

Preservation Action Federal Candidate Survey - 2018

Candidate Name	Angie Craig	Jennifer Zielinski	Ian Todd	Skip Sandman	Paula M Overby	Dennis Schuller
District	MN-02	MN-05	MN-06	MN-08	MN - US Senate	MN - US Senate
Party Affiliation	DFL (Democrat)	Republican	DFL (Democrat)	Independence Party of Minnesota	Green Party	Legal Marijuana Now
Q1. Do you support the Historic Preservation Fund?	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Q1 comment				I would like to see that amount increased.		
Q2. Do you support the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit program?	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Q2 comment				I do not understand what the incentive is for the 5 year plan.	I recognize that tax credit financing is critical to the preservation of America's historic buildings but I would prefer to see a larger funding allocation from congress.	
Q3. Do you support the consideration of the impact that potential infrastructure legislation could have on our historic resources to ensure sound planning for the Nation's future?	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Q3 comment					I have long opposed the process of gentrification. There are multiple concerns impacting affordable housing, walkable neighborhoods and cultural centers in addition to it's negative impact on historic preservation. It does relate to my principle concern about tax credit financing. The enormous profits encourage new urban development at the expense of more livable communities.	
Q4. Why is historic preservation important to you and your state/district? Is there a specific historic place in your district that is important to you and your constituents?	Minnesota has a rich history and is home to a number of important historical sites, including Fort Snelling, the Hill House, and the Mayo Clinic, all of which are near to my district. It is critical that we preserve the treasurers of Minnesota's rich cultural history for the coming generations to enjoy.	We want to preserve our history for future generations. I want to balance preserving history with making progress in our communities.	Keeping a link to the past and protecting historic sites is important for any nation, as there is no turning back once historic sites are gone. Historic buildings often stand in stark contrast with modern buildings due to their careful construction, attention to detail, and artistic style, and it is my personal belief that keeping historic sites in good condition will help inspire contemporary architects to design buildings well worth historic preservation in due time. Here in MN06, we recently began transforming historic cottages of the old Anoka State Hospital into housing for homeless veterans. I'm proud to say I was able to volunteer some of my time to help restore these condemned buildings, and the fact that we get to preserve a beautiful set of buildings and also assist fellow veterans is very meaningful to me. I want to see more of these types of projects being undertaken across the country.	It is important to maintain our historic perspective. Preserving a sense of where we came from and where we are going give stability and a continuity to our country.	Certainly, I feel a sense of nostalgia toward historic sites, and I believe it is important to maintain some level of continuity with the past. But what I find more significant is the impact it has on our social conscience and cultural aesthetics. Defining progress according to profit potential is a social detriment. Putting up a new building adds to our GDP but tearing one down does not subtract from it. It is a poor measure of social progress and a failure in maintaining our social infrastructure. It lacks sustainability. My emotional relationship to historic sites is perhaps more environmental. I lived in a unique ecosystem with abundant wildlife including one species of bird that did not exist anywhere else in the state. When the city added sewer lines to the neighborhood they doubled the number of lots. People could not afford the assessments and sold out doubling the housing density. The animals disappeared and the trees started dying. It is the nature of how we define progress and emphasizes a society increasingly disconnected from our environment and our past. This same community recently tore down a water tower and replaced it with a cell tower. The water tower was really the last remaining landmark and there was little desire to save it. The cell tower is unsightly and the cell service is worse than it was, but we are a modern city now. It saddens me.	Remembering our history is important because it helps remind us of where we came from, it is important to remember the trials and tribulations that got us to where we are today.

Q1 Background: The Historic Preservation Fund was established in 1976 to help carry out the National Historic Preservation Act. The responsibilities of the HPF are largely done by State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, who administer the federal historic preservation program including the survey, evaluation, and nomination of historic places to the National Register; grants to Certified Local Governments and others; and the federal Historic Tax Credit. The HPF is funded through a percentage of offshore oil lease revenue, not tax payer dollars. The HPF is allocated at \$150 million annually. In FY 2018, Congress appropriated \$96.91 million for the Historic Preservation Fund.

Q2 Background: The Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit (Historic Tax Credit) was created in 1981 as an incentive to catalyze economic development through the rehabilitation and reuse of America's historic buildings. The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act retained but altered the program, requiring the credit to be taken over 5 years.

Q3 Background: Preservation of our nation's historic resources and repairing our nation's infrastructure are complementary goals. As the 116th Congress convenes in January, infrastructure is a topic that could receive considerable attention. Large infrastructure projects in the 1950s are known to have had a significant impact on historic neighborhoods. In addition to direct investment in aging and historic infrastructure, investments in other projects can have an impact on historic places. The national historic preservation program is designed as a partnership to allow input from citizens, states, tribes and the federal government. The program also allows for the consideration of impacts to