

Application

Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)	AZ-2023-020-01
Temporary Application Number	7396-2023-1
Award Name	Gila River Indian Community, FY21 5311 Tribal Transit Formula, Operating Assistance and Preventative Maintenance
Application Status	Final Concurrence / Reservation
Application Budget Number	0

Period of Performance Start Date	7/7/2023		
Original Period of Performance End Date	9/30/2024		
Current Period of Performance End Date	9/30/2025	Revision #: 0	Approved?: No

Part 1: Recipient Information

Name: GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

Recipient ID	Recipient OST Type	Recipient Alias	UEI	DUNS
7396	Indian Tribe	Gila River Indian Community	VEB2J5QVVNN9	074449323

Location Type	Address	City	State	Zip
Headquarters	525 W GU U KI RD	SACATON	AZ	85147
Physical Address	525 WEST GU U KI	SACATON	AZ	85147
Mailing Address	P.O. BOX 97	SACATON	AZ	85147

Union Information

There are no union contacts for this application

Part 2: Application Information

Title: Gila River Indian Community, FY21 5311 Tribal Transit Formula, Operating Assistance and Preventative Maintenance

FAIN	Application Status	Award Type	Application Cost Center	Date Created	Last Updated Date	From TEAM?
AZ-2023-020-01	Final Concurrence / Reservation	Grant	Region 9	4/4/2024	4/4/2024	No

Application Executive Summary

This application also requests FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds apportioned to the Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$210,697.

Amendment #1 adds indirect costs per most recent Indian Organization Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement approved in March 2024 by US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. Amendment #1 extends the period of performance to September 30, 2025.

Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses including transportation manager salary and fringe (approx. \$49,429), driver salaries and fringe (approx. \$102,572), and dispatch supervisor salary and fringe (approx. \$31,246). Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will also cover capital/preventative maintenance (\$27,450) to ensure safe transit operations.

Federal Funds Operating Assistance FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds apportioned to the Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$183,247.

Local Match: no local/tribal share

Total project cost: \$183,247

Federal Funds, Capital/Preventative Maintenance Funds, FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds apportioned to the Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$27,450

Local Match: no local/tribal share

Total project cost: \$27,450

Frequency of Milestone Progress Reports (MPR)

Annual

Frequency of Federal Financial Reports (FFR)

Annual

Does this application include funds for research and/or development activities?

This award does not include research and development activities.

Pre-Award Authority

This award is not using Pre-Award Authority.

Does this application include suballocation funds?

Recipient organization is directly allocated these funds and is eligible to apply for and receive these funds directly.

Will this Grant be using Lapsing Funds?

No, this Grant does not use Lapsing Funds.

Will indirect costs be applied to this application?

This award is applying an approved Indirect cost rate(s).

Indirect Rate Details: Indirect Costs Amendment #1

Indirect costs will be applied to eligible activities. The cognizant agency, US Department of the Interior, approved the Gila River Indian Community Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement on March 14, 2024. This document is on file with FTA. The FY24 indirect cost rate is 22.03%. For this application, the base is \$172,660. Indirect Costs to be charged are $\$172,660 \times 22.03\% = \$38,037$.

Requires E.O. 12372 Review

No, this application does not require E.O. 12372 Review.

Delinquent Federal Debt

No, my organization does not have delinquent federal debt.

Award Description

Purpose

Original

The purpose of this award is to provide operating assistance and capital/preventative maintenance from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Amendment #1

The purpose of this award is to provide operating assistance and capital/preventative maintenance from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025.

We are requesting a one year extension due to severe staff shortages. Since mid-August 2023, Gila River Transit has one of four transit bus operator positions filled. Labor is our largest expense. The starting pay for the transit bus operator position was raised effective October 1, 2023. The transportation manager continues to work with Human Resources department to adjust the starting salary sufficient to attract qualified candidates.

Activities to be performed:

Original

Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses and capital/preventative maintenance expenses.

Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses including transportation manager salary and fringe (approx. \$55,186), driver salaries and fringe (approx. \$99,550), and dispatch supervisor salary and fringe (approx. \$28,511). Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will also cover capital/preventative maintenance (\$27,450) to ensure safe transit operations.

Budget detail by scope item is estimated based on current staff costs with 3% annual escalations for direct labor rates. Fringe is applied based on a four-year average. It is important to note that actual staff and fringe rates will vary from budgeted depending on actual costs of benefits and Tribal Community Council policies on staff salaries.

Amendment #1

Amendment #1 adds indirect costs per most recent Indian Organization Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement approved in March 2024 by US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Amendment #1 extends the period of performance to September 30, 2025. Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses and capital/preventative maintenance expenses.

Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses including transportation manager salary and fringe (approx. \$49,429), driver salaries and fringe (approx. \$102,572),

and dispatch supervisor salary and fringe (approx. \$31,246). Requested Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will also cover capital/preventative maintenance (\$27,450) to ensure safe transit operations.

Budget detail by scope item is estimated based on current staff costs with 3% annual escalations for direct labor rates. Fringe is applied based on a five-year average. It is important to note that actual staff and fringe rates will vary from budgeted depending on actual costs of benefits and Tribal Community Council policies on staff salaries.

Indirect costs (\$38,037) will be applied per the most recent Indian Organization Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement approved in March 2024 by the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Expected outcomes:

Funding will allow the continued operation of Gila River Transit.

Intended beneficiaries:

Intended beneficiaries include residents of the Gila River Indian Community. The Gila River Indian Community, a federally-recognized tribe established in 1859, is located in south-central Arizona bordering both Maricopa and Pinal counties. With close to 21,300 enrolled members, the Community is home to two tribes the Akimel O'Odham and Pee Posh. The reservation has a land area of 584 square miles and a 2020 Census population of 14,260. The Community includes seven districts along the Gila River and its largest communities are Sacaton, Komatke, Santan and Blackwater.

Gila River Transit operates deviated fixed route public transit service for the Gila River Indian Community. We operate four routes. Sacaton Shuttle (District 3) and West End Shuttle (Districts 6 and 7) started in 2016. The East Side Shuttle (Districts 1, 2 and 3) and the Central Shuttle (Districts 3, 4 and 5) started in April 2019.

Transit provide vital connectivity within a tribal community, which, like all reservations, has been disenfranchised and historically underserved by public investment. Gila River Transit provides connections to community destinations, such as the Governance Center, Huhukam Hospital and other medical facilities, residential and shopping areas, library, and district service centers. Nearly all Gila River Transit riders are tribal members and many are elderly. According to the spring 2023 onboard survey, nearly all respondents have a household income of \$24,999 or less. Most (66.7%) have no operable vehicle in the household. Those who completed the onboard survey use transit (55.8%) or walk (32.7%) as their main form of transportation. Most use Gila River Transit for medical (57.1%) or shopping (46.9%) trips. Approximately one-third (31.5%) use transit three to five days per week. Most (56.0%) responded that Gila River Transit does not have sufficient transit service, and most rate the transit system as excellent (53.6%) or good (23.2%). When asked to suggest improvements, most requested more frequent service (59.1%), followed by longer hours of service (38.6%).

Subrecipient Activities:

None.

Application Point of Contact Information

First Name	Last Name	Title	E-mail Address	Phone
Phil	Yue	Transportation Program Specialist	Phil.Yue@dot.gov	(415) 734-9476
Dawn	Coomer	Transportation Manager	dawn.coomer@gric.nsn.us	(520) 562-6306

Application Budget Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Program Formula	5311-1B	20509	\$210,697
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$210,697

Application Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
AZ-2023-020-01-01	600-00 (600-A1) OTHER PROGRAM COSTS	\$210,697.00	\$0.00	\$210,697.00	2
AZ-2023-020-01-01	11.7A.00 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	\$27,450.00	\$0.00	\$27,450.00	1
AZ-2023-020-01-01	30.09.02 SLIDING SCALE (5311 OR 5310 PILOT ONLY)	\$183,247.00	\$0.00	\$183,247.00	1

Discretionary Allocations

This application does not contain discretionary allocations.

Part 3: Project Information

Project Title: Gila River Indian Community FFY 2021 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula Grant, Operating Assistance and Preventative Maintenance

Project Number	Temporary Project Number	Date Created	Start Date	End Date
AZ-2023-020-01-01	7396-2023-1-P1	4/4/2024	10/1/2023	9/30/2024

Project Description

This FFY 2021 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula Grant, Operating Assistance and Preventative Maintenance project will provide funding for Gila River Transit, a program of the Gila River Indian Community. Funds will cover operating expenses including transportation manager salary and fringe,

dispatch supervisor salary and fringe, driver salaries and fringe and capital/preventative maintenance to ensure safe transit operations.

Project Benefits

Project Benefits Original

The Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds for operating assistance will be used to support transit service staff costs and capital/preventative maintenance to ensure safe transit operations. Third party contractors will be used for capital/preventative maintenance. Gila River Transit operates deviated fixed route public transit service for the Gila River Indian Community. The Gila River Indian Community, a federally-recognized tribe established in 1859, is located in south-central Arizona bordering both Maricopa and Pinal counties.

Gila River Transit provides connections to community destinations, such as the Governance Center, Huhukam Hospital and other medical facilities, residential and shopping areas, library, and district service centers. According to the spring 2023 onboard survey, nearly all respondents have a household income of \$24,999 or less. Most (66.7%) have no operable vehicle in the household. Those who completed the onboard survey use transit (55.8%) or walk (32.7%) as their main form of transportation. Most use Gila River Transit for medical (57.1%) or shopping (46.9%) trips. Approximately one-third (31.5%) use transit three to five days per week. Most (56.0%) responded that Gila River Transit does not have sufficient transit service, and most rate the transit system as excellent (53.6%) or good (23.2%). When asked to suggest improvements, most requested more frequent service (59.1%), followed by longer hours of service (38.6%).

In December 2020, we finalized a transit needs study with the Arizona Department of Transportation and Maricopa Association of Governments (metropolitan planning organization) as project partners. The study evaluated current and future conditions, obtained public input, and recommended service improvements. Gila River Transit plans to hire another transit bus operator and purchase a vehicle (with other federal aid obtained through the state department of transportation) to expand all four routes to five days a week. Expansion timing has been delayed due to lack of funding for a vehicle, and difficulty in recruiting and retaining transit bus operators.

Gila River Transit currently operates four transit routes. The Sacaton Shuttle and West End Shuttle started in early 2016. The Sacaton Shuttle serves District 3 and the West End Shuttle serves Districts 6 and 7. Two additional shuttles started in April 2019. The East Side Shuttle serves Districts 1, 2 and 3, and the Central Shuttle serves Districts 3, 4 and 5. The Sacaton Shuttle and West End Shuttle operate five days a week. The East Side Shuttle operates two days a week and the Central Shuttle operates three days a week. The transit system generally operates five days a week, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. with a one hour service break over lunch. Phase 1a improvements will expand transit service on all four routes to five days each week. (We have submitted a capital request to support Phase 1a improvements to the Arizona Department of Transportation, and have received preliminary notice of funding; final notice is expected in summer 2023). Phase 1b improvements close the midday service gap and extend operating hours to 6:00 p.m. Phase 1a is scheduled to start in January 2025, and Phase 1b is scheduled to start in May 2025. The actual timing of Phase 1a and Phase 1b depends on arrival/delivery of a new bus and ability to recruit and hire qualified staff. The funding provided through the Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula program is critical to service expansions. Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula fund will support staff costs, leading to enhanced mobility options for Community members through the provision of more transit service. We also expect to see increased ridership resulting from the improvements afforded by the Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds.

Project Benefits Amendment #1

The Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds for operating assistance will be used to support transit service staff costs. No third party contractors will be used. Gila River Transit operates deviated fixed route public transit service for the Gila River Indian Community. The Gila River Indian Community, a federally-recognized tribe established in 1859, is located in south-central Arizona bordering both Maricopa and Pinal counties. With increased funding providing through this project, we will be able to increase the number of staff hired to support expanding transit service.

Gila River Transit provides connections to community destinations, such as the Governance Center, Huhukam Hospital and other medical facilities, residential and shopping areas, library, and district service centers. Nearly all Gila River Transit riders are tribal members and many are elderly. According to the spring 2023 onboard survey, nearly all respondents have a household income of \$24,999 or less. Most (66.7%) have no operable vehicle in the household. Those who completed the onboard survey use transit (55.8%) or walk (32.7%) as their main form of transportation. Most use Gila River Transit for medical (57.1%) or shopping (46.9%) trips. Approximately one-third (31.5%) use transit three to five days per week. Most (56.0%) responded that Gila River Transit does not have sufficient transit service, and most rate the transit system as excellent (53.6%) or good (23.2%). When asked to suggest improvements, most requested more frequent service (59.1%), followed by longer hours of service (38.6%).

With increased funding providing through this project, we will be able to increase the number of staff hired to support expanding transit service. In December 2020, we finalized a transit needs study with the Arizona Department of Transportation and Maricopa Association of Governments (metropolitan planning organization) as project partners. The study evaluated current and future conditions, obtained public input, and recommended service improvements.

Gila River Transit currently operates four transit routes. The Sacaton Shuttle and West End Shuttle started in early 2016. The Sacaton Shuttle serves District 3 and the West End Shuttle serves Districts 6 and 7. Two additional shuttles started in April 2019. The East Side Shuttle serves Districts 1, 2 and 3, and the Central Shuttle serves Districts 3, 4 and 5. The Sacaton Shuttle and West End Shuttle operate five days a week. The East Side Shuttle operates two days a week and the Central Shuttle operates three days a week. The transit system generally operates five days a week, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. with a one hour service break over lunch. Phase 1a improvements will expand transit service on all four routes to five days each week. (We received a capital request to support Phase 1a improvements to the Arizona Department of Transportation.) Phase 1b improvements close the midday service gap and extend operating hours to 6:00 p.m. Phase 1a is scheduled to start in December 2025, and Phase 1b is scheduled to start in May 2026. The actual timing of Phase 1a and Phase 1b were delayed to accommodate most recent estimates on arrival/delivery of a new bus. The funding provided through the Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula program is critical to these service expansions. Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula fund will support staff costs, leading to enhanced mobility options for Community members through the provision of more transit service. We also expect to see increased ridership resulting from the improvements afforded by the Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds.

Additional Information

This project will result in safe and reliable public transportation services for members of the Gila River Indian Community, and provide life-sustaining access to medical facilities, residential and shopping areas, the library and district service centers.

Location Description

The Gila River Indian Community, a federally-recognized tribe established in 1859, is located in south-central Arizona bordering both Maricopa and Pinal counties. With close to 21,300 enrolled members, the Community is home to two tribes—the Akimel O’Odam and Pee Posh. The reservation has a land area of 584 square miles and a 2020 Census population of 14,260. The Community includes seven districts along the Gila River and its largest communities are Sacaton, Komatke, Santan and Blackwater.

Project Location (Urbanized Areas)

UZA Code	Area Name
040000	Arizona

Congressional District Information

District	State
2	Arizona

Program Plan Information

STIP/TIP

Date: Not Provided

Description: TIP/STIP exemption per Tribal Formula program.

UPWP

Date: Not Provided

Description: n/a

Long Range Plan

Date: Not Provided

Description: n/a

Project Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Program Formula	5311-1B	20509	\$210,697
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$210,697

Project Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
AZ-2023-020-01-01	600-00 (600-A1) OTHER PROGRAM COSTS	\$210,697.00	\$0.00	\$210,697.00	2
AZ-2023-020-01-01	11.7A.00 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	\$27,450.00	\$0.00	\$27,450.00	1
AZ-2023-020-01-01	30.09.02 SLIDING SCALE (5311 OR 5310 PILOT	\$183,247.00	\$0.00	\$183,247.00	1

ONLY)

Project Budget Activity Line Items

Budget Activity Line Item: 30.09.02 - SLIDING SCALE (5311 OR 5310 PILOT ONLY)

Scope Name / Code	Line Item #	Line Item Name	Activity	Quantity
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	30.09.02	SLIDING SCALE (5311 OR 5310 PILOT ONLY)	OPERATING ASSISTANCE	1

Extended Budget Description

Amendment #1

This application requests FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds apportioned to the Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$183,247. FFY 2021 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover operating expenses including transportation manager salary and fringe, transit dispatch supervisor salary and fringe, and driver salaries and fringe. The period of performance (estimated completion date) is changing from September 30, 2024 to September 30, 2025. This change is necessary due to dramatic staff shortages affecting the rate of expenditure of funds.

Federal Funds: Operating Assistance FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds from Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$182,247.

Local match: \$0 Tribal funds

Total Project Cost: \$183,247.

Will 3rd Party contractors be used to fulfill this activity line item?

No, 3rd Party Contractors will not be used for this line item.

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Program Formula	5311-1B	20509	\$183,247
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$183,247

Milestone Name	Est. Completion Date	Description
Start Date	10/1/2023	The date expenses will begin.
End Date	9/30/2024	The date by which all funds will be expended.

Budget Activity Line Item: 11.7A.00 - PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Scope Name / Code	Line Item #	Line Item Name	Activity	Quantity
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	11.7A.00	PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS (BUS)	1

Extended Budget Description

This application requests FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds apportioned to the Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$27,450. FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds will cover preventative maintenance (PM) costs for the transit program. All PM will be performed by third party contractors. The period of performance (estimated completion date) is changing from September 30, 2024 to September 30, 2025. This change is necessary due to dramatic staff shortages affecting the rate of expenditure of funds.

Federal Funds: Capital/Preventative Maintenance FY21 Section 5311 Tribal Transit Formula funds from Gila River Indian Community, state of Arizona, in the amount of \$27,450.

Local match: \$0 Tribal funds

Total Project Cost: \$27,450.

Will 3rd Party contractors be used to fulfill this activity line item?

No, 3rd Party Contractors will not be used for this line item.

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 - Tribal Transit Program Formula	5311-1B	20509	\$27,450
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$0
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$27,450

Milestone Name	Est. Completion Date	Description
Start Date	10/1/2023	The date expenses will begin.
End Date	9/30/2024	The date by which all funds will be expended.

Project Environmental Findings

Finding: Class II(c) - Categorical Exclusions (C-List)

Class Level Description

Class II(c) consists of projects that do not have a significant environmental impact on the human or natural environment and are therefore categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. FTA requires a sufficient project

description to support a CE determination. The project may require additional documentation to comply with other environmental laws.

Categorical Exclusion Description

Type 04: Planning and administrative activities which do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as: training, technical assistance and research; promulgation of rules, regulations, directives, or program guidance; approval of project concepts; engineering; and operating assistance to transit authorities to continue existing service or increase service to meet routine demand.

Date Description	Date
Class IIc CE Approved	12/29/2023

Scope Name / Code	Line Item Number	Line Item Name	Quantity	FTA Amount	Total Eligible Cost
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	30.09.02	SLIDING SCALE (5311 OR 5310 PILOT ONLY)	1	\$183,247.00	\$183,247.00

Finding: Class II(c) - Categorical Exclusions (C-List)

Class Level Description

Class II(c) consists of projects that do not have a significant environmental impact on the human or natural environment and are therefore categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. FTA requires a sufficient project description to support a CE determination. The project may require additional documentation to comply with other environmental laws.

Categorical Exclusion Description

Type 07: Acquisition, installation, rehabilitation, replacement, and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, within or accommodated by existing facilities, that does not result in a change in functional use of the facilities, such as: equipment to be located within existing facilities and with no substantial off-site impacts; and vehicles, including buses, rail cars, trolley cars, ferry boats and people movers that can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that qualify for a categorical exclusion.

Date Description	Date
Class IIc CE Approved	12/29/2023

Scope Name / Code	Line Item Number	Line Item Name	Quantity	FTA Amount	Total Eligible Cost
OTHER PROGRAM COSTS (600-00)	11.7A.00	PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	1	\$27,450.00	\$27,450.00

Part 4: Fleet Details

No fleet data exists for this application.

Part 5: FTA Review Comments

FTA Comments for DOL

Comment By Phil Yue

Comment Type DOL Review for Information

Date 4/23/2024

Comment Department of Labor (DOL) certification is not required. It is for informational purposes—as with regular Section 5311 Program applications.

Application Review Comments

Comment By Phil Yue

Comment Type Pre-Award Manager Returns Application

Date 4/9/2024

Comment return to the tribe to make the correction, budget is incorrect.

Application Review Comments

Comment By Phil Yue

Comment Type Application Details

Date 4/22/2024

Comment 1. Period of Performance End Date: At the ALI level, the latest Estimate Milestone Completion date appears to be 9/30/2024; however, the Period of Performance Date shows 9/30/2025. Please advise the grantee to enter a Period of Performance date no more than 3 months beyond the latest Estimated Milestone Completion Date. 2. Extended Budget Description should include the period for which Operating Assistance this grant will fund (even though the Milestone descriptions all indicate when funds will be drawn down). The tribe will need to update the milestone date on the annual MPR report.