Tribal Chairman