

**TO AUTHORIZE CHOCTAW TRANSPORTATION TO SUBMIT A FEDERAL TRANSIT
ADMINISTRATION 5309 BUS FACILITIES PROGRAM LADDERS OF OPPORTUNITY GRANT**

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

THOMAS WILLISTON INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO APPROVE the authorization of Choctaw Transportation to submit a federal transit administration 5309 Bus Facilities Program Ladders of Opportunity Grant.

WHEREAS, Safe and comfortable transportation services are very important to the citizens of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma to participate in a prosperous and healthy community.

WHEREAS, Choctaw Transportation has been providing quality transportation services to the residents of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

WHEREAS, Recently, Choctaw Transportation has been challenged with providing safe and comfortable transportation services to our Nation's citizens based on an aging bus fleet. The aging bus fleet has increased maintenance costs and the number of breakdowns, especially on long distance trips leaving our citizens stranded and missing important Tribal activities.


WHEREAS, Choctaw Transportation has identified a federal grant program to assist in replacing the aging vehicles in the bus fleet. The federal grant program is the Federal Transit Administration's 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities Program Ladders of Opportunity Program.

WHEREAS, Funding will be requested in the amount of \$6,476,129 to purchase twelve buses for Choctaw Transportation, four buses for Choctaw Tourism, and for project administration costs. The \$150,000 worth of project administration and indirect costs will be provided as in-kind services. This will provide additional leveraging of resources to make the grant application more competitive.

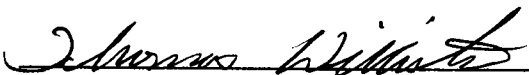
THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED, by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Act be sited as authorization for Choctaw Transportation to submit a Federal Transit Administration 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities Program Ladders of Opportunity Program grant application on behalf of the Choctaw Nation as described herein.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on July 12, 2014. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 94 -14 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.



Delton Cox, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Thomas Williston, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Patton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 7-14-14

Choctaw Transportation

3210 Enterprise Blvd
Durant, Oklahoma 74701
Telephone 580-920-0160
Facsimile 580-745-9521

July 11, 2014

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Tribal Council
529 North 16th Avenue
Durant, Oklahoma 74701

Subject: Bus and Facilities Grant Program Ladders of Opportunity Initiative

Dear Tribal Council:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing you this letter. Choctaw Transportation has been providing transportation services to the citizens of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for many years. Our dedicated staff takes great pride ensuring that the citizens of our community have access to safe, comfortable transportation services.

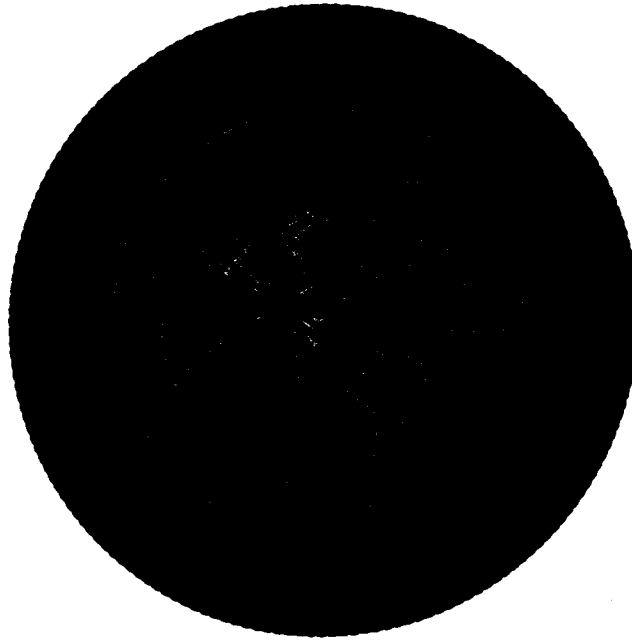
Choctaw Transportation is currently facing challenges based on our aging vehicle fleet. Escalating maintenance costs and buses frequently breaking down are hindering the quality service that we could be providing our citizens.

The Federal Transit Administration's 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities Ladders of Opportunity Initiative grant program could provide the necessary funding to update our bus fleet and provide economic opportunity by creating jobs around the newly formed Choctaw Tourism department. The grant is due on August 4, 2014.

I am writing this letter to respectfully request that Choctaw Transportation be allowed to submit a grant application to the Federal Transit Administration to secure funding necessary to update our aging fleet and provide a better quality of life through safe, comfortable transportation services for our citizens.

Sincerely,

Cole Osborn, Senior Transportation Manager



**5309 Bus and Facilities Program
Ladders of Opportunity Initiative
Grant Prospectus**

**Tribal Headquarters
Choctaw Nation
529 N 16th Avenue
Durant, OK 74701
Telephone: 800-522-6170
Facsimile:
Web: <http://www.choctawnation.com>**

**Main Contact
Cole Osborn, Senior Transportation Manager
Choctaw Transportation
3210 Enterprise Blvd Durant, OK 74701
Telephone: 580-920-0160 ext 1404
Facsimile: 580-745-9521
Email: Anthony.osborn@choctawcasinos.com**

Overview

Access to quality transportation is the foundation of a prosperous and healthy community. Statistics show that for every one dollar spent on transportation between eight and twelve dollars are returned to the community economically. Choctaw Transportation has been providing quality transportation services to the citizens of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for many years.

Choctaw Transportation provides many types of transportation services to our community. You can find a summary of these services on the following page. It has become much more difficult in recent years to provide safe, comfortable transportation services due to our aging fleet. Our maintenance costs are much higher based on fleet age and this presents safety hazards especially on long distance trips. We are constantly having to locate and hire local charter companies to pick our citizens off the side of the road and this is beginning to become a regular occurrence.

Choctaw Transportation has recently been made aware of a federal grant through the Federal Transportation Administration. The 5309 Bus and Facilities Program Ladders of Opportunity Initiative will provide funding to replace our aging bus fleet. Our plan is to apply for twelve vehicles for Choctaw Transportation and four vehicles for Choctaw Tourism.

To be competitive for this grant program we propose providing a 25% match. If successfully awarded, Choctaw Transportation will sell the current vehicles in our fleet and use the monies received to pay the match requirement under the grant program.

The newly formed Choctaw Tourism department will also benefit from this grant program. Vehicles will be purchased to provide daily tours of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's rich cultural history. This will create additional job opportunities driving buses, guiding tours, and allowing our artisan community to sell their products to tourists.

The FTA 5309 Bus and Facilities is a great opportunity for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The program provides the necessary funding to update our aging fleet of vehicles while creating economic opportunity for our citizens. For more information, please contact Cole Osborn via e-mail anthony.osborn@choctawcasinos.com or telephone 580-920-0160, ext 1404.

Choctaw Transportation Summary of Services

Choctaw Transportation maintains an active commitment toward serving the Tribal transportation needs and the surrounding communities.

Choctaw Transportation services are utilized for:

- ❖ Tribal senior cross country trips, concerts, and other recreational activities.***
- ❖ Youth outreach trips.***
- ❖ Tribal summer camp.***
- ❖ Tribal sports camps.***
- ❖ Archeological excursions.***
- ❖ Native culture and language activities.***
- ❖ Tribal trips for Jones Academy.***
- ❖ Transportation for youth to and from Jones Academy.***
- ❖ Job Fairs.***
- ❖ Wellness Fairs.***
- ❖ Local high school / college sports, academic, and music competitions.***
- ❖ Christmas lights tours.***
- ❖ Transportation to and from the Choctaw Casinos for guests.***
- ❖ Transportation to and from golf courses for Youth, hotel/convention center guests, and tourists.***
- ❖ Transportation to and from the local lakes for fishing and cruises for tourists and hotel/convention center guests.***
- ❖ We are responsible for maintaining a state of good repair for our work place, our equipment, and our vehicles.***
- ❖ Choctaw Transportation provides tire, brake, and multiple repair and preventive maintenance services for: Tribal Transit, Head Start, Career Development, Food Distribution, Tribal Fleet, Gaming Fleet, Ranching, Forestry, Cultural Services, and Youth Outreach.***

Proposed Budget

2014 MCI J4500 WC	3	\$530,000	\$1,590,000
2015 MCI J4500 Non WC	6	\$530,000	\$3,180,000
2014 Temsa 30 ft	2	\$267,990	\$535,980
2014 Temsa 35 ft	1	\$355,379	\$355,379
Total Costs			\$5,661,359
2014 Temsa 30 ft	2	\$267,990	\$535,980
2014 ProMaster L5H2	2	\$64,395	\$128,790
Total Costs			\$664,770
Total Equipment Costs			\$6,326,129
2003 MCI		1,165,393	\$85,000
2001 MCI		818,962	\$75,000
2002 Van Hool		1,616,549	\$100,000
2003 MCI		896,620	\$90,000
2006 Coach Bus			\$60,000
2004 Van Hool		1,026,535	\$120,000
2005 Coach Freight		194,518	\$50,000
2007 Van Hool		484,857	\$240,000
2007 Van Hool		434,546	\$240,000
2012 Van Hool		140,867	\$400,000
2012 Van Hool		163,105	\$400,000
Total Estimated Value of Fleet			\$1,860,000
Vehicle Purchase			\$6,326,129
Program Management			\$90,000
Indirect Cost Rate (estimate)			\$60,000
Total Grant Request			\$6,476,129
Total Proposed Match*			\$1,619,032.25

*Match will come from sale of existing fleet