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### **Federal Agency Programs Committee**

Agenda

Update on Major Activities

*Please see the following papers in Tab 1 for the Federal Agency Programs Committee discussion:*

Planning for Section 106 Responsibilities in Federal Agency Climate Change Response and Adaptation Activities

Section 106 and Infrastructure and Surface Transportation Legislation

Implementation Status of Action Plans for Section 3 Report, Leveraging Federal Historic Buildings Working Group, and Digital Information Task Force



**MEETING**  
**FEDERAL AGENCY PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, July 21, 2021**  
**1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. EDT**

Join ZoomGov Meeting  
<https://achp.zoomgov.com/j/1601353594?pwd=RURSRGpaUjlOQmpEeTZyNXhmZEdBdz09>

Meeting ID: 160 135 3594  
Passcode: 158287  
Dial by phone  
+1 646 828 7666 US  
Meeting ID: 160 135 3594  
Passcode: 158287

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order and Introductions
- II. Planning for Section 106 Responsibilities in Federal Agency Climate Change Response and Adaptation Activities
- III. Section 106 and Infrastructure and Surface Transportation Legislation
- IV. Implementation Status of Action Plans for Section 3 Report, Leveraging Federal Historic Buildings Working Group, and Digital Information Task Force
- V. Updates:
  - Program Comment Review Panel
  - Program Alternatives
- VI. Adjourn



**UPDATE ON MAJOR ACTIVITIES**  
**Office of Federal Agency Programs**  
**April—July 2021**

***Program Comment Review Panel.*** The Program Comment Review Panel (Jay Vogt, expert member; Reno Franklin, Native American member; and Tony Costa, Department of Veterans Affairs) recently developed a set of draft recommendations following a period of information gathering from ACHP members and additional input offered by Federal Preservation Officers, the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO). The panel sought additional feedback on the draft from stakeholders with particular interests in the Program Comment development process, including NCSHPO, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, NTHP and Federal Preservation Officers. Panel members are currently considering their recent comments in terms of refining a set of recommendations to present to Vice Chairman Jordan Tannenbaum in the near future.

***Program Alternatives Updates.*** The Office of Federal Agency Programs continues to work with several federal agencies at various stages in the process of developing program alternatives. Status summaries and other current information are always accessible to members at the program alternatives OneDrive folder: [https://achp-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/bsemmer\\_achp\\_gov/EtqHzsQvUa5Moi\\_A9DckA60B-bLJzgi495AzOuTVBSKBkA](https://achp-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/bsemmer_achp_gov/EtqHzsQvUa5Moi_A9DckA60B-bLJzgi495AzOuTVBSKBkA).

**Forest Service Nationwide Programmatic Agreement (nPA) for Phasing Large-Scale and Multi-Year Undertakings:** The U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service) has proposed an nPA for Phasing Large-Scale and Multi-Year Undertakings to provide an alternative process requiring earlier consultation and providing for better sequencing of the Section 106 and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review processes for large-scale, multi-year undertakings. The nPA requires the Forest Service to consult parties earlier to provide more opportunities for them to provide input into the design of multi-year undertakings, and for the Forest Service to develop a plan in consultation with parties for completing the Section 106 review process in phases after the NEPA decision. The Forest Service is addressing comments on its draft nPA and expects to provide a response to comments and a copy of the revised agreement to consulting parties and stakeholders this summer.

**Forest Service Facilities Program Comments:** Since 2019, the Forest Service has been coordinating with ACHP staff and consulting parties about a Program Comment for Decommissioning Facilities under Administration, Recreation, and Research & Design programs. In June 2021, the Forest Service and consulting parties considered splitting the Program Comment into two to better tailor the process for each property type and the respective undertakings commonly involving them. One Program Comment would assist in decommissioning Administration and Research & Design facilities, while the other would cover certain maintenance activities for Recreation facilities. Both Program Comments would outline similar methods to improve the process for determining the eligibility of properties and include a comprehensive strategy for resolving adverse effects for facilities built from 1933–1980. The Forest Service plans to pursue both Program Comments concurrently, initiating a consultation period with Indian tribes, State Historic Preservation Officers, and interested parties in the near future and submitting a formal request in

late 2021. The agency has also expressed interest in hosting a webinar regarding these program alternatives for ACHP members.

**Navy Nationwide Programmatic Agreement for Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program:** In March, the Navy provided a revised draft and template for the local consultation process for its development of an nPA for the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program (SIOP). The program will support the placement of facilities and major equipment to improve shipyard performance at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Virginia; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Maine; Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Washington; and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Hawaii, as well as other support facilities. The Navy proposes to expand the scope of the nPA to include any proposed undertaking at a public shipyard or support facility beyond SIOP-based projects.

**Amendment to Extend Duration of Positive Train Control Program Comment:** The ACHP recently amended the Program Comment to Tailor the Federal Communications Commission’s Section 106 Review for Undertakings Involving the Construction of Positive Train Control Wayside Poles and Infrastructure (PTC PC) to extend its duration for five years, to May 16, 2026, following outreach to key stakeholders. While PTC systems have already been installed on existing rail lines, the Federal Railroad Administration notes that future lines may be subject to the PTC system requirements. With this amendment, these future lines may now avail themselves of the PTC PC’s efficiencies while it remains in effect.

**Section 106 E-News and Training.** The Office of Federal Agency Programs’ (OFAP) regular outreach efforts include the Section 106 training program, Section 106 information and guidance on [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov), and an occasional e-newsletter. Members should have received the June 2021 Section 106 E-News in their email inboxes recently. The newsletter offers updates on current Section 106 topics such as program alternatives, new guidance and training resources, relevant reports and federal agency program news, and OFAP staff changes. OFAP also uses the E-News to convey timely advice on working with the regulations, as this issue did regarding the use of electronic signatures on agreement documents.

The Section 106 training program remains busy this summer with its popular virtual classroom courses: the Section 106 Essentials, Practitioners Workshop, and Agreements Seminar. The 2022 training schedule will be announced soon. A free offering of the Section 106 Essentials took place June 15-16 for students pursuing degrees in preservation-related disciplines and for summer interns learning about preservation work. The training program also partnered with the Certified Local Government (CLG) program at the National Park Service in May to offer the “Section 106: What’s in It for My Community” one-hour webinar free of charge to CLG staff and preservation commission members with 180 people in attendance. The webinar will be converted to an on-demand e-learning course in the near future.

*July 14, 2021*