



ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUDGET JUSTIFICATION FY 2027

March 2026

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation of America's historic places and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.

The 24-member council is served by a professional staff with offices in Washington, D.C. For more information about the ACHP, contact:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 401
F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, D.C. 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200
Website: www.achp.gov

On X (Twitter) and Instagram: @usachp
Facebook: ACHP-Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; Preservation-The Next Generation; and
Preservation Indigenous-Native Youth
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@usachp
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/advisory-council-on-historic-preservation

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUDGET JUSTIFICATION, FY 2027

FY 2027 Request

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation requests \$5,151,000.

SUMMARY

FY 2027 Summary

The work of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in supporting timely and efficient environmental review of federal projects remains critically important, especially in regard to energy and infrastructure development. The ACHP plays a crucial role in that effort through its statutorily mandated oversight of the Section 106 review process. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 306108) tasks the ACHP with helping federal agencies take historic resources into account before proceeding with projects they carry out, approve, or fund.

In addition to its role in the Section 106 process, the ACHP also advises on and advances public policies and programs that support and encourage historic preservation activities carried out by the federal government, states, local governments, Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs), and private organizations and individuals (54 U.S.C. § 304102[a][1], [3], [4], and [6]). This responsibility includes advising the President and Congress on matters relating to historic preservation. In addition, the ACHP is tasked with fostering broader appreciation for and knowledge of historic preservation and the work of the ACHP and communicating the value and benefits of preserving historic properties (54 U.S.C. § 304102[a][1], [2], [5] and [7]).

For FY 2027, the ACHP requests \$5,151,000. Activities and achievements at the requested level of funding will include the following:

- Manage the federal historic preservation review and consultation process under Section 106 of the NHPA in a timely, effective, and efficient manner that fully engages stakeholders and the public to find solutions that accommodate both federal project needs and stewardship of the nation's historic properties, notably regarding infrastructure permitting and energy development;
- Develop Section 106 tools that enable federal agencies to meet Administration priorities and effectively advance historic preservation goals; respond to the growing demand from federal agencies to tailor the Section 106 process to specific agency programs; and implement best practices as identified by the Permitting Council;
- Expedite and improve planning for federal projects by promoting development of digital tools and facilitating electronic Section 106 processing and recordkeeping;
- Provide training to federal agencies and stakeholders on Section 106;
- Promote the effective involvement of and meaningful consideration of input from Indian Tribes and NHOs in Section 106 reviews, including incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in project planning in accordance with the ACHP's Policy Statement on Indigenous Knowledge and Historic

Preservation, and consideration of the principles of the ACHP's Policy Statement on Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects;

- Raise awareness about the value and relevance of history and the benefits of historic preservation in contemporary society and educate and engage the public, including the next generation of preservationists;
- Provide timely expert advice to the President, the Congress, and the executive branch on historic preservation in relation to national economic, energy, community development, and resource management policies;
- Participate in federal initiatives that build awareness of the national historic preservation program and promote opportunities for student careers in historic preservation;
- Finalize the ACHP's FY 2027 triennial report to the President on federal stewardship of historic properties, as required by Executive Order (EO) 13287, "Preserve America;"
- Advise the Congress on proposed legislation relating to historic properties;
- Participate in interagency working groups to effectuate consideration for and protection of Tribal historic properties and sacred sites in federal decision making; and
- Maintain essential cybersecurity initiatives.

FY 2027 Direction and Request

Efficient Section 106 Review

Strengthening and accelerating environmental reviews of infrastructure and energy projects

The ACHP is uniquely positioned to advance the Administration's energy and infrastructure initiatives. The agency can provide expert technical assistance to federal agencies in completing the Section 106 review process, build additional efficiencies in the [Section 106 review of federal and federally assisted infrastructure projects](#), and work to improve environmental reviews for infrastructure projects through better coordination between the Section 106 process and other environmental reviews.

Since 2012, the ACHP has played an important role in federal efforts to improve the delivery of infrastructure projects, providing policy recommendations and guidance as a member of the steering committee implementing the requirements of EO 13604, "Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects," and as a member of the Permitting Council that was established in 2015.

The ACHP will continue to advance Permitting Council goals by continuing to work with federal agencies and stakeholders to efficiently and effectively complete Section 106 reviews; promoting the early and meaningful engagement of key stakeholders, including Indian Tribes; and advancing the use of digital tools and data to better inform Section 106 reviews and project planning. The ACHP also will assist federal agencies in effectively coordinating Section 106 reviews for infrastructure and energy projects prioritized by the Permitting Council and promote Section 106 strategies to help agencies meet permitting timetables.

To further enhance efficiencies in Section 106 review, in FY 2027 the ACHP will explore measures to reduce the number of days to finalize Section 106 reviews in which the ACHP is participating and provide and continuously update a central repository of best practices that encourage the successful and timely conclusion of Section 106 reviews.

Tailoring the Section 106 process to agency needs

Federal agencies sometimes need a more tailored approach to meeting the requirements of the Section 106 review process as they work to balance historic preservation goals with advancing mission requirements. The

Section 106 regulations “Protection of Historic Properties” (36 CFR Part 800), are flexible and offer options—known as “program alternatives”—through which agencies can tailor the Section 106 review process for a group of undertakings or an entire program that may affect historic properties. These alternatives are developed in collaboration with federal agencies and include the engagement of key stakeholders and the public. Over the years, these tools have provided specific approaches that either eliminate or expedite Section 106 review of routine projects while enhancing focus on more impactful projects.

In October 2024, the ACHP adopted an [Exemption for Indigenous Knowledge-Informed Activities by Native Hawaiian Organizations](#). It exempts from Section 106 review certain federal restoration, rehabilitation, preservation, and reconstruction activities proposed, directed, authorized, or supported by NHOs. While helping to expedite Section 106 reviews, the exemption is also in keeping with the ACHP [Policy Statement on Indigenous Knowledge and Historic Preservation](#). Indigenous Knowledge is a body of observations, oral and written knowledge, innovations, practices, and beliefs developed by Indian Tribes and Indigenous Peoples through interaction and experience with the environment. Implementation of the exemption and promotion of the policy statement will continue in FY 2027.

Additionally, in December 2024, ACHP members approved a [Program Comment on Certain Housing, Building, and Transportation Undertakings](#), which provides federal agencies with an alternate way to comply with Section 106 for certain housing, building rehabilitation, and transportation activities. It enables most interior renovations to proceed without further review, and it allows for federal agencies to engage in a broad range of maintenance and repair activities with a streamlined review process.

Requests for program alternatives from federal agencies have increased dramatically since FY 2022 and are expected to continue at this increased pace in the coming years. In supporting the Permitting Council’s best practices, the ACHP is actively advancing use of program alternatives to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of historic preservation reviews for a wide range of federal programs. They are particularly important tools for ensuring the review of energy and infrastructure projects can proceed expeditiously while still addressing stakeholder concerns about impacts to historic properties. Examples of recent program alternatives address [management of pre-1919 Department of the Army historic housing](#); [federal communications projects](#); and [management of Department of Homeland Security facilities](#).

The ACHP is working with several federal agencies toward finalizing new program alternatives. Project types to be addressed include operations and maintenance activities associated with transmission lines; leasing of federal facilities; management of highly technical and scientific facilities; and funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs’ State Veterans Homes.

Indian Tribe and Native Hawaiian Organization engagement

The ACHP has the important statutory responsibility to ensure Indian Tribes and NHOs are afforded the opportunity to be meaningfully consulted and actively involved throughout the Section 106 process, as federal or federally funded or permitted projects have the potential to affect historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them (54 U.S.C. § 302706[b]). As a federal agency, the ACHP has a trust responsibility to Indian Tribes and must consult with them on a government-to-government basis on matters that have implications for Tribes, which is addressed in the ACHP’s Policy Statement Regarding the Council’s Relationships with Indian Tribes. In FY 2027, the ACHP will continue to meet these legal responsibilities through training, technical assistance, and outreach regarding the rights and roles that Tribes and NHOs are afforded by the NHPA and the Section 106 review process, as well as other related historic preservation initiatives and programs. These efforts will seek to ensure consultation on projects and programs leads to better preservation outcomes while ensuring expeditious and predictable Section 106 reviews.

Indian Tribes and NHOs have long identified the need to integrate and fully consider Indigenous Knowledge in consultation during the Section 106 process, and the need to appropriately treat human remains, burial sites,

and funerary objects affected by federal projects. As previously noted, the ACHP has adopted a policy statement on effectively incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into Section 106 consultations. The ACHP's [Policy Statement on Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects](#) addresses how these should receive appropriate consideration in federal decision making. The ACHP will continue to implement both policies in FY 2027.

Electronic Section 106 processing and other digital tools

More uniformly available digital tools, including GIS, that address the location of historic properties would contribute significantly to current government-wide efforts to improve the efficiency of environmental reviews, including Section 106 reviews, for infrastructure and energy projects. Such information plays a vital role in assisting with the development of project plans that avoid adverse effects to known historic properties at the design stage.

In FY 2024, the ACHP received funding from the Environmental Review Improvement Fund overseen by the Permitting Council to develop a nationwide map of identified, nonsensitive historic properties compiled from data contributed by federal agencies. The project was designed to aid federal agencies in collecting information needed to support their Section 106 review decisions to accelerate and improve the consideration of historic properties in project planning for infrastructure projects and, in doing so, reduce or avoid impacts to such properties. The ACHP has since updated its original proposal to now use technology that will make historic property data more accessible to the Section 106 process without the ACHP assembling or holding datasets itself. The revised approach leverages the latest advancements in AI to create a system linked initially to available GIS cultural resources databases at the state and federal level, and eventually to other sources beyond that.

In FY 2027, the ACHP will continue to work with federal, state, Tribal, and local governments, and private sector stakeholders to identify other effective strategies for making historic property geospatial information appropriately available to the planning process and for the utilization of electronic Section 106 systems to facilitate workflows and information exchange. The ACHP also will continue its work as a member of the Permitting Council to explore the potential for providing additional support and resources to State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) to improve the availability of and access to geospatial information necessary to inform Section 106 reviews for infrastructure projects, consistent with appropriate confidentiality standards.

The ACHP also has worked aggressively to digitize the Section 106 review process and establish tools and procedures for federal agencies to use in interacting with the ACHP on Section 106 reviews. Virtually all submissions to the ACHP are now received electronically through the agency's Electronic Section 106 Documentation Submittal System (e106). In FY 2025, the ACHP is updating its e106 and case management systems to create a more seamless transfer of information from a web-based form to the ACHP's internal database, streamlining the intake of required Section 106 submissions and saving staff processing time. To improve internal agency business processes in line with Administration priorities, in FY 2027 the ACHP will work with OMB, OPM, and DOI-BSEE to transition HR functions to the new OPM Core HCM system.

Training

Training for federal agency staff, SHPO and THPO staff, contractors, and consulting parties is a critical component of improving the effectiveness and timeliness of the Section 106 process. The ACHP currently offers [training in the Section 106 process](#) through on-site classroom and digital classroom courses, live instructor-led webinars, and on-demand e-Learning courses. The ACHP's training program reached 2,289 students in classroom and webinar settings in 32 training events in FY 2025. Approximately 1,090 learners accessed the ACHP's e-Learning offerings in FY 2025. While the agency expects the number of training offerings to decrease in FY 2026 due to a decrease in agency staffing, the training program is still an integral part of the ACHP's mission. Digital classroom courses demonstrate the ACHP's commitment

to distance learning, recognizing that budget and travel restrictions in other agencies limit participation in on-site training opportunities. Distance learning is lower in overall cost to both the ACHP and participants, although it does require up-front development costs.

Citizen Engagement and Fostering Appreciation of Historic Preservation

The NHPA tasks the ACHP with fostering broader appreciation for and knowledge of historic preservation and communicating the value and benefits of preserving historic properties (54 U.S.C. §304102[a][1], [2], [5] and [7]). In FY 2027, the ACHP will raise awareness about the value, relevance, and benefits of historic preservation in contemporary society and educate and engage the public, including the next generation of preservationists. The primary tools to accomplish these goals are the ACHP website, which connects the public with the ACHP's news and resources, and the ACHP's social media channels—LinkedIn, with 14,000 followers, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Another key program that fulfills the ACHP's statutory mandate is the *Preserve the Past, Build for the Future* webinar series, geared toward college students and early career professionals. In addition, the ACHP internship program gives students hands-on experience to prepare them for careers in historic preservation.

Policy and Legislative Advice

Advising on legislation and programs

Consistent with its statutory responsibility under the NHPA, the ACHP advises the President and the Congress on legislative, regulatory, and administrative policies that affect or enhance historic preservation interests (54 U.S.C. § 304102[a][1]). Likewise, the agency provides evaluations and recommendations on how federal programs can make better use of historic preservation tools and techniques as federal agencies carry out their missions (54 U.S.C. § 304102[a][6]). These efforts focus on strategies to effectively combine the stewardship of the nation's heritage with other national goals and cooperation in the joint development and implementation of such initiatives.

In accordance with a mandate in the NHPA, the ACHP also advises on state and local legislation affecting historic properties (54 U.S.C. § 304102[a][4]). In FY 2023, the ACHP adopted internal procedures to ensure such advice is offered only upon request and in situations where there would be substantial or precedent-setting impacts to historic properties or issues of concern related to federal preservation law and policy, including where proposed actions at the state level may conflict with federal goals or requirements. In FY 2027, the ACHP will respond to such requests as resources permit.

Advising on management of historic federal properties

EO 13287, "Preserve America," encourages federal agencies to manage federally owned historic properties as valuable assets that can support agency missions and also stimulate local economic development. Agencies have approached their oversight and management of historic properties differently based upon budgetary, program, and management considerations. Many agencies have made the preservation and protection of historic properties a priority.

Section 3 of EO 13287 encourages agencies to be proud and effective stewards of the historic properties under their ownership or control. Every three years, agencies report to the ACHP and the Department of the Interior on their progress in identifying, protecting, and using historic properties in their ownership. The ACHP incorporates this data into a report on the state of the federal government's historic properties and their contribution to local economic development that is submitted to the President. The next report will be submitted to the President in February 2027.

White House and interagency initiatives

The ACHP has served as a member of various White House and interagency working groups that support historic preservation programs and initiatives, including the White House Council on Native American Affairs and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The ACHP will continue to actively participate in and carry out necessary actions to support these initiatives and will remain available to advise on other preservation programs that the Administration may develop, including celebrations for America’s semiquincentennial and the proposed Garden of Heroes. The ACHP will also seek new opportunities with federal agency partners to promote the agency’s work to advance the national historic preservation program.

FY 2027 Budget Request

For FY 2027, the ACHP requests \$5,151,000. The requested level of funding will permit the agency to cover operational costs and meet projected demands from federal agencies for Section 106 reviews, technical assistance, and development of program alternatives.

**Figure 1. Budgetary History, FY 2023-2026
(in thousands of dollars)**

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 CR	FY 2026	FY 2027
President’s Budget	8,585	9,494	9,544	5,151	5,151

Figure 2. Appropriation and Authorization Language

Appropriation Language
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Public Law 89-665),
[\$8,585,000*] \$5,151,000

** Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 [Public Law 119-4]*

Authorization Language

There are authorized to be such amounts as may be necessary to carry out this title.

*National Historic Preservation Act Amendments Act of 2006 [Public
Law 109-453]*

Mission and Authorities

The ACHP was established by Title II of the NHPA (54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.). The NHPA charges the ACHP with advising the President and the Congress on historic preservation matters and entrusts the ACHP with the unique mission of advancing historic preservation within the federal government and being a leader in the national historic preservation program. The ACHP is guided by the following mission statement:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation of America's historic places and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.

The ACHP's authority and responsibilities are principally derived from the NHPA. Under Section 106 of the NHPA, the ACHP oversees the federal review process for actions affecting historic properties to ensure historic preservation needs are balanced with federal project requirements. The ACHP achieves this balance through the Section 106 review process, which applies whenever an action to be carried out, licensed, approved, or funded by a federal agency has the potential to impact historic properties. Section 213 of the NHPA (54 U.S.C. § 304110) authorizes the ACHP to issue government-wide regulations to implement Section 106 in its entirety. The regulations are found at 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

Other duties of the ACHP are detailed in Section 202 (54 U.S.C. § 304102) and include the following:

- Advising the President and the Congress on matters relating to historic preservation;
- Encouraging public interest and participation in historic preservation;
- Recommending policy and tax studies as they affect historic preservation;
- Advising state and local governments on historic preservation legislation;
- Encouraging training and education in historic preservation;
- Reviewing federal policies and programs and recommending improvements; and
- Informing and educating others about the ACHP's activities.

The ACHP also derives authorities from other statutes and EOs. For example, Title 41 of the FAST Act named the ACHP a statutory member of the Permitting Council charged with improving the federal permitting process for infrastructure projects. Section 7302 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 charged the ACHP with carrying out the Preserve America program. EO 13287 directs the ACHP to assess the state of federal stewardship of historic properties and report to the President on a triennial basis. EO 13934 named the ACHP as a member of the Interagency Task Force for Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes.

ACHP Membership

The ACHP has 24 statutorily designated members, including the chairman who is a full-time Presidential appointee confirmed by the Senate. The ACHP also currently includes five observer organizations/agencies that the chairman has designated to participate in the work of the ACHP. (See Figure 3)

Under the chairman's leadership and with the executive director and staff's support, the ACHP members address policy issues, direct program initiatives, and make recommendations regarding historic preservation to the President, Congress, and heads of other federal agencies. Members pursue ACHP activities both collectively and individually, and member task forces and work groups can be formed to pursue specific issues.

Figure 3. Members, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (March 2026)

Chairman
[vacant]

Vice Chairman
Travis Voyles (Virginia)

Expert Members
Margaret Everson (Maryland)

Rick Gonzalez (Florida)

Kyle Scherer (Maryland)

General Public Members
Michael Boos (Virginia)

Jaime Gardner (Colorado)

Marik A. String (District of
Columbia)

**Indian Tribe/Native Hawaiian Organization
Member**

John Tahsuda III [Kiowa Indian Tribe of
Oklahoma] (Maryland)

Governor Member
Hon. Jeff Landry (Governor of Louisiana)

Mayor Member
Hon. Robert Simison (Mayor of Meridian, Idaho)

Architect of the Capitol
Hon. Thomas E. Austin, PE, PMP

Secretary of Agriculture
Hon. Brooke Rollins

Chair, Council on Environmental Quality
Hon. Katherine Scarlett

**Acting Administrator, General Services
Administration**
Hon. Stephen Ehikian

Secretary of Homeland Security
Hon. Markwayne Mullin

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Hon. Eric Scott Turner

Secretary of the Interior
Hon. Doug Burgum

Secretary of Transportation
Hon. Sean Duffy

Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Hon. Doug Collins

Secretary of War
Hon. Pete Hegseth

Chair, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Phoebe Tudor (Texas)

**President, National Conference of State
Historic Preservation Officers**
Anne B. Raines (Maryland)

**Chair, National Association of Tribal Historic
Preservation Officers**
Lakota Hobia (Gun Lake Tribe [Match-E-Be-
Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi
Indians])(Michigan)

Observers:

**Chair, National Alliance of Preservation
Commissions**
Abigail Christman (Colorado)

Preserve America Youth Summit Director
Ann Alexander Walker (Colorado)

Chairman, ACHP Foundation
John M. Fowler (District of Columbia)

Executive Director, Permitting Council
Emily Domenech (District of Columbia)

President, RePurpose Capital
Patrice Frey (Washington)



ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637

Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov