

The Washington State Historic Preservation Plan 2020-25:

"Inhabiting our History"



Clark County Historic Preservation Commission

Vancouver

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www.dahp.wa.gov/preservationplan



National Historic Preservation Act Of 1966 (As Amended)

“It shall be the responsibility of the State
Historic Preservation Officer to administer the
State Historic Preservation Program and to...

Prepare and implement a comprehensive
state-wide historic preservation plan;...”



National Park Service Historic Preservation Planning Program

The Plan:

- Has *statewide focus*-addresses statewide preservation issues and needs
- Has *active public involvement*-not only in developing the plan, but also in helping to achieve the planning goals
- Has a wide variety of *preservation relevant information*-demographic, economic, and environmental conditions and trends affecting resource preservation
- Addresses *full range of historic and cultural resources*-landscapes, traditional cultural properties, underwater resources; folk-life, language, music, dance, etc., may also be addressed
- *Coordinates with other planning efforts* in the state-such as transportation, recreation, local land-use plans, etc.
- Implementation is *linked directly to SHPO* expenditures of their federal Historic Preservation Fund grant

What does the State Preservation Plan *Do*?

- Communicates a vision for where Washington's preservation community wants to be at the end of the planning cycle and how to get there.
- Identifies partners helping to implement the tasks.
- Communicates goals, strategies, and specific tasks to a broad audience.
- Discusses trends, threats, and opportunities for historic preservation in the state.



How does DAHP use the Plan?

- Annual work plans and tasks must support the goals in the Preservation Plan.
- The Plan guides identification of partners to achieve the tasks.
- Projects receiving grant funding supports the Preservation Plan.



How can the CCHPC use the Plan?

- Share in conversations about state/regional/nation-wide historic preservation issues, trends, goals, and efforts.
- Understand the role(s) to be played in implementing the plan.
- Engagement with decision-makers on cultural resource issues and questions.
- Use for support in advocacy or credibility in decision-making processes.
- Help to implement within your jurisdiction.



CURRENT Goal Statements

1. Enhance communities by actively engaging historic preservation with other forces shaping our environment.
2. Engage a broad spectrum of the public in preservation; Improve access to information.
3. Strengthen policies and planning processes to enhance informed decision-making for the cross-disciplinary decision-making for managing cultural and historic resources.



Native American Perspective on Historic Preservation



“There are 37 Tribes that call Washington State home, each with a long and rich history interacting with the coasts, mountains, plains, and rivers of the state. Each Tribal perspective is as varied and precious as the unique landscapes that comprise the state; from tidal waters in Puget Sound, rain forests of the coastal plain, towering peaks of the Cascades, the broad and rugged Columbia River, and the rolling hills of the Palouse. Blessed with such diversity, the state’s Native American perspectives on historic preservation are varied and robustly developed. They are peppered with subtle local distinctions of emphasis, yet hold consistent core values...”

Preservation Plan Steering Committee

- Comprised of 30 members from around the state.
- Represents a cross section of historic preservation stakeholders.
- Sets the vision for the plan and guiding principles.
- Shapes and participates in the public participation process.



Draft Vision Statement



Our shared heritage not only enriches the present, it can also shape the future. The state historic preservation plan seeks to engage with the people of Washington to help them take ownership as enthusiastic stewards of that heritage. Together, we can honor the stories and places of our diverse communities, strengthen economic vitality, promote sustainability, and enhance our sense of place.

What are we hearing?

- *Education & Training*-need more of it, hands-on, site/issue specific; need to reach youth; bring back history to education
- *Land use/growth management*-need greater engagement with planning processes and decision-makers
- *Cultural/living heritage*-Work to identify & honor a broader range of cultural resources and more engagement with under-represented communities...not *just* buildings
- *Housing*-Promote preservation of existing places as an approach to our housing problems
- *Disaster Planning*-Cultural resource protection must be engaged in disaster preparedness, response, & recovery
- *Climate change*-how & where resources are vulnerable and what are best approaches to protection?
- *Economy*-incentives and new approaches are needed to sustain preservation programs & efforts

Lot's!...

There is way too much focus on the built environment and archaeology, and not enough consideration to TCPs and other places of traditional and religious importance to Tribes and traditional communities.

Frankly, in general, I don't support historic preservation. A society is not a museum. We as people need to recognize that things will change. Things will get demolished. And that's fine. My community isn't the buildings, it's the people who live here, who patronize the businesses, who sing (poorly) at the open mic. If we must preserve, I support things like facade preservation.

Only regulations (shall & must do) impact preservation activities. Guidelines, recommendations, and requests do not. It is important to adopt policies and regulations that prioritize preservation in the context of the exponential growth taking place in Puget Sound. Once lost, the building environment cannot be replaced to represent the stories of our past.

Please, help the 90% of the population who Don't Care...to care. That will be how WA can preserve these special places in the future.

Understanding that the building already there is greener than the one they want to build needs to be stressed. Allowing more creativity in reusing/new uses for historic places is critical for their long term viability.

I work in an industry that replaces obsolete and deteriorated infrastructure, and have many times has to recognize old materials as historically significant. This is a prime example of historical preservation going too far.

We need to find a way to fund a coordinated heritage preservation outreach program statewide that focuses on local stories available to locals and visitors.

The profession has lost its way and public interest seems to be diminishing. Time to take stock of what is really important....and much more!

Who do you think should have a role in protecting historic places that matter to you or to others?

- Local governments 92%
- State government 88%
- Private individuals like me 86%
- Non-profit organizations 84%
- Federal government 79%
- Private companies 70%
- Tribal governments 67%

Who do you think is most effective at protecting/ preserving historic places?

■ Local governments	59%
■ Non-profit organizations	55%
■ State government	47%
■ Private individuals	45%
■ Tribal government	34%
■ Federal government	30%
■ Private companies	22%

Most important issues:

■ Education & training	45%
■ Sustainability	38%
■ Land use planning	36%
■ Diversity	31%
■ Housing Affordability	28%
■ Stronger relationships with tribes	27%
■ Disaster preparedness	22%
■ Economic development	16%
■ New technology	8%

Which of these tools do you think would be most effective at preserving historic places?

■ Financial incentives	83%
■ Education/training	71%
■ Advocacy	58%
■ Government regulations	57%
■ Storytelling	51%
■ Planning	45%
■ Social media	32%
■ Other (crowdsourcing/public grants, etc.)	8%

Do you have any additional thoughts or opinions about historic preservation?



- It seems that historic preservation is not well represented in regional or local planning—it would be good to explore how to increase the weight planners have to give to historic preservation in their decision making.
- DAHP should improve the way it works with the state's growth management planners and local government planners
- Planning, organization around shared goals and outcomes, communication to historic preservation community , and emphasis in protecting and enhancing historic properties
- It should be part of a larger county/municipal development/conservation plan

Some take aways...

- Historic Preservation is felt/experienced at the local level
- More information sharing
- More education/outreach, and face to face assistance
- More incentives; financial & others (i.e. building codes, energy codes, development codes)
- Do better job of telling our stories
- Broadening the definition of historic preservation/relax age and integrity standards, (i.e. Living Heritage)
- Sense of place/place-making/community identity

Goal 1. Promote historic preservation as the “preferred alternative” when it comes to implementing programs, policies, and projects that shape how our communities, look, feel, and change.

Historic preservation is a proven, successful approach to managing change in our communities. All too often however, a historic preservation perspective is not brought into policy, program, or project development until too late in the process. This goal charts ways for the preservation community to build stronger links with partners in the growing number of interests related to historic preservation, including growth management planning, climate change, sustainability, economic development, housing, conservation, and disaster preparedness and resiliency.

Goal 1. Promote historic preservation as the “preferred alternative” when it comes to implementing programs, policies, and projects that shape how our communities, look, feel, and change.

A. Engage with organizations and local units of government to more fully integrate historic preservation into state and local land use and growth management policy (i.e. “Road Map to Washington’s Future”).

B. Seek opportunities to promote the connection btw. historic preservation, climate change and sustainability/environmental initiatives.

C. Increase and strengthen cultural resource programming and support at the state and local levels.

Goal 2. Expand historic preservation work to a broad spectrum of places, persons, and experiences that have shaped our communities.

This goal sets forth several first steps to expand preservation work to a wider range of cultural and historic resources in order to gain a greater understanding of the fuller picture of the many cultures that have shaped, and are shaping, Washington's past, present, and future.

Goal 2. Expand historic preservation work to a broad spectrum of places, persons, and experiences that have shaped our communities.

A. Increase efforts to identify, document, or commemorate places associated with diverse communities.

B. Identify and/or establish forums in which to engage with members of under-represented communities on topics of mutual interest.

Goal 3. Share, with ever larger and diverse audiences, our rich and valuable stories in innovative formats and engaging ways.

Communities are made up of their history, some of which can still be seen in the locations where the history took place. While not all stories are for sharing, many of our communities have rich and engaging stories at their core that date from many generations ago to the present. Without understanding how historic preservation helps communities preserve their heritage, there could be stories that might best be kept within that core. This goal identifies a series of steps needed to develop content and the medium that will enable preservationists to work together to share stories about the people and places that have shaped our past and future.

Goal 3. Share, with ever larger and diverse audiences, our rich and valuable stories in innovative formats and engaging ways.

A. Develop an innovative media strategy that will bring insights and appreciation for Washington's past to broader audiences.

B. Support existing and launch new outreach efforts by agencies and organization to educate others about cultural resource management policies and practices.

Goal 4. Invest our energy, expertise, and passion for preservation in the places, people, and organizations where decisions affecting our heritage are made.

Public response to the preservation plan's public outreach effort make clear that historic preservation is intensely local. Respondents closely identify their well-being with surroundings that connect with their past and with their ancestors. Comments also expressed the desire to see places that are important to them be passed intact and valued by future generations. Goal 4 validates that preservation happens at the community level. Therefore, preservation planning efforts must focus on providing the necessary tools and resources to local decision-makers and constituents.

Goal 4. Invest our energy, expertise, and passion for preservation in the places, people, and organizations where decisions affecting our heritage are made.

A. Expand the use of existing and implement new incentives that protect and preserve archaeological, cultural, and historic resources.

B. Share data and information to wider audiences to demonstrate the benefits of preservation and cultural resource management decision-making.

C. Work with Tribal governments to raise awareness, recognition, and protection of Traditional Cultural Places and cultural landscapes.

Goal 5. Shake-Up the way we prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural emergencies and the impacts of climate change on archaeological, cultural and historic resources.

This goal brings awareness to emergency management agencies about where cultural resources are located and the precautions that should be taken before, during, and after a disaster event. The goal also activates the historic preservation community to engage with local emergency managers to prepare for, respond to, and recover from, natural disasters. The approach to achieve this goal is through development of planning tools, training, and better communication.

Goal 5. Expand the way we prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural emergencies and the impacts of climate change on archaeological, cultural and historic resources.

A. Assemble expertise and funding to create a toolbox of disaster planning resources and materials to help local governments, organizations, and property owners to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disaster events.

B. Design and implement a comprehensive outreach effort to provide information, “best practices” and “hands-on” training for protection of cultural and historic resources in the event of a disaster.

C. When preparing for, and responding to emergency events, secure and maintain lines of communication and data –sharing with emergency managers and other responding agencies.

Thank You!!

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On-line Survey: www.dahp.wa.gov/preservationplan



