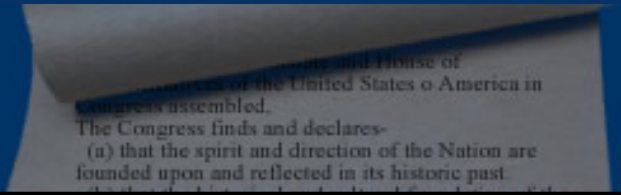


# News!

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## NCSHPO ANNUAL MEETING/ADVOCACY DAY and APPOINTMENTS

### DEADLINE – FEBRUARY 27th

Registration for National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week is open. This will include registration for the NCSHPO Annual Meeting and Advocacy Day, Preservation Action Lobby Day, as well as the National Historic Tax Credit Conference, all of which will be running concurrently at the beautiful, historic Mayflower Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C. We especially encourage you to stay for the National Historic Tax Credit Conference, which is a unique opportunity to learn the latest on the Rehab Tax Credits and meet practitioners and industry professionals.

To Register, click the following link: <http://guest.event.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=e1979562-2769-46d3-93c1-a2ae621b322e>

**Reminder: Now is the time to start coordinating/scheduling your Hill visits for Advocacy Day!**



### HISTORIC PRESERVATION HILL BRIEFING

On Thursday, nearly 60 House and Senate staffers convened to hear the National Preservation partners discuss the national historic preservation program and the role of each preservation organization. The briefing opened with House Historic Preservation Caucus co-chairs, Russ Carnahan (D-MO) and Mike Tuner (R-OH), sharing how historic preservation has benefited each of their districts through providing economic development opportunities and creating/maintaining a sense of community. National preservation partner speakers included:

- John Fowler, executive director, ACHP
- Cicely Muldoon, acting associate director, cul-

tural resources, NPS

- Nancy Schamu, executive director, NCSHPO
- D. Bambi Kraus, president, NATHPO
- Emily Wadhams, vice president for public policy, NTHP
- Drane Wilkinson, executive director, NAPC
- Erik Hein, president, Preservation Action

In addition to an overview of each organization, a short preservation was given on the Historic Preservation Fund, tribal funding, tax incentive programs and environment and economic sustainability.

A special thanks to Lobby O'Connell, senior vice president and chief historian for The History Channel (HISTORY) for sponsoring the lunch and providing heartfelt remarks on why historic preservation is important. She concluded with a story of how her father passed away from Alzheimer's disease and of the memory loss and amnesia he experienced. She warned the audience that if we don't save our historic resources we are condemning our country to cultural and historic amnesia.



### HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LIVABLE COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE

Led by Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) the House Democratic Livable Communities Task Force (LCTF) seeks to identify the ways in which the federal government affects community livability as well as the means by which the

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federal government can be a better partner in enhancing quality of life. They recently endorsed the HUD/ DOT/EPA Livability Principles of:

- Providing more transportation choices
- Promoting equitable, affordable housing
- Enhancing economic competitiveness
- Reinvesting in existing communities
- Coordinating and leveraging federal policies and investment
- Valuing communities and neighborhoods

Last week, NCSHPO President Ruth Pierpont, and staff Nancy Schamu and Elizabeth Hebron met with Rep. Blumenauer's task force staff and discussed historic preservation's role in livable communities and thanked the task force for endorsing the Historic Homeowners Assistance Act and the Community Restoration and Revitalization Act. The task force staff attended the historic preservation Hill briefing on Thursday.

#### *LCTF's Interesting News from Across the Nation*

A [new report](#) by Smart Growth America, done in conjunction with US PIRG and the Center for Neighborhood Technology, analyzed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act transportation spending to date. The report shows that transit investments have created more jobs dollar-for-dollar than highway spending.

A new [Forest Service report](#) finds that Oregon's land use program has protected an estimated 1.2 million acres of forest and agricultural land from development since its inception in 1973, and these lands sequester carbon. Researchers found that avoided forest land loss in Oregon has prevented 1.7 million metric tons of CO2 emissions per year. Had the 1.7 million tons of stored carbon been released

through development, Oregon's annual increase in emissions between 1990 and 2000 would have been three times what it actually was. That's more than impressive, and provides an additional incentive to protect our resources and open spaces.

The U.S. automobile fleet [shrank by four million vehicles](#) in 2009



### **BILL TO ESTABLISH A VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE FAILS ON FIRST ATTEMPT**

The House voted against a bill to establish the Castle Nugent National Historic Site in the Virgin Islands. The attempt to pass the bill (H.R.3726) under suspension of the rules failed, 241-173, falling 35 votes short with all Republicans voting against it. Measures brought up under the procedure require a two-thirds vote for passage. Republicans objected that the bill was too costly, estimated to be \$26 million over five years, and that the National Park Service's official study was still unfinished.

But all is not lost, House leaders are likely to bring the bill back under a rule, which requires only a simple majority vote for passage. Democratic Del. Donna M.C. Christensen of the Virgin Islands said Congress needs to act quickly to secure the land purchase and save it from developers. The historic site would include a number of old Danish farms and plantations on the island of St. Croix.



### **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ICOMOS**

ICOMOS is looking to identify volunteers or groups of volunteers who would be willing to be deployed to Haiti when needed. Anyone interested in volunteering should drop Gustavo Araoz a line at [gustavo.araoz@icomos.org](mailto:gustavo.araoz@icomos.org).



#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 2-5, 2010 – NCSHPO annual meeting and Advocacy Day, Washington D.C.

July 28-30, 2010—NCSHPO Board Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI