ADVOCACY GUIDE
WELCOME TO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVOCACY WEEK 2022

This Advocacy Guide provides information on the key issues preservation advocates will be talking to their Members of Congress. This year's issues focus on:

- Historic Preservation Fund
- Historic Tax Credit
- Historic Preservation Caucus

While each of these topics are important, we encourage you to carefully consider which issues are most appropriate to bring before your state's specific legislators.

2022 CAPITOL HILL OUTLOOK

Members of the 117th Congress find themselves among the most ethnic, racial and gender diversified Congresses in history. The current political makeup is characterized by a Democratic led presidential administration, House of Representatives, and a nearly split Senate consisting of 50 Republicans, 48 Democrats, and 2 Independents (who caucus with Democrats). Historic preservation attracts bipartisan support with the goals of protection of our historic and cultural heritage, the generation of economic development, and job creation being something most everyone can support.

Over the past year, we've seen positive indicators from Congress and the Biden Administration showing support to increase the previous authorized level of $150m for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), giving hope to advocates who seek funding increases in line with ongoing program needs and impacts expected to be felt from recent infrastructure spending increases. This year, we are seeking support for the Historic Preservation Enhancement Act (H.R 6589), which would permanently reauthorize the HPF at $300 million annually. The appropriations request for the HPF for FY23 is $200 million, which is the total amount we request of appropriators for SHPOs, THPOs and the important grant programs funded by the HPF. We're asking advocates to thank members for their support of the HPF, while reminding legislators that more is needed to make up for years of chronic underfunding, carry out the important work the HPF and to address immanent increases to workloads due to increased infrastructure spending. It is these efforts that make it possible to recognize, save, and protect America's shared heritage.

While efforts to include enhancements to the Federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC) as part of a larger infrastructure bill stalled, as negotiations on the "Build Back Better" bill fell apart in December, advocates should continue to support improvements to the Federal HTC program - by advocating to members of Congress to make much needed improvements and enhancements to the credit, by co-sponsoring/supporting the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity Act (H.R. 2294, S. 2266). These efforts will ensure the HTC-GO Act is well positioned when potential legislative vehicles begin to move later this year. The bill would bring more value to the HTC, improve access to the credit and enhance investment opportunities for smaller rehabilitation projects with two of the main provisions being: an increase to a 30% credit temporarily for all projects, as well as a permanent increase to 30% for small projects.
MAKE YOUR VISIT COUNT!

As you prepare to make your way to the (virtual) Hill, we encourage you to talk with other advocates in your state who are registered for advocacy week - ask questions, and exchange ideas. There are many different perspectives to advocacy, and we become more effective when we become aware of the various positions articulated on an issue.

KNOW YOUR ADVOCACY TEAM
Please utilize the state coordinator document to locate advocates in your state (list updates periodically as advocates register). We encourage you to plan a zoom meet and greet to talk a bit more about their interests & how the virtual meetings will be set up and how you as the state coordinator envision them going. As you set up meetings, please record them in the meeting tab of that spreadsheet. You will also find a tab with contact info for some (not all) congressional offices, which may be helpful for you in setting up meetings. However, feel free to set meetings most relevant to the asks and your state specifically, as well as use your own member staff contacts.

KNOW YOUR MEMBER
Doing a bit of homework before meeting a legislator or their staff can help with the conversation and build a relationship. Find your representatives here and familiarize yourself with basic information includes biography, committee assignments, top policy priorities, and their track record with preservation and other legislative issues that impact your state and community.

You may find that someone helped establish a National Historic Landmark or provided assistance with a local tax credit project. In some cases, you’ll be talking to someone (or more likely their staff) who has no track record with historic preservation at all. Preservation programs may not fall within their immediate subcommittee jurisdiction. Find a way to connect. Share your knowledge of preservation and the district. Share how what you do relates to a given program and what insights and help you can offer.

It is also helpful to see how your legislator gets recognized in local press. If you haven’t actually met them, you can at least interact with them in media and online.

Knowing your legislator is very similar to knowing a colleague. As you know, in a non-lobbying context, you get to know someone over time based on common interests and goals. Communication with your legislator should be about building a two-way dialogue for information sharing and problem solving. There is always common ground. Never jump to conclusions based on background or political party. You may miss critical information.

Create an opportunity for more dialogue. If there’s an upcoming event in the district, invite the member and/or staff to attend.

OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

Advocacy Week Schedule & One-Pagers  Historic Tax Credits
Preservation Action Legislative Updates  State Historic Preservation Offices
Bill & Member Information  Tribal Historic Preservation Offices

MARCH 8, 2022
LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

In addition to reviewing the information below, please be sure to stop by the March 8th legislative briefing to be held from 2:30-3:15 p.m. ET. We’ll dive deeper into this year’s priority asks with some of our preservation colleagues and policy experts.

After your virtual Hill visits, please fill out a “Hill Report Form” for each visit and return it to Preservation Action.

HILL REPORT FORM

CONNECT
Share your experiences during Advocacy Week on social media.

#PresAdvocacy2022  #PreservationonVirtualHill
WHO TO TALK TO:

HPF Appropriations: Your Senators, House Representatives (& their staff), especially members of the Appropriations Committees, and specifically the House and Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittees.

HPF Reauthorization: Your Senators, House Representatives (& their staff), especially members of the House Natural Resources Committee and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Appropriators: Thank appropriators for their support of the Historic Preservation Fund, while reminding them that more is needed to carry out the essential programs of the HPF.

Non-Appropriators: If your member is not on the Appropriations Committee, ask them to voice support for the HPF request listed above to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. (Visit links in side bar).

WHAT TO REQUEST:

1) Permanently authorize the HPF, and raise the cap to $300 million annually.
   Senate: Support the introduction of a companion Senate bill.

2) Support the following appropriations asks under HPF: $65 million for State Historic Preservation Officers, $35 million for Save America’s Treasures, $34 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, $24 million for African American Civil Rights Grants, $12 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities Grants, $12 million for the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants, $10 million for Semiquincentennial Celebration Grants, $5 million for History of Equal Rights Grants, and $3 million for Underrepresented Communities Grants.

TALKING POINTS:

- It is vital to invest in the HPF so state and local entities will have the resources and tools they need to save America’s historic places.
- A 50% increase in infrastructure spending with no additional funding for SHPOs and THPOs will place increased demand on SHPO offices to carry out their duties under the National Historic Preservation Act. This may lead to the delay of federal project reviews.
- In addition to facilitating the preservation of our historic places, since 1976, the HPF has facilitated more than 93,000 listings on the National Register, the survey of millions of acres for cultural resources, and $162 billion in private investment through the Historic Tax Credit.
- Identify projects and programs of interest to your member that will languish without proper funding. Also, reference the Certified Local Government (CLG) program which assists local communities and preservation commissions with training and survey grants funded in part by the HPF.
- HPF does not use tax-payer dollars. Mention that the source of funding for SHPOs and THPOs, and grant programs is not tax revenue but rather from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), funded by Outer Continental Shelf Oil Lease revenues. Every year $150 million in lease revenue is deposited into the HPF. Ask that these revenues be used for their intended purpose and not sacrificed as a budget-balancing tool.
- Increases in SHPO apportionments have not kept pace with the overall increase in the HPF. In FY 2016, SHPO apportionments accounted for 72% of the total HPF. In FY 2021, SHPO apportionments accounted for 38.6% of the total HPF.
- Funding for THPOs has not kept pace with the number of new THPOs added annually, therefore the average award is reduced each year.
- Competitive grants programs funded through the HPF have supported thousands of historic preservation projects in nearly every state and district in the country.

SUGGESTION:

Identify an HPF supported activity or project (i.e. preservation training, grant, tax credit project) in your district that has had a positive economic impact on your community.
The HTC encourages private investment in historic buildings. The credit attracts private capital—approximately $181 billion since inception—to revitalize often vacant and underutilized properties that have a financing gap between what banks will lend and what the project will cost.

The credit generates new economic activity. According to the National Park Service (NPS) HTC Impact Report (2020), since its inception, the rehabilitation of over 46,000 historic buildings has created nearly 3 million jobs and has produced over 178,300 low- and moderate-income affordable housing units.

The 2020 study concluded that the HTC returns more to the Treasury than it costs. The HTC has generated $39.4 billion in federal tax revenue from the $34.3 billion in federal tax credits.

According to the NPS HTC Annual Report in 2020, 75% of HTC projects were in economically distressed areas.

Thirty-nine states recognize the economic development potential of historic rehabilitation and have enacted individual state HTC programs that work in tandem with the federal program.

The credit is used in both larger urban areas and smaller towns. In 2020, 40% of projects were in communities with populations under 100,000.

According to the NPS HTC Annual Report in 2020, approximately 46% of projects are under $1 million in rehabilitation development costs (less than $200,000 in credits).

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**WHO TO TALK TO:**
Your member of Congress but importantly members of the House Ways and Means Committee and its Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, and the Senate Finance Committee.

**WHAT TO REQUEST:**
Continue to educate legislators about the amazing economic development and community revitalization power of the Historic Tax Credit. Encourage members to cosponsor the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity Act (H.R. 2294/S. 2266). View current House & Senate co-sponsors.

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- The credit is used in both larger urban areas and smaller towns. In 2020, 40% of projects were in communities with populations under 100,000.
- According to the NPS HTC Annual Report in 2020, approximately 46% of projects are under $1 million in rehabilitation development costs (less than $200,000 in credits).

- Makes it easier to complete small rehabilitation projects by increasing the credit to 30% for projects with less than $2.5 million in qualified rehabilitation expenses.
- Makes more buildings eligible for HTCs by lowering the substantial rehabilitation threshold.
- Increases the value of HTCs by eliminating the requirement that the value of the HTC must be deducted from a building’s basis (property’s value for tax purposes).
- Makes the HTC easier to use by non-profit organizations by eliminating IRS restrictions that make it difficult to partner with developers.

**SUGGESTION:**
Check out these reports for updated statistics and state by state breakdowns:
- NPS Annual Report
- NPS Economic Report
WHO TO TALK TO:
Your member of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate (& their staff)

WHAT TO REQUEST:
Ask House members to join the Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus by contacting Tucker Johnson in Rep. Blumenauer’s office (D-OR) at 202-225-4811 or Maggie Ward in Rep. Turner’s (R-OH) office at 202-225-6465. If they are already are a member, thank them!

Encourage the member to note on their website that they are member of the Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus and encourage them to share stories on preservation issues, and historic sites in their district on their websites and social media accounts.

Read more about the caucus

TALKING POINTS:
- The Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus brings together Members of Congress who understand the under-appreciated potential of America’s historic places. They know that the value of these places is not solely in what they teach us about our history. It is also in what they promise for our future. Heritage tourism, the commercial revitalization of forgotten downtowns, the economically viable rehabilitation and the re-use of historic properties as housing stock are only a few of the ways that history is coming alive in communities across the country.
- Members of the Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus join together to support and encourage the preservation and thoughtful development of historic places in their districts, states, and as a matter of national policy. The Caucus allows Members to share information and ideas and support legislative and budget matters as they pertain to national, state, and local issues and opportunities in historic preservation.

CURRENT LIST OF CONGRESSIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAUCUS MEMBERS

Arkansas
- French Hill (R)

Arizona
- Raul Grijalva (D)
- Ruben Gallego (D)

California
- Barbara Lee (D)
- Doris Matsui (D)

Colorado
- Diana DeGette (D)
- Ed Perlmutter (D)

Connecticut
- Joe Courtney (D)
- Rosa DeLauro (D)
- John Larson (D)
- Jim Himes (D)

D.C.
- E. Holmes-Norton (D)

Delaware
- Lisa Blunt-Rochester (D)

Florida
- Bill Posey (R)

Georgia
- Sanford Bishop (D)
- David Scott (D)
- Buddy Carter (R)
- Jody Hice (R)

Illinois
- Danny Davis (D)
- Janice Schakowsky (D)
- Rodney Davis (R)
- Darin LaHood (R)

Indiana
- Andre Carson (D)

Kansas
- Sharice Davids (D)

Kentucky
- Andy Barr (R)
- James Comer (R)
- Brett Guthrie (R)
- Hal Rogers (R)
- John Yarmuth (D)

Louisiana
- Garrett Graves (R)
- Troy Carter (D)

Massachusetts
- Katherine Clark (D)
- Stephen Lynch (D)
- Jim McGovern (D)
- Richard Neal (D)
- William Keating (D)

Maryland
- Anthony Brown (D)
- Jamie Raskin (D)
- John Sarbanes (D)

Maine
- Chellie Pingree (D)

Michigan
- Daniel Kildee (D)
- Fred Upton (R)

Minnesota
- Betty McCollum (D)
- Angie Craig (D)

Missouri
- Emanuel Cleaver (D)

Nebraska
- Jeff Fortenberry (R)

New Hampshire
- Ann Kuster (D)

New Jersey
- Frank Pallone (D)
- Bill Pascrell (D)
- Albio Sires (D)

New York
- Brian Higgins (D)
- Carolyn Maloney (D)
- Sean Maloney (D)
- Jerrold Nadler (D)
- Paul Tonko (D)
- Antonio Delgado (D)
- Joe Morelle (D)

North Carolina
- Alma Adams (D)
- G.K. Butterfield (D)
- David Price (D)
- Deborah Ross (D)

Ohio
- Marcy Kaptur (D)
- Tim Ryan (D)
- Michael Turner (R)

Oklahoma
- Tom Cole (R)

Oregon
- Earl Blumenauer (D)
- Peter DeFazio (D)

Pennsylvania
- Mike Doyle (D)
- Susan Wild (D)
- Matt Cartwright (D)

Rhode Island
- David Cicilline (D)
- James Langevin (D)

South Carolina
- James Clyburn (D)
- Joe Wilson (R)

South Dakota
- Dusty Johnson (R)

Tennessee
- Steve Cohen (D)
- Jim Cooper (D)

Texas
- Lloyd Doggett (D)
- E. Crandall (R)
- B. Graham (D)

Virginia
- Bobby Scott (D)
- Rob Wittman (R)
- Don Beyer (D)
- Elaine Luria (D)
- Gerry Connolly (D)

Virgin Islands
- Stacey Plaskett (D)

Vermont
- Peter Welch (D)

Washington
- Adam Smith (D)

West Virginia
- David McKinley (R)

Wisconsin
- Gwen Moore (D)
- Mark Pocan (D)