# FAQ's 2023 National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week

### Is there a virtual option to attend DC Preservation Advocacy Week?

DC Preservation Advocacy Week is planned as an in-person event to take place March 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 2023. The full program will not be offered as a virtual experience.

### Are any discounted rates offered?

Preservation Action is pleased to announce the Bruce MacDougal Advocacy Scholars Program inviting selected scholars to participate in National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week. The scholarship includes complimentary Advocacy Week registration and a stipend toward travel expenses. Eligible applicants are invited to apply. Applications are due **Jan. 31st**. More information is available here.

General Registration (early bird) rate of \$185 is offered through January 24<sup>th</sup>, thereafter it is \$200. **Registration closes Feb. 20th**. A NCSHPO all-inclusive rate is valid for staff of any State Historic Preservation Office and offered at the rate of \$400. We make every effort to keep registration costs low and accessible to historic preservation advocates. Learn more and register for Preservation Advocacy Week <a href="here">here</a>.

### Where can I find DC Preservation Advocacy Week on social media?

Facebook: 2023 Event | @PreservationAction | @NCSHPO

Twitter: Preservation Action

Instagram: Preservation Action

Engage with us: #preservationonthehill | #PresAdvocacy2023

#### Are there COVID-19 protocols in place for this event?

Event organizers retain the right to create and enforce any covid-19 (or pandemic) protocols that may be deemed necessary at the time of the event. Including, but not limited to, enforcing mask, vaccination, or other requirements dictated by the host city, event venues, and/or deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of attendees.

# What is the cancellation policy for DC Preservation Week?

All registrations are final, and registration fees will not be refunded if you're unable to attend the conference in-person.

Should circumstances require the cancellation of this in-person event by the event organizers for any reason, the event will shift to a *virtual* event. Should that happen, registrants will be refunded their registration (less \$50), which will cover your access to the *virtual* event. Full refunds will not be offered.

#### Is there a hotel room block available?

Yes, but it's a small one...so be sure to book quickly. Enjoy your stay in DC at the historic Phoenix Park Hotel. One of the Historic Hotels of America, Phoenix Park was built in 1927 and began its life as The Commodore, occupying a prime spot on Capitol Hill ever since. Some discounted rooms may be available at the Phoenix Park Hotel at a rate of \$279/night, until capacity is reached. At that point, subject to hotel availability, rooms may be available at the standard rate which (as of January) at \$399/night. It's possible you may receive a mix of discounted and non-discounted nights. When the discounted room rate reaches capacity, we encourage attendees to seek lodging that complements our event locations that week and fits your budget.

Reserve your room at Phoenix Park. The room block closes Feb. 13th.

Hotel guests will also want to be sure you pop down to <u>The Dubliner</u> Irish pub and restaurant, where you'll be treated to a *complimentary drink* – as our thank you for your commitment to Historic Preservation Advocacy!

Should the room block hit capacity or you otherwise require alternate accommodations, we recommend you review the event locations below, to assist you in choosing the most suitable location. Do not delay in booking accommodations, as March is a busy time of year in DC.

# Where will DC Advocacy Week 2023 take place?

Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> | Hall of States, 444 N. Capitol Street NW | Washington, DC 20001

- NCSHPO, Preservation Action, & NAPC meetings [by invitation]
- Cocktail reception nearby to follow [by invitation]

Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> | St. Mark's Episcopal Church | 301 A Street, SE | Washington, DC 20003

• Advocacy Week sessions, trainings, and guest speakers (see schedule for more).

Reception to follow [additional cost, prepaid/pre-registered guests only] Bullfeathers |
410 1st St SE | Washington, DC 20003

Wednesday, March 8th | Capitol Hill | 213 Pennsylvania Ave SE | Washington, DC 20003

- Congressional office visits scheduled by your state coordinator
- Congressional Reception to follow [additional cost, prepaid/pre-registered guests only]. House or Senate Office Building. Room TBD.

# Is Capitol Hill open for in-person meetings?

Yes. As of now, most Member offices are welcoming back guests to their Capitol Hill offices. State coordinators should specifically inquire about *in-person* meetings, at the time of contact. You may find some offices have specific protocols in place including limiting the number of attendees, meeting you downstairs to escort you to the office, as well as escorting you back down & out (alternatively, office staff may be willing to escort you to your next meeting if you have back to back meetings in the same building). Otherwise, you may need to account for added time in between meetings, as back-to-back meetings in the same building may require you to go back out following one meeting and wait for the next office to retrieve you.

Be sure to plan extra time for entering through security and limit what you take in to simplify the process. And a reminder to wear comfortable dress shoes on Hill day.

Should you encounter your priority offices only offering *virtual meetings*, consider accepting those as your schedule permits, and join via phone or laptop from your hotel or a suitable public space.

# What do the March 8th Congressional Visits entail?

Registrants will be able to take part in congressional meetings on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, March 8th, 2023. If your state has appointed a state coordinator, you can expect the coordinator to contact you about taking part in advocacy meetings. In some cases however, there may be a state without a coordinator. In that case, registrants are encouraged to schedule their own congressional meetings, with the assistance of Preservation Action or NCSHPO, as needed.

### What are my transportation options?

The closest airport to downtown DC is Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). For additional flight options, you may want to check Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD), or Baltimore Washington Airport (BWI) – though your travel to downtown DC will increase with the latter two options.

While in DC, travel options include the <u>DC Metrorail</u>, Uber/Lyft, <u>Metrobus/DC Circulator bus</u>, and <u>rentable bikes & scooters</u>.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is located closest (10 minute walk) to the Capitol South metro station (orange, blue, and silver lines).

# What can we expect the weather to be like in DC in March?

We wish we knew! This event takes place prior to the official start of Spring and it's a bit hit or miss weather-wise. We recommend being prepared with a winter coat and accessories, as well as layers that can be added or shed as needed.

Tours are expected to be held rain or shine, so prepare accordingly. However, in the event of extreme weather, cancellation of tours may be necessary.

#### Where can I find information about this event?

More information can be found on the <u>Preservation Action</u> website.

# I have other questions about DC Advocacy Week. Who can help me?

• Statewide preservation nonprofits and the general public should contact:

Rob Naylor, Preservation Action | <u>rnaylor@preservationaction.org</u>

• SHPO office staff members should contact:

Registration: Sharon Smith, NCSHPO | smith@ncshpo.org

Event/Advocacy: Christina Hingle, NCSHPO | hingle@ncshpo.org