

NCSHPO

National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

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April 9, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Quam, Director, Office of Federal Relations
National Governors' Association

FROM: Nancy Schamu, Executive Director

RE: Expediting American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Implementation
Through Historic Preservation Review

Thank you for taking my phone call on the seventh. I appreciate your advice. Here is a "problem statement" as we had discussed. I will be asking the State Historic Preservation Officers to get in touch with their State's point of contact for the Recovery Act. I look forward to hearing from you as to your recommendations for next steps nationally.

Goal	Insure that federal historic preservation reviews do not delay the rapid delivery of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects
Problem	ARRA grant recipients, unaware of historic preservation responsibilities, may encounter delays in project delivery if historic preservation review does not occur
Examples of major concern	school construction and rehabilitation private homeowner weatherization assistance
Examples of capacity concerns	Department of Housing and Urban Development programs' expansion Broadband and public safety communication improvements
Examples of minimal concern	Transportation funded projects National Park Service construction Bureau of Land Management
Legislative authority	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106, 16 U. S. C 470f Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) regulations, 36 CFR Part 800

Statutory requirement	Section 106 requires all federal agencies to consider the effects of their projects (including permits and licenses) on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council an opportunity to comment.
Statutory implementation	The regulations implementing Section 106, 36 CFR Part 800, direct federal agencies, or their delegates, to consult with the relevant State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to define the area of impact of their project, whether historic properties exist in that area, the effect of the project on historic properties, and the resolution of adverse effects. For more information see www.achp.gov
Select Definitions	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Historic property: a building, district, site or object that is listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior2. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: an independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on historic preservation including the administration of Section 1063. State Historic Preservation Officer: an official in State government, often appointed by the governor, who carries out the National Historic Preservation Act for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior For more definitions see NHPA, 16 USC 470w
Contacts	State Historic Preservation Officers, attachment and see www.ncshpo.org Nancy Schamu, Executive Director schamu@sso.org National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers Hall of the States, Suite 342 202-624-5465 444 N. Capitol St., NW Washington, DC 20001-1512 Charlene Vaughn, Assistant Director cvaughn@achp.gov Office of Federal Agency Programs Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 202-606-8533 Private Sector Adrian Fine Adrian_Fine@nthp.org Office of Public Policy National Trust for Historic Preservation 202-588-6000
Other issues	maintenance of staff review capacity as project numbers increase
Simultaneous contacts	SHPOs contact State “Recovery czars” ACHP alliance with the Council on Environmental Quality on

	National Environmental Protection Act, streamlining planning meetings with federal agencies, contact with the U. S. Conference of Mayors/National League of Cities, training sessions for federal agencies National Trust for Historic Preservation informing the private sector preservation community
SHPO Assets	40 years' experience with 106 reviews and federal agency/applicant training knowledge of the State's historic places economic development experience through review of historic rehab projects (\$6 billion private investment annually nationwide)
Attachments	SHPO/Deputy SHPO list