CHEROKEE NATION DEMAND RESPONSE TRANSIT POLICY
April 2021 – Revision 7

PURPOSE: To provide low cost transportation for Native Americans and/or tribal employees¹ to and from eligible destinations within Cherokee Nation’s (CN) Reservation Boundary including drop-off and return services within the Motor Vehicle Licensing Compact Boundary².

ELIGIBILITY: Native Americans and/or tribal employees within the Nation’s Reservation, who are unable to access existing commuter routes, and who do not qualify for Sooner Ride or TANF assistance.

AVAILABILITY: Individuals needing “demand-response-type” transportation should call one of the Nation’s transit service providers below to schedule round-trip transportation. Transportation is based on availability within normal operating hours and all potential riders must provide a minimum of 72 hours advance notice (3 days) for scheduling purposes (http://transit.cherokee.org).

DEFINITIONS:

1. Cherokee Nation’s Reservation: means all lands within the 1893 Reservation established by Treaties, Congressional Acts, and Proclamations. This area includes all or parts of the following 14 counties in northeastern Oklahoma: Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers, Sequoyah, Tulsa, Wagoner, and Washington.

2. Cherokee Nation’s Motor Vehicle Licensing Compact Boundary: means all areas describe above within CN’s Reservation along with the balance of Mayes, Muskogee, Rogers, Tulsa, and Wagoner Counties (see attached map).

3. Cherokee Nation Transit Service Provider: means the following agencies contracted to provide demand response transit services for the Cherokee Nation:

   a. Ki Bois Area Transit System (KATS) 1-800-289-7228
   b. Pelivan Transit – 1-800-282-2014
   c. Muskogee County Transit – 1-918-682-1721
   d. Cimarron Public Transit – 1-918-336-2233

¹ Non-Native American Tribal Employees are eligible for rides to work only.
² Rides shall not originate within the area between CN’s Reservation and the Motor Vehicle Licensing Compact Boundary. This area is reserved for purposes of rider drop off and returns only.
Due to funding limitations, Native American transportation request that originate within the City Limits of Tulsa are subject to the full fare of the transit service provider (Metropolitan Tulsa Transit Authority). However, Native Americans needing transportation to the City of Tulsa are eligible for the low cost transportation rate as long as the trip begins and ends outside of the City of Tulsa and within the Nation’s Reservation Boundary.

4. **Low Cost Transportation Rate:** means $1.00 round-trip until further notice (50¢ each way).

5. **Demand Response:** means a single and previously unscheduled transport generated by calls from individuals needing a ride to and from eligible destinations.

6. **Eligible Destinations within the Nation’s Reservation and Motor Vehicle Licensing Compact Boundary:** means employment, healthcare and governmental facilities, or the nearest financial institutions, and grocery stores from the riders’ point of pickup. Areas outside of CN’s Motor Vehicle Licensing Compact Boundary are subject to additional charges. Individuals needing transportation for recreational purposes will be subject to the full fare of the transit service provider.

7. **Commuter Route:** means a Cherokee Nation transit route that travels from city to city on a scheduled basis.

8. **Native American:** means any Indian or citizen of a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe (requires proof of tribal citizenship).

9. **Tribal Employee:** means any individual working for the Cherokee Nation or any of its affiliations or a federal institution that provides services directly to Indians such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service (requires proof of employment identification badge).

10. **Sooner Ride Program:** means transportation costs subsidized by Medicare and Medicaid.

11. **TANF:** means Technical Assistance for Needy Families; a program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services that subsidizes transportation costs.