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Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee

Agenda

Showcasing Housing and Historic Preservation Successes

Please see the following papers in Tab 1 for the Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee discussion:

International Climate Heritage Discussions—What’s Next

Proposed ACHP Action on Pending Legislation



MEETING
POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
1 p.m.–2 p.m. EST

Join ZoomGov Meeting
<https://achp.zoomgov.com/j/1616542810?pwd=U2yQTmyOt72TbXrQbKlfp2PkheXBAX.1>

Meeting ID: 161 654 2810
Passcode: 454490
Dial-in: (646) 828-7666

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- I. Introductions
- II. Proposed ACHP Action on Pending Legislation
 - A. Revitalizing Downtowns and Main Streets Act
 - B. Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park Act
 - C. FY 2025 Funding for the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Latino
- III. Upcoming Legislative Issues
- IV. International Climate Heritage Discussions–What’s Next
- V. Showcasing Housing and Historic Preservation Successes
- VI. Updates and Other Business



SHOWCASING HOUSING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SUCCESSES

Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs

At the September 2024 meeting of the Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee, there was discussion regarding the need to amplify success stories that showcase the benefits of reusing historic buildings to create housing. Doing so would help in countering perceptions that historic preservation is a barrier rather than an opportunity to housing development. The ACHP is uniquely positioned to help facilitate a proactive consciousness-raising initiative toward this end.

ACHP Housing and Historic Preservation Policy Statement. Principle 12 of the housing policy statement advises:

Public-serving institutions should educate policymakers, housing advocates, developers, the media, and the public about the benefits of reusing historic buildings in housing development and debunk misperceptions regarding historic preservation as a barrier to addressing the housing supply shortfall.

The policy goes on to note the need for outreach to explain:

- why historic building rehabilitation for housing is a sound financial investment and what incentives are available;
- how modern housing needs (including accessibility for people with disabilities) can be accommodated in historic buildings without sacrificing their historic qualities;
- how rehabilitation of historic buildings for housing also has intangible and environmental benefits for communities; and
- how historic preservation review processes (including Section 106 review) are not designed to impede projects but rather to balance consideration of housing needs and preservation of historic places through consultation and public input.

One of the most compelling ways to illustrate and broadcast these ideas is by developing and publicizing case study examples.

Coordinated Case Study Development. The potential to maximize the scope of case study development and dissemination would be enhanced if a core group of ACHP members were to commit to a collaborative initiative. Initial participants might consist of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of the Interior, National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, and the National Preservation Partners Network. Each could task staff to develop case studies that then would be shared publicly through the outreach vehicles of all the participants and the ACHP. Collaborative brainstorming could also advance efforts to strategically target distribution to policymakers, housing advocates, developers, and the media.

Action Needed. The Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee is asked to discuss the proposal outlined above and its potential for implementation over the next 12 months.

October 29, 2024

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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