



## Advocacy Policy

1. Goals
  - a. Create and publish a policy by which the National Preservation Partners Network (Partners Network) determines if and how it will advocate for particular preservation issues of national and/or common interest.
  - b. Provide clarity to allow the organization to respond to requests from members and outsiders to weigh in on current issues.
2. What issues should we consider?
  - a. Issues must have national impact that affect all or most Partners.
    - i. Examples include federal regulations and laws, federal policies and recommendations, Executive Orders, and court cases that directly impact or by precedent impact beyond a local level.
    - ii. Examples of specific topics include climate change, opportunity zones, tax policy, federal standards, federal funding, and flooding guidance.
  - b. The Partners Network will not advocate on local preservation battles and issues.
3. Process and Protocol
  - a. Any member may propose an issue to the Board with a written request to the Board Chair and the Advocacy Committee Chair. The request shall outline the issue and proposed language of a response/position statement from the Partners Network. These two people shall decide if they believe the issue worthy of full Partners Network Board consideration, with only clearly inappropriate requests not going to the full Board for discussion. The Board shall decide:
    - i. If this is an issue we want to take on
    - ii. The method of advocacy
  - b. Methods of Advocacy can take several forms and the Board shall determine the best route such as:
    - i. Provide testimony via a letter on behalf of the entirety of the Partners Network.
    - ii. Actively testify at a hearing or meeting.
    - iii. Create templates of letters and a recommended position, with backup information and encourage individual Partners to advocate.
    - iv. Take a neutral position but robustly share the information with members giving them the opportunity to advocate individually.
    - v. Clearly communicate with all Partners Network members about positions considered and the route taken.

*Approved by Board of Directors on May 18, 2020.*