ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
BUSINESS MEETING

NOVEMBER 10, 2026

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

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BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
November 10, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ET
First Floor Auditorium, National Building Museum
Washington, DC

Call to Order

I. Vice Chairman's Report
   A. Welcome
   B. Recent activities

II. Executive Director's Report
   A. Budget, staffing, and operations update

III. Notices of Rulemaking on UDAG and NEPA Regulation Rescissions

IV. ACHP-Issued Program Alternatives Update

V. Preserve America Executive Order Section 3 Report

VI. ACHP Annual Performance Report Update

VII. Section 106 Regulatory Update

VIII. Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026

IX. New Business

X. Adjourn

BUSINESS MEETING ANNOTATED AGENDA
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
November 10, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ET
First Floor Auditorium, National Building Museum
Washington, DC

Call to Order

I. Vice Chairman's Report
   A. Welcome. *ACHP Vice Chairman Travis Voyles will welcome Members to the November Business Meeting and ask Members to introduce themselves*.

   B. Recent activities. V*ice Chairman Voyles will summarize his recent activities*.

II. Executive Director's Report
   A. Budget, staffing, and operations update. *ACHP Executive Director Reid Nelson will report on the status of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget and ACHP organization and operations*.

III. Notices of Rulemaking on UDAG and NEPA Regulation Rescissions
   A. Rescission of the ACHP's UDAG and NEPA Regulations. *Vice Chairman Voyles and ACHP General Counsel Kelly Fanizzo will update Members on the status of efforts to rescind these two regulations*.

   B. Proposed vote on both rulemaking actions (action needed). *The Members will be asked to vote on the rescission of these two regulations*. *A roll call vote will occur for each rulemaking*.

IV. ACHP-Issued Program Alternatives Update. *Vice Chairman Voyles and ACHP Office of Federal Agency Programs Director Jaime Loichinger will provide recommendations for future amendments to improve usage of two program alternatives developed and issued previously by the ACHP.*

V. Preserve America Executive Order Section 3 Report. *Vice Chairman Voyles and Director Loichinger will provide an update on received agency progress reports and solicit Member feedback on possible findings for the upcoming triennial report*.

VI. ACHP Annual Performance Report Update.
   A. Agency updates on report: *ACHP Policy and Legislative Officer Blythe Semmer will summarize agency steps to prepare the report for submission to the Office of Management and Budget*.

B. Member discussion. *Members will be asked to provide input on activities that should be included in the ACHP's Annual Performance Report.*

VII. Section 106 Regulatory Update. *Vice Chairman Voyles will provide updates on the regulatory review process*.

VIII. Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026. *Vice Chairman Voyles and Dr. Semmer will summarize the bill and provide information on the bill's relationship to the work of the ACHP. Members will be asked to provide input on the historic preservation implications of this bill.*

IX. New Business

X. Adjourn

NOTICES OF RULEMAKING ON UDAG AND NEPA REGULATION RESCISSIONS
Office of General Counsel

Background. UDAG regulations (36 CFR Part 801): In response to the President's direction and the general policy set forth in E.O. 14192, *Unleashing Prosperity through Deregulation*, ACHP staff identified 36 CFR Part 801, Historic Preservation Requirements of the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) Program, as outdated and no longer needed. As such, the ACHP proposed to rescind the regulations in full via a notice of proposed rulemaking (NRPM). The public comment period for this NPRM closed on July 6, 2026; see Federal Register :: Rescission of Historic Preservation Requirements of the Urban Development Action Grant Program. No public comments were received on this notice. ACHP staff prepared the draft final rule and proposed use of the adopted Department of the Interior (DOI) categorical exclusion for procedural regulations to fulfill the agency's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for this rulemaking action.

NEPA regulations (36 CFR Part 805): In response to the President's direction in E.O. 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*, and the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) guidance to federal agencies on revising existing agency NEPA procedures, ACHP staff reviewed the agency's existing NEPA regulations at 36 CFR Part 805 and recommended rescinding the regulations in full via an interim final rule (IFR). ACHP staff consulted with CEQ staff in late summer/early fall 2025 on the development of the IFR. The public review and comment period for the IFR closed on July 6, 2026. See Federal Register :: Rescission of Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Three comments were received. ACHP staff reviewed the comments and prepared the draft final rule, including responses to the public comments.

Status. In late October, Members were provided the draft notice of the final rule to rescind the UDAG regulations along with a copy of the ACHP's environmental memorandum documenting the agency's determination that the adopted DOI categorical exclusion for procedural regulations applied to this action under NEPA. Members were also provided with the draft final rule to rescind the NEPA regulations along with a summary of the public comments received on the IFR. Members should refer to the materials sent previously.

Action needed. Members will be asked to vote on both rulemaking actions. If the Members vote to move forward with each rule, ACHP staff will submit the notices to the Federal Register for publication and the rules, rescinding each set of regulations, would go into effect. If the Members vote to not move forward with each rule, ACHP staff will coordinate further with Vice Chairman Voyles and the membership on a modified approach and next steps for the relevant action.

ACHP-ISSUED PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES UPDATE
Office of Federal Agency Programs

Exemption for Indigenous Knowledge-Informed Activities by Native Hawaiian Organizations

Background. On October 18, 2024, Members approved the Exemption for Indigenous Knowledge-Informed Activities by Native Hawaiian Organizations (Exemption). The Exemption relieves federal agencies from Section 106 reviews for certain undertakings that the federal agency may carry out, permit, license, or fund in Hawai'i that are proposed or directed by a Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO), or substantially led, designed, or managed by an NHO, informed by Indigenous Knowledge of that NHO, and related to traditional cultural practices of Native Hawaiians. For instance, the Department of the Interior's Office of Native Hawaiian Relations provided funding to Kauluakalana for fencing, invasive species removal, loʻi kalo (taro field) restoration, and restoration of a traditional hydrological system using traditional cultural practices and knowledge. Rather than conducting the standard Section 106 review, DOI was able to utilize the Exemption to efficiently conclude the review and provide funding to an NHO.

Status. Although agency annual reports are not due until December 31, previous reports from 2025 demonstrate that the Exemption continues to be successfully used on a limited basis. Staff recommend that the ACHP support continued use of the Exemption but recommend also that the Members consider an amendment to eliminate Section X, Reports and Evaluations. The elimination of this section would remove the requirement for an annual meeting and the submission of annual reports, both of which are burdensome and of limited utility. The intent of including Section X in the Exemption was to provide a feedback mechanism so that ACHP staff could track the Exemption's implementation. However, agencies and NHOs will still be able to provide feedback on a rolling basis, so that staff can continue to monitor the Exemption's implementation. Such an amendment would also make the Exemption consistent with other ACHP-approved exemptions.

Discussion. Members are asked to consider whether an amendment to remove Section X is warranted. As outlined by staff, no other exemptions include an annual reporting and meeting requirement. Staff will continue to monitor the Exemption's implementation through regular contact with federal agencies that utilize the Exemption, Native Hawaiian Organizations, and the State Historic Preservation Officer, and provide recommendations regarding potential amendments for Members' consideration.

Action needed. In accordance with Section VIII that requires Member actions to amend the Exemption, Members will be asked to consider a vote on an amendment to eliminate Section X. This would require renumbering the remaining sections.

Program Comment on Certain Housing, Building, and Transportation Undertakings

Background. On December 20, 2024, Members voted to adopt the *Program Comment on Certain Housing, Building, and Transportation Undertakings* (PC), which is intended to streamline Section 106 reviews for routine undertakings in these categories. The PC contains two appendices: Appendix A, which operates similarly to an exemption in that it allows certain activities that do not have the potential

to affect historic properties to proceed without the monitoring or review by qualified professionals, and Appendix B, which covers certain projects and activities that do have limited potential to affect historic properties but which can proceed so long as certain conditions are met and qualified professional in the relevant discipline are used to monitor or review such activities.

Status. In Fiscal Year 2026, six agencies notified the ACHP of their intent to utilize the PC: the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Forest Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Reports on the use of the PC are due by December 31, 2026.

On March 13, 2026, President Trump signed Executive Order 14394, which directed federal agencies to consider actions they can take to remove regulatory barriers to affordable housing construction. It also specifically directed the ACHP to develop guidance on maximally exempting, or reducing burdens on, housing construction and infrastructure that facilitates housing construction, such as roads, water, sewer, and other projects. Given the alignment of the PC's covered activities with the EO's directives, staff has developed recommendations for Member consideration to meet these requirements.

Discussion. In the interest of meeting the EO's directive, staff recommend that the Members consider amending the PC to eliminate Appendix B, and reframe the Program Comment as an Exemption. Appendix A's activities are categories of actions that have been determined through consultation to have no effect or no adverse effect on historic properties, this meeting the threshold for an Exemption. An amendment that reframes the PC into an Exemption would also provide the opportunity to adjust administrative requirements, such as providing an easier reporting mechanism and making it available for use by all federal agencies without a notice of adoption. The elimination of Appendix B's activities would be addressed through other agency-specific program alternatives. Members also will be asked to consider whether, consistent with the goals and intent of EO 14394, additional efficiencies, including those relating to housing construction, can be added to the alternative.

Action needed. No formal action is needed at this time, but Members should be prepared to discuss how the PC can help meet the EO's directives and whether to direct staff to develop an amendment based on the discussion.

PRESERVE AMERICA EXECUTIVE ORDER SECTION 3 REPORT
Office of Federal Agency Programs

Background. Section 3 of Executive Order (EO) 13287, "Preserve America," calls for federal real property managers to assess the status of their inventory of historic properties, the condition and management needs of those historic properties, and how historic properties under their ownership or control can support economic development. Federal agencies are asked to report their progress in identifying, using, and protecting historic properties to the ACHP and the Secretary of the Interior (SOI) every three years. These reports provide the basis for the ACHP's own triennial report on the state of federal stewardship of historic properties, which will be issued to the President in February 2027.

Status. Following the June business meeting, staff disseminated advisory guidance to federal agencies on preparing their progress reports in advance of triennial submission deadlines. The advisory guidelines incorporated feedback from Members in the June business meeting by asking questions about Administration priorities, the 250th anniversary, and staffing changes.

Progress reports from federal agencies were due on September 30, 2026. The ACHP received reports from:

- Armed Forces Retirement Home
- Department of War
- General Services Administration
- Department of Labor
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Presidio Trust
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Federal Railroad Administration
- Maritime Administration
- Department of Treasury

Staff is in the process of compiling, synthetizing, and analyzing the federal agency reports into a final streamlined report to the President, which is due on February 16, 2027 (to accommodate the federal holiday on February 15, the due date of the report).

Staff will present initial findings to the Members at the business meeting and update them on the timeline for their review, in addition to providing an overview of the report's structure.

Discussion. Members are asked to provide feedback on the initial findings, as well as any suggestions for the report's content.

Action needed. None at this time, although Members should be prepared to review the draft report in December.

DEVELOPMENT OF ACHP ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT for FY 2026
Office of External Engagement

Background. In the federal strategic planning and performance management system, each federal agency is responsible for developing a strategic plan every four years and developing an Annual Performance Plan (APP) to guide progress toward achieving its strategic goals during a certain fiscal year. Per guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), agencies report in an Annual Performance Report (APR) about their progress in meeting the goals and objectives described in the strategic plan and the APP over the preceding fiscal year (FY). The ACHP will publish its first APR in February 2027.

Status. Following adoption of the ACHP's current strategic plan for FY 2026-2030 by Members in February 2026, ACHP staff developed a description of priority goals and associated measures in four areas corresponding to the strategic plan for the FY 2026-2027 APP.

FY 2026 was the first full fiscal year when the ACHP operated under the reduced staff parameters of its Agency Reductions in Force and Reorganization Plan. This change makes the FY 2026 APR a significant indicator of how staffing is affecting ACHP operations.

Data analysis for the APR is ongoing. Initial performance assessment has shown that the ACHP has maintained strong performance in core areas including timely responses in Section 106 work, citizen outreach on preservation topics, and integrating technology to achieve increased efficiency. The ACHP also successfully navigated unique circumstances during FY 2026, such as a lengthy lapse in appropriations, onboarding nine new ACHP Members, and supporting the initiation of three rulemaking actions. Members will receive the final APR when drafting is complete.

Action needed. Members are asked to provide feedback to staff on how they would like to use the results of the FY 2026 APR in tracking progress on the strategic plan. They also are invited to offer suggestions for additional metrics to illustrate the ACHP's progress in meeting its strategic goals in future reporting periods.

SECTION 106 REGULATORY UPDATE
Office of General Counsel

Background. On July 17, 2026, Vice Chairman Travis Voyles convened an unassembled meeting of the ACHP to vote on a proposal to move forward in the rulemaking process to revise the Section 106 regulations via a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM). The proposal included a draft revised rule for the Members to review and consider. The motion was approved on July 24, 2026. While there is a significant amount of public interest and concern with the proposed rulemaking, the draft NPRM has not yet been published for public review and comment. The draft NPRM is currently in the interagency review process with the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA). ACHP staff has been participating in the OIRA meetings with public requesters and reviewing and resolving interagency comments. Executive Director Reid Nelson continues to provide the Members with biweekly updates on the Section 106 rulemaking effort.

Status. Vice Chairman Voyles intends to provide additional information on the schedule and milestones for the Section 106 rulemaking effort moving forward during the November Business Meeting.

Action needed. Members will be asked to provide comments or recommendations to inform next steps in the Section 106 rulemaking effort during the November Business Meeting.

BIPARTISAN AMERICAN AFFORDABILITY AND JOBS ACT OF 2026
Office of External Engagement

Background. On September 30, 2026, the leadership of the Senate Environment and Public Works and Energy and Natural Resources Committees introduced a bill proposed to broadly address permitting reform and expediting project delivery. The *Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026* (S. 5653) (BAAJA) includes seven titles divided across two divisions representing the jurisdictions of each committee. The bill proposes changes for procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). It also addresses other matters including electric transmission, energy permitting processes, permit certainty, and judicial review for permitting and environmental review decisions.

Discussion. The BAAJA includes extensive amendments to the NHPA and Section 106 directly in Division B, Title III. The bill text includes extensive procedural language for Section 106 review incorporating changes to scope, participation, timing, and the range of effects considered. Title III also includes modifications to the oversight of State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, establishes a program of Tribal database grants, and funds the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) through FY 2037.

Parts of the broader bill outside Title III also relate to the NHPA and the work of the ACHP, which is named by the bill as a "key permitting agency." Some impact Section 106 directly through statutory carve-outs that remove activities from the definition of undertaking or otherwise exempt them from Section 106 review. Other titles change the permits, deadlines, and NEPA reviews that Section 106 runs alongside as well as the judicial review process that governs challenges to them. The BAAJA incorporates provisions from several other bills previously introduced during the 119th Congress. Such provisions may affect preservation reviews indirectly through changes to elements such as timelines and narrowing of the set of federal actions subject to review.

At the business meeting, staff will provide an update on the bill's status following the Senate's reconvening on November 9 along with a summary of the potential changes and impacts to the manner in which Section 106 reviews are carried out and other NHPA programs.

Action needed. Members will be asked to provide their views on the bill and indicate what type of staff analysis or tracking would best support their understanding of the bill's provisions and its relationship to the NHPA and the ACHP's work. This member input can inform the work of the Vice Chair in representing the ACHP.

APPENDIX

MAJOR ACTIVITIES REPORT

Annual Ethics Training and Confidential Financial Disclosure. The government-wide ethics rules require that Special Government Employees receive and complete training on ethics once a year and complete an annual confidential financial disclosure form. All citizen Members, the Mayor, the Governor, and the Indian Tribe Member will receive an email with more information soon, including a link to the ACHP ethics training and the disclosure form.

Personnel. At the end of August, the ACHP and the Permitting Council signed a new interagency agreement extending the terms of two positions, a permitting analyst/SHPO liaison and training/permitting specialist, for one year. Sarah Beimers and Alex Toprac will continue in their respective positions, under the ACHP's Office of Federal Agency Programs, until the end of September 2027. In September, the ACHP's Office of External Engagement welcomed fall intern Maggie Jones, a student at Memorial University of Newfoundland, who is pursuing her M.A. in Public Folklore. Maggie will be with the agency through December as she helps plan the ACHP's 2027 public outreach webinars.

In October, the ACHP's Office of Information Technology welcomed Tom Atta as an IT Specialist - Network/System Administrator. His primary responsibilities are system engineering and administration, as well as on-site server and network appliance management.

ACHP/HUD Secretary's Award for Historic Preservation. The award jury met on September 30 with Jaime Gardner, Rick Gonzalez, and Kyle Scherer serving as jurors for the ACHP**.** The jurors selected two winners, one, a singular project, and the second, a portfolio of projects. The winners are currently being vetted internally by HUD with the hope that a public announcement can be made by the end of the year.

This joint award first began in 2017 to recognize eligible applicants for their success in advancing the goals of historic preservation while providing affordable housing and/or expanded economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income families and individuals. View past awardees.

Preserve the Past, Build for the Future **2027 Webinar Series.** The annual webinar series, geared toward college students and early career professionals to introduce them to careers in historic preservation, is being developed by ACHP fall intern Maggie Jones. She has refined the topics researched by summer intern Zoe'Swanna McGee and is currently contacting potential panelists and preparing promotional materials. All webinars are free and open to all, and the schedule is as follows:

Walking by Art: Preserving Historic Murals and Public Art
Friday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m.
The Divine Nine: Preserving Black Greek-Letter Organization Chapter Houses
Wednesday, February 24 at 4:00 p.m.
Old Buildings, New Homes: Preservation and Affordable Housing
Wednesday, March 24 at 4:00 p.m.
Preservation to Prosperity: Heritage Tourism and Economic Development
Friday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m.

Boots on the Battleground: Preserving U.S. Military Heritage
Friday, May 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Cultural Resources Data Platform.

Development of the ACHP's Cultural Resources Data Platform (CRDP) is continuing. The contracting team has built and is refining prototypes for several capabilities within the platform, including research agents to identify consulting parties and previously recorded information about historic properties, and is working with geospatial resources. The ACHP staff continues outreach on the project and is pursuing data sharing arrangements to test the platform's research functions. The project remains on track for an initial launch in spring 2027.

EO 14156. The Office of Federal Agency Programs continues to respond to notifications from agencies regarding undertakings that respond to the energy emergency declared in EO 14156. In FY 2026, OFAP staff reviewed 377 such notifications. As a reminder, a report outlining these notifications is published on a monthly basis in the Program Alternatives in Development OneDrive folder.