



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing the Submittal of the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Program Application: White Mountain Apache Regional Industry Development Plan)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Constitution") provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power "[t]o represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe", and in Section 1(j) "[t]o accept grants and donations from any person, state, or the United States"; and

WHEREAS, The Council recognizes that building on the Tribe's regional economic strengths is an effective strategy for economic development and that developing high growth industry segments will promote job creation, support Apache entrepreneurship, enable new business formation, expansion, and financing, and thereby drive economic growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, to spur regional economic development, the Tribe's Planning Department requests authorization to submit a grant application in the amount of \$ 40,000,000.00 to develop a White Mountain Apache Regional Industry Development Plan, a strategic economic and community development plan designed according to the fiscal year 2024/2025 Economic Development Administration Program; and

WHEREAS, The Council supports the development of a White Mountain Apache Regional Industry Development Plan, which will provide business development, financial, and technical assistance to existing tribal enterprises and emerging Apache small businesses; providing the capital resources tribal businesses need to modernize, expand and take advantage of market opportunities; and which supports the start-up of new and expanded tribal enterprises and tribal entrepreneurship that can provide needed products and services to White Mountain Apache reservation residents, among many other opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The Council finds that authorizing the Planning Department to apply for funding through the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Program is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the submission by the Planning Department of a fiscal year 2024/2025 U.S. Economic Development Administration Program application in an amount of \$40,000,000.00, to complete the White Mountain Apache Regional Industry Development Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that the Tribe receives grant funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration Program, the Planning Department and the Grants & Contracts Department are instructed to create a

**ATTACHMENT: WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE
REGIONAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PORTFOLIO**

The White Mountain Apache Regional Industry Development Strategy Portfolio describes high-potential/high-growth industry segments projected to add substantial numbers of new jobs to the economy, transformed by technology and innovation, specifically natural resources, construction materials, retail, and service industries, requiring new workforce skill sets and training requirements.

Miner Flat Dam Potential

1. Construction Materials Market Opportunities:

There is a major opportunity to develop the high-growth construction materials business, including capital investment in ultra-modern sand and gravel aggregate, asphalt, and cement production machinery, heavy equipment, and delivery trucks required to meet the significant market demand to be generated by the Miner Flat Dam construction. A new administrative office building and leading edge maintenance and repair facilities are also required to service the increase in production demand, residential housing construction, and commercial development.

2. White Mountain Apache Business Innovation Center:

The WMA BIC will align the workforce development network, including the White Mountain Apache Workforce Development, Social Services, TNAF, and TERO, with regional economic development by focusing on workforce strategies that are demanded by employers, and based on future job growth in emerging, high-growth and high-demand industries in the White Mountain Apache economy.

The WMA BIC will develop curricula, teaching methods and instructional design to maximize the skills needs of employers; ensure availability of qualified and certified instructors; procurement of equipment and simulation equipment necessary to train to industry-demanded skills; offer classroom and OJT experiences required for Apprentice certification; and development of technology-based distance learning to promote better access to education and training programs.

Housing Development Opportunities:

The WMA Housing Authority has received significant ARAPA funding for new housing construction creating major market opportunities for basic utility infrastructure.

1. Solid Waste Management Capacity Requirements:

New housing development will also generate overcapacity issues. There is a desperate need to replace the existing solid waste management fleet with an ultra-modern, high-technology, solid waste collection and disposal fleet, including 6 new solid waste collection and disposal trucks to meet the significant increase in planned housing and commercial development.

2. Propane Distribution Business:

There is a major opportunity to develop a tribal wholesale propane distribution business; however, the immediate priority is to purchase 6 new propane delivery trucks and two new 4 X 4 Utility trucks to support the high demand for maintenance, repair, and replacement services.

A significant revenue-producing business is constrained by the lack of a reliable, ultra-modern, technologically-advanced delivery fleet. There is also a critical need to secure a complete inventory of replacement parts and ancillary equipment requirements (approximately \$ 5,000) as well as to hire additional maintenance, repair, and replacement service workers to support the escalating demand for these customer service activities.

Retail Development Opportunities:

1. Whiteriver Commercial Center:

A 43,000 square foot, 3-story Central Tribe Office complex; an office supply /copy center to serve the planned governmental complex; a 43,000 square foot, 3-story, 75 room hotel; a 5,000 square foot full-service restaurant and 2,500 square foot conference center; a 4,000 square foot Dollar store; two (2) 3,000 square foot Subway and Little Caesar's Pizza fast food restaurants; an 18,000 square foot Native Marketplace; a 3,000 square foot coin-operated laundromat; an Auto Center including an Auto Repair Shop, and Auto Parts store, two (2) 3,000 square foot retail store rentals; Cellular One retail store; Wells Fargo Bank; and US Post Office.

2. CBQ Commercial Center:

A new 20,000 square foot grocery store; a 4,000 square foot Dollar store; an Auto Center including an Auto Repair Shop, Auto Parts store, and Tire Shop; 2,500 square foot convenience store with an ultra-modern gasoline and diesel fueling system and a 2,000 square foot coin-operated laundromat.

3. Convenience Store Renovation and Expansion:

An ultra-modern 2,500 square foot Convenience Store with an advanced technology gasoline and diesel fueling system and a 2,000 square foot coin-operated Laundry are required at Seven-Mile, East Fork, and McNary. to address the need for new products and services which provide significant community support.

Tourism Development Opportunities:

1. Hawley Lake Redevelopment:

WMA CDC is currently working on a redevelopment plan for the Hawley Lake operations. Apache Enterprise and Game & Fish have major redevelopment requirements including infrastructure, convenience store, campgrounds, and boat dock improvements and other tourism and outdoor recreation amenities.

2. Sunrise Ski Resort:

The Sunrise Ski Resort requires the Sunrise Ski chairlift modernization from the base of the mountain to Apache peak, including preliminary design, engineering, and cost estimation needed to support the Sunrise Ski chairlift upgrade.

The Sunrise Ski Resort will renovate the Sunrise Park Lodge; redevelop Sunrise Lake with improved recreational infrastructure; renovate the Marina/Boat House; upgrade the General Store; improve the RV Park; and add new Campground amenities.

Advanced Manufacturing Development Opportunities:

1. WMATCO Capital Improvement Plan:

WMATCO has successfully secured federal funding to begin major sawmill equipment improvements; however, an additional \$ 30 million in capital investment is required.

The forest contains sufficient timber to allow the mill to more than double its output with upgraded processing facilities. Capital equipment requirements include the following:

1. Install a new wood fired boiler to produce steam and dry lumber for the market.

2. Expand the small log mill to include new lumber processing equipment and improve productivity, quality and yield.
3. Develop value-added lumber products such as flooring, paneling, siding and decking.
4. Install a wood pellet plant for the utilization of by-products.
5. Participate with the WMAT workforce development network to develop the WMA BIC to improve the technical skills of WMATCO employees required to operate high technology equipment and systems.
6. Upgrade and restore Kiln 11 to operational status.
7. Install new air compressor to support the demands generated with increased production volumes.
8. Upgrade the mechanical and control systems at the small log mill.
9. Build a new ultra-modern office complex.
10. Install a bar coding system for inventory control and product shipping and acceptance.
11. Build an employee center for lunches and meetings.
12. Develop a new Remanufacturing facility for value-added production.

Community Development Opportunities:

1. White Mountain Apache Head Start Facility:

Whiteriver HS operates in a dilapidated, over-crowded, unsafe, and unhealthy facility. HS staff, parents, and children require an ultra-modern, 43,000 square foot physical facility with 30 classrooms that allow for 55 square feet per child of useable classroom space to support a high quality program and ensure the facility is in compliance with child care licensing regulations, building codes, fire safety codes, and all relevant requirements.

New Central Tribe Administration Building:

A 43,000 square foot, 3-story Central Tribe Office complex and an Office Supply /Copy Center to serve the planned governmental complex.

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budget for receipt and expenditure of said funds, subject to the terms and conditions of any application funding agreement and review by the Tribe's Office of Attorney General.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on JUNE 11, 2024 duly adopted by a vote of NINE for, ZERO against, and ZERO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1, of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Kasey Velasquez 06-12-24

Kasey Velasquez, Chairman Date

Vaneysa Johnson 06/12/2024

Vaneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary Date