

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICERS**
444 N. CAPITOL NW STE 342
WASHINGTON, DC 20001
TEL: 202-624-5465
www.ncshpo.org

PRESERVATION ACTION
401 F STREET NW STE 324
WASHINGTON, DC 20001
TEL: 202-637-7873
www.preservationaction.org

**NATIONAL TRUST FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**
1785 MASSACHUSETTS AVE
NW WASHINGTON, DC
20036
TEL: 202-588-6000
www.nationaltrust.org

**NATIONAL ALLIANCE
OF PRESERVATION
COMMISSIONS**
325 SOUTH LUMPKIN STREET
FOUNDERS GARDEN HOUSE
ATHENS, GA 30602
TEL: 706-542-4731
www.uga.edu/napc



The National Historic Preservation Act and its resulting cultural, educational, and economic benefits over the past 40 years, have been vital to fostering a preservation ethic across the nation.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

FUNDING FOR STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICES Support the Foundation of Federal Preservation Policy

February 2007

STATUS

The FY 2008 Administration Budget proposes \$35.7 million for State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO), level with FY2007 and FY2006, and a decrease of some 24% from FY2001. The Administration request will curtail programs that stimulate historic rehabilitation, revitalize communities, leverage private investment, and promote heritage tourism.

REQUEST

\$50 million for the State Historic Preservation Offices

BACKGROUND

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) established a federal-state partnership to carry out the nation's historic preservation program. The National Park Service and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation set the standards; the SHPOs do the work: survey and inventory, planning, National Register nominations, consulting on federal projects that may affect historic properties, advice on proposed historic rehabilitations, partnership with local governments, education, heritage tourism, etc.

As the SHPOs' job gets bigger the resources to support this work get smaller. The \$35.7 million request for FY2008 is actually a decrease from FY2006. Fixed costs and inflation eat away at preservation's buying power and continue a downward trend in SHPO services to communities. (For example, at "level" funding, an increase in health care costs could eliminate a SHPO's ability to travel to a potential National Register site.)

At \$50 million SHPOs would have additional resources to help individuals do National Register nominations, to respond more effectively and efficiently to federal agency requests, to increase grants and support to Certified Local Governments, to support local heritage tourism initiatives, to guide owners through the historic rehabilitation process, and even to provide restoration grants to projects ineligible for Save America's Treasures.

For specific state information, check the statewide comprehensive plan:
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/pad/stateplans/index.htm>