



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

August 14, 2020

Greetings:

It is a pleasure to provide you with the Draft **Washington State Historic Preservation Plan 2021-26: Inhabiting Our History**. We welcome your review of the draft Plan and ask that you return comments to the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) no later than **September 8, 2020**.

The National Historic Preservation Act requires the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to develop and assist in the implementation of a statewide historic preservation plan. While the SHPO is responsible for developing the Plan, it is not a DAHP work plan but a collective public plan for the future of historic preservation in our state. For the 2021-2026 planning cycle, the Plan sets forth five goals for the historic preservation community to achieve in protecting cultural resources in Washington.

The draft document is comprised of 59 pages of narrative that are required elements for all state historic plans to address. Please note that if your time is limited, I recommend that you focus your review on the five goal statements together with numerous implementation strategies and specific tasks, found beginning on page 17. This is the “heart” of the Plan and sets forth the work ahead that we want to accomplish by 2027.

When reviewing the document, it is important to remember that the goals, strategies, and tasks in the Plan are based on input we received during the extensive public participation process. Perhaps you are one of the hundreds who responded to our on-line questionnaire or participated in public meetings or focus groups. If so, we appreciate your time and contributions. Appreciation is also extended to our Plan Steering Committee members who have been instrumental in framing the issues, crafting the vision statement, and shaping the public participation process. Plan Steering Committee members have also reviewed rough drafts plus provided text and invaluable suggestions that greatly enhanced the quality of this document.

In closing, we look forward to receiving your comments by **September 8**. The draft Plan will be posted on our website (www.dahp.wa.gov/plan) for the duration of the comment period. Please direct your comments and any questions to DAHP’s Greg Griffith at greg.griffith@dahp.wa.gov or by calling him at 360-890-2617. Comments may also be mailed to our office at the address indicated at the bottom of this page.

Sincerely,

Allyson Brooks, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer

