

NCSHPO Newsletter: April 5th, 2018 | Number 138

Historic Preservation Fund:

Next week lawmakers will return from a two-week break. With the Fiscal Year 2018 omnibus spending bill completed, focus has already turned to the Fiscal Year 2019 spending bills that must be completed before the end of September 2018. The funding bill for the Department of the Interior provides funding for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). Passage of a spending bill or a continuing resolution that funds the government at Fiscal Year 2018 levels are expected to be one of the only significant pieces of legislation passed before the 2018 elections.

The Fiscal Year 2018 omnibus bill increased overall Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) by \$16 million and increase SHPO apportionments by \$1 million. The overall HPF increased from \$80.91 million in Fiscal Year 2017 to \$96.91 million in Fiscal Year 2018. SHPO apportionments increased from \$47.93 million to \$48.93 million. SHPO apportionments were level funded from Fiscal Year 2009 through Fiscal Year 2016. SHPO apportionments were increased by \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2017.

President Trump signed the \$1.29 trillion Fiscal Year 2018 spending bill into law but said he would never again sign a huge catchall spending. As New York Times reporter Carl Hulse recently wrote, President Trump may not be able to follow through on his promise to not sign another massive spending bill.

“The steady deterioration of the congressional appropriations process makes it extremely unlikely that this president, or any future president, will ever receive the annual spending bills the old-fashioned way — one or two at a time with the opportunity to reconcile policy disputes with Congress without shutting down the entire government,” Hulse [wrote](#). “Given the current state of political warfare and congressional

dysfunction, the too-big-to-veto omnibus bill seems here to stay, absent some momentous change in culture and process.”

When Fiscal Year 2018 ends on September 30th, there will be a little month until an Election Day which is expected to be very competitive. This means that despite his complaints about the Fiscal Year 2018 omnibus, President Trump might see the Fiscal Year 2019 funding fight as his last opportunity to squeeze something through an all-Republican Washington. This situation could result in a big fight that has serious implications on a Fiscal Year 2019 funding bill.

If the President and Congress avoid a fight over Fiscal Year 2019 spending, there is a strong possibility of a fight over a Fiscal Year 2020 spending bill. The two-year budget deal that allowed for the massive increase in HPF and other federal funding will have expired by then and according to data released by the Congressional Budget Office spending on domestic and defense programs would fall 10 percent in Fiscal Year 2020 alone.

All of this highlights the need to be engaged with lawmakers and their staff so they understand the value of historic preservation for preserving the character and strengthening the economies of the communities they represent.

For those of you who are able to please invite them to visit both your office and Historic Tax Credit (HTC) projects. Ideally, the meetings that you had this week are part of a long-term relationship with the lawmakers and their staff members. These relationships are very valuable when we need them to be active on priorities, such as Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) reauthorization, preservation of the HTC or funding for SHPOs. As I mentioned to those of you who were here for Advocacy Week, these relationships are not just a matter of asking them for what your office needs, but also inquiring how you can be of assistance to them.

NCSHPO Summer Meeting:

The NCSHPO Summer Board Meeting will be held on July 18th and 19th in Des Moines, Iowa. We greatly appreciate the State Historical Society of Iowa hosting this meeting. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions 2018 Forum, which will be held in Des Moines from July 18th to July 22nd. See the link in the upcoming events for more information on the NACP Forum

Infrastructure:

While it is extremely unlikely that Congress will pass an infrastructure bill in 2018, it is important to keep our focus on the issue because it could have a significant impact on historic resources and the work that SHPOs do.

When it comes to the issue of regulations impeding infrastructure projects, it is important for members of the historic preservation community to highlight the fact that federal law already permits the use of programmatic agreements to expedite cultural resources reviews, so there is no need to make changes to the National Historic Preservation Act.

If lawmakers and the administration can find common ground on how to fund a large infrastructure investment program, it would presents two possible challenges for SHPOs.

- An influx of Section 106 reviews that could overwhelm SHPOs;
- “Streamlining of regulations” may circumvent or erode the Section 106 process.

We are working with our historic preservation partners to make sure SHPOs receive adequate funding to deal with an increase in Section 106 reviews. We will also push back on efforts to weaken Section 106 reviews.

Virginia SHPO Spotlight- Rehabilitation of the iconic Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach:

Following a nearly five year rehabilitation that cost \$81 million, the iconic Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia, opened last month. The re-opening of the 85-room Cavalier Hotel reopening created more than 200 year-round jobs and is expected to generate \$41 million to \$52 million in new tax revenue in the first 20 years. The hotel, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places - NPS in 2014, was completed in 1927. The hotel was an important part of the development of Virginia Beach as a resort area. During World War II, it was commandeered by the United States Navy as a training center. Federal and state Historic Tax Credits played an important role in the rehabilitation of the Cavalier. Julie Langan, director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources told a reporter with Virginia Business that the rehabilitation is “a gift to the commonwealth.” Bruce Thompson CEO of Gold Key PHR, a Virginia Beach-based hospitality company that rehabilitated the Cavalier said, “I’d like to be known, with respect to this property, as someone who deeply cared about not only restoring the hotel but bringing it back to grace and grandeur — doing it in a way that the entire community could be proud.”

Click [here](#) to read more about the Cavalier Hotel.

Upcoming Events

Apr. 10-12, 2018 — **Are We There Yet? Preservation of Roadside Architecture & Attractions Symposium**, Tulsa, OK.

<https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/events/are-we-there-yet/>

Apr. 11-13, 2018— **Oregon Heritage Conference**, Bend, OR.

<http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/OHC/pages/conference.aspx>

Apr. 11-15, 2018— **Society of American Archaeology Conference**, Washington, DC.

<https://ecommerce.saa.org/SAA/SAAMember/Events/dc2018.aspx>

Apr. 18-20, 2018— **Indiana-Preserving Historic Places 2018 Conference**, Columbus, IN.

Apr. 18-21, 2018— **National Council on Public History**, Las Vegas, NV. <http://ncph.org/conference/2018-annual-meeting-2/>

Apr. 18-22, 2018— **Society of Architectural Historians' 71st Annual International Conference**, Saint Paul, MN.

<http://www.sah.org/conferences-and-programs/2018-conference---saint-paul>

Apr. 20, 2018— **2018 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference**, SC Archives & History Center, Columbia, SC

<http://shpo.sc.gov/events/Pages/presconf.aspx>

Apr. 23-25, 2018— **Revitalize Washington**, Port Townsend, WA.

<http://www.preservewa.org/news-events/revitalizewa/>

Apr. 26-27, 2018— **Mississippi Preservation Boot Camp**, Jackson, MS. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2048597118686050/>

Apr. 26-28, 2018— **2018 NY Statewide Preservation Conference**, Albany, NY. <http://landmarksociety.org/conference/>

May 2-4, 2018— **2018 Missouri Preservation Conference**, Sedalia, MO. <http://conference.red40net.com/>

May 2-5, 2018— **Vernacular Architecture Forum 2018 Annual Meeting**, Alexandria, VA.

<http://www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org/event-2580611>

May 7-9, 2018— **Introduction to Conserving Modern Architecture**, Los Angeles, CA. <https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/events/introduction-to-conserving-modern-architecture/>

May 16, 2018 – **Connecticut SHPO Statewide Historic Preservation Conference**, Rocky Hill, CT. <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ct-state-historic-preservation-office-12887800491>

May 17, 2018 – **Keeping History Above Water**, Palo Alto, CA. <http://historyabovewater.org/2018-palo-alto/>

May 17-19, 2018 – **40th Annual Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Conference: “Stories, Structures & Soul,”** Jacksonville, FL. <https://www.floridatrust.org/annual-conference>

May 21-25, 2018— **Workshop on Archaeological Prospection Techniques**, Marksville State Historic Site in Avoyelles Parish, LA. <http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>

May 30-June 3, 2018— **Society for Industrial Archaeology’s 47th Annual Conference**, Richmond, VA. <http://www.sia-web.org/sia-47th-annual-conference/>

June 6-8, 2018— **2018 Arizona Historic Preservation Conference**, Scottsdale, AZ. [Conference Facebook Page](#)

June 7-8, 2018— **2018 NJ History & Historic Preservation Conference**, Paterson, NJ. [Conference Facebook Page](#)

June 8, 2018— **Vermont Preservation Trust Annual Historic Preservation and Downtown Conference**, Bristol, VT. <http://ptvermont.org/our-work/conference/>

July 18-19, 2018— **NCSHPO Summer Board Meeting**, Des Moines, IA.

July 18-22, 2018— **FORUM 2018: A Preservation Caucus**, Des Moines, IA. <https://napcommissions.org/forum/>

July 30-Aug. 1, 2018 – **Florida Main Street Annual Conference**, Vero Beach, FL. www.FloridaMainStreet.com

Sept. 20-22, 2018— **2018 Kansas Preservation Conference**, Lawrence, KS. <https://www.kshs.org/p/2018-preservation-workshops/14644>

Sept. 26-29, 2018— **2018 International Society for Landscape, Place and Material Culture Annual Conference**, New Orleans, LA,
<http://www.pioneeramerica.org/annualmeeting2018.html>

Nov. 13-16, 2018 – **PastForward National Preservation Conference**, San Francisco, CA.
<https://www.pastforwardconference.org/pastforward2018/>