The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is an independent federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation’s diverse historic resources and advises the president and the Congress on national historic preservation policies.

Background
The ACHP is a linchpin in implementing our nation’s historic preservation programs. ACHP administers the rulemaking process for preservation law, assists in the resolution of conflicts arising from Section 106 historic resource reviews of federal undertakings, identifies efficiencies in the infrastructure project review process, and participates in other preservation issues.

The ACHP is responsible for advising the Administration, Congress, and state agencies on legislative, regulatory, and administrative policies related to historic preservation, including the implementation of recommendations for improving the national historic preservation program adopted following the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

In FY 2020, the ACHP will focus on developing efficiencies for Section 106 review of federal and federally assisted projects. As a member of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council established in the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015, the ACHP will continue to play an important role in the Administration’s efforts to improve the delivery of major infrastructure projects. Similarly, the ACHP will continue to focus on improving consultation with tribes to make environmental reviews more efficient and expeditious for infrastructure projects.

The ACHP also performs a critical role in the emergency response to natural disasters, as well as long-range planning and recovery from natural disasters.

FY 2020 Appropriations Request
Please support $7 million for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in the FY 2020 Interior Appropriations bill.

APPROPRIATIONS BILL: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
AGENCY: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Recent Funding History:
- FY 2017 Enacted Funding: $6.493 million
- FY 2018 Enacted Funding: $6.4 million
- FY 2019 Enacted Funding: $6.89 million
- FY 2020 President’s Budget Request: $7 million
- FY 2020 NTHP Recommendation: $7 million

JUSTIFICATION: An increase in funding would enable the ACHP to better address new requirements regarding information technology and cybersecurity, including Executive Order 13800, “Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure,” and annual government mandated personnel cost increases, which put a strain on the ACHP’s budget.
Section 106 Success Stories

TWA TERMINAL AT JFK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NEW YORK

The Trans World Airlines Flight Center (known as the TWA Terminal) at New York’s John F. Kennedy International Airport is an icon of modern expressionistic architecture that embodies the romance of flight as well as the jet age aesthetic of the 1960s. The building opened as a hub terminal for TWA in 1962, and its architectural significance led to the building’s designation as a New York City Landmark when it was only 32 years old. It was subsequently listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

However, over time the terminal grew functionally obsolete. By the time TWA went out of business in 2001, the terminal had significant operational and capacity deficiencies that led the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to propose replacing the terminal. The Port Authority planned construction of a large new terminal behind the TWA Terminal that included demolishing aspects of the historic terminal. The Section 106 process included 13 consulting parties, including the ACHP, who worked together to revise the new terminal’s design and fully protect the historic TWA Terminal. As part of the process, the Port Authority agreed to seek an adaptive reuse developer for the historic terminal and fund interim maintenance to stabilize and maintain the structure. Further, the Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement for the project established a Redevelopment Advisory Committee that would review and consult on future plans and designs as they were developed.

The new terminal building was completed in 2008, and the Port Authority agreed to fund a $19 million restoration of the building. That investment led to significant adaptive reuse developer interest, and the new TWA Hotel, centered on the historic terminal, is scheduled to open in summer 2019.

FIVE POINTS POST OFFICE, DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE

In the 1990s, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) determined that its downtown Franklin location—built in 1925 at the town’s central intersection—was inadequate for modern day needs. The USPS built a new structure at the edge of town, intending to move its entire operation there and dispose of the historic downtown building. During the Section 106 consultation process, it became clear that local citizens and government officials opposed shuttering the historic post office.

Through the Section 106 process, the USPS conveyed the structure to Williamson County for $225,000 with protective covenants in the deed. The historic Five Points Post Office has since been fully restored and a contractor operates a postal substation where locals continue to access their letter boxes and primary postal services.

For additional information, contact Tom Cassidy, Vice President of Government Relations, TCassidy@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6078.