

## Historic Preservation = Sustainability

**Historic preservation is** the stewardship of the built environment that uses historic buildings and communities to achieve environmental, economic and cultural sustainability.

**Sustainability is** development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. <sup>1</sup>

**The National Historic Preservation Program is** essential for the funding and administration of public and private initiatives to advance sustainability.

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*The national historic preservation partners support the following agenda:*

**Financial tools to improve energy efficiency in buildings must include assistance for owners of historic buildings, both residential and commercial, to rehabilitate and upgrade their properties in accordance with historic preservation standards.**

*We support incentives for homeowners and commercial properties for rehabilitation and energy efficiency, including incentives for manufacturer's to create products which will improve energy efficiency while remaining compatible to the historic fabric. We support, especially, incentives for individual homeowners.*

**Maximizing the contribution of historic preservation to the green economy and sustainability requires a skilled labor force.**

*We support job training for the building trades which will protect, maintain and rehabilitate historic buildings and communities, and support the stewardship of our built environment.*

**Global climate change leads to increasingly devastating natural disasters that require a comprehensive approach to the protection of historic sites and communities.**

*We support legislation and funding to provide for natural disaster preparedness, response and recovery, including a comprehensive survey of historic buildings and communities in threatened areas.*

**Infrastructure rehabilitation and improvements are critical to the preservation and sustainability of our historic urban and rural communities.**

*We support legislation promoting rehabilitation and improvement of our nation's infrastructure, including transportation, pursuant to the Secretary of Interior's standards where applicable, to enhance the livability of our nation's historic communities.*

**To this end, expanding resources for the National Historic Preservation Program is critical to providing the infrastructure support needed for the stewardship and sustainability of the built environment.**

*We support increased funding for the Historic Preservation Fund, the National Park Service Cultural Resources Program, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to provide the necessary infrastructure for preservation planning and project execution.*

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division for Sustainable Development