Federal Historic Preservation Fund FY 19 budget and legislation

As the administration did last year, the President’s FY 19 budget proposal for Historic Preservation Fund programs only supports the state and tribal preservation offices and not any of the special initiative grant programs.

The House of Representatives Appropriations Committee is scheduled to review its Interior Appropriations Subcommittee recommendations for FY 19 early this month. The subcommittee recommended HPF funding at the same amounts as FY 2018 for all but the Historic Revitalization grant program which it did not include. The Senate created that program last year to assist rural communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Preservation Fund:</th>
<th>FY 2018 Final</th>
<th>FY 2019 President</th>
<th>House Interior subcommittee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>States</td>
<td>$ 48.93*</td>
<td>$ 26.93</td>
<td>$ 48.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribes</td>
<td>11.48</td>
<td>5.74</td>
<td>11.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underserved communities initiative</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil rights movement initiative</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Black colleges/universities</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save America’s Treasures grants</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Revitalization grants</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>$ 96.91</td>
<td>$ 32.67</td>
<td>$ 91.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures are in millions.
Senator Brian Schatz (Hawaii) introduced the Explore America Act of 2018 (S. 2395) earlier this year. The Senate bill has six cosponsors, including Alaska’s Dan Sullivan. The bill authorizes the provision of technical assistance under the Preserve America program and directs the Secretary of the Interior to enter into partnerships with communities adjacent to national parks to leverage cultural heritage assets. The stated purposes of the act are to support cultural heritage tourism and historic preservation activities, and to leverage these assets to strengthen economic development in gateway communities. Alaska’s Representative Don Young introduced a companion bill in the House of Representatives (H.R. 5608) in April. The Senate has referred its bill to the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the House has referred its bill to the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands. As always, it is important for Alaska’s historic preservation community to publicize local historic preservation projects and let our congressional delegation know about the value of historic preservation to Alaska.

Office of History and Archaeology and Alaska Historical Commission news

The terms for two members of the Alaska Historical Commission end June 30, 2018. The seats are currently occupied by Alisha Drabek of Kodiak and Rebecca Poulson of Sitka. The commission advises the Governor on issues related to history and archaeology and serves as the state review board for the state historic preservation program and geographic names. The commission meets at least two times a year. The Lt. Governor serves as chair, the State Historic Preservation Officer is a member, and the commission has seven public members. Of the seven, there must be individuals with credentials in history, architecture, and archaeology. Terms on the commission are for three years. Members serve without compensation, although travel expenses to attend meetings are paid. Individuals interested in being considered for appointment need to apply through the Governor’s Boards and Commission Office, https://gov.alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions. For additional information about the commission contact Jo Antonson, 907.269.8714 / jo.antonson@alaska.gov.

The Office of History and Archaeology has #ThisPlaceMatters Alaska, an interactive map with recent photos of historic properties around the state, on its website http://soa-dnr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Viewer/index.html?appid=557602a72c064196bc919977affeeacf.

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation’s 2018 Endangered Properties list announced

In May, the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation announced its annual list of endangered historic properties for 2018. The organization has been producing the list since 1991 and makes small grants to several properties on the list each year to start preservation work or to leverage funding from other sources. On the 2018 list:

- Bristol Bay Wooden Fishing Boats (Naknek, King Salmon, Egegik)
- 4th Avenue Theatre (Anchorage)
- Polaris Building (Fairbanks)
- Jesse Lee Home (Seward)
- Three German Bachelor’s Cabin (Talkeetna)
- Red John’s Cabin (Talkeetna)
- Honeymoon Cabin (Chicken)
- SS Nenana Riverboat (Fairbanks)
- St. Michael’s Orthodox Cathedral (Sitka)
- Coastal Archaeological Sites (statewide)
More information about AAHP and details about the properties on this year’s list are at http://www.aahp-online.net/.

New resource on design review for local preservation commissions

The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions and the Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation collaborated to publish Design Review with Limited Resources: how local commissions can gain the resources of professional preservationists without hiring full-time staff. Copies are being sent to Alaska’s Certified Local Governments. Others interested in a copy can request one from Summer Louthan at summer.louthan@alaska.gov / 907.269.8717.

PUBLIC PROJECT ALERTS:

Alaska Climate Action Leadership Team: draft Alaska Climate Change Policy
   Draft policy: http://climatechange.gov.alaska.gov/policy/
   Comment deadline: June 4, 2018
   Comments to: climatecomments@institutenorth.org
   Public input regarding team and climate change: https://institutenorth.org/engage/project-portfolio/public-input/
   Contact: C. Nikoosh Carlo, Office of the Governor, 120 Fourth St., 3rd Floor, Juneau, AK 99801, nikoosh.carlo@alaska.gov / 907.465.8480 or Nils Andreasson, Institute of the North, 715 L St., Suite 300, Anchorage, AK 99501, nandreasson@institutenorth.org

   Comment deadline: June 29, 2018

HERITAGE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:

Heritage is produced by the Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Please send your comments, suggestions, and information by e-mail to jo.antonson@alaska.gov, mail to 550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565, or telephone 907.269.8721.

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PRESERVATION CALENDAR:

July 18-22  National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Forum 2018, www.napcommissions.org, Des Moines, IA (director@napcommissions.org)

September 12-15  Alaska Historical Society / Museums Alaska, annual meetings and conference: Tundra and Ice: History in Alaska’s Arctic / Reflections, Nome (Amy Phillips-Chan, 907.443.6630 / museum@nomealaska.org)

September 26-29  American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) annual meeting: Truth or Consequences, Kansas City, MO (AASLH, 615.320.3203 / info@AASLH.org)


November 12-15  Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Visual Heritage 2018, Digitize: Research – Record – Reactivate – Reconstruct symposium (Boerner Wolfgang, +43 (0)1 4000 81176 / wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.at)


2019

February 27-March 2  Alaska Anthropological Association annual meeting: Alaska Anthropology in the Age of Engagement: Communities, Collections and Collaboration, Nome (www.alaskaanthropology.org / alaskaanthro@gmail.com)