Since the mid-20th century, local government historic preservation public policies in the United States have generally mirrored U.S. federal models, e.g., National Register Criteria, historic district designations, Secretary’s “Standards”, Professional Qualification Standards, etc. And while easily explained as a function of the development of historic preservation in America, this has oftentimes left local historic preservation efforts at odds with, or poorly integrated into, the larger, local government policy arenas in areas such as economic development, zoning, building codes, public health, affordable housing, public safety, transportation, or environmental protection. The 8th National Forum on Historic Preservation Policy will explore strategies to develop new or revise local historic preservation policies or practices to integrate better historic preservation into the challenges of the 21st century American city. Specifically, what priority issues will cities face in the next 50 years, what role can historic preservation best play in meeting them, how do current policies help – or hinder – that goal?

Proposed papers should address how local government historic preservation policies and procedures can be integrated into other local policies and procedures related to:

- Zoning and building codes, abandoned buildings, demolition by neglect, maintenance, “up-zoning”;
- Parks, landscapes, and recreation;
- Conservation districts; BIDs – business improvement districts, arts and entertainment districts; and tech and innovation districts;
- Low-income housing, affordable housing, live near work programs, housing for the elderly, and micro-units (ADUs);
• Public safety and crime prevention;
• Health and wellness of citizens and visitors;
• Programs for youth, the elderly, or other targeted populations;
• Transportation for self-driving and driver vehicles, public transit, ride hailing/sharing, bicycles, scooters, and pedestrians;
• Economic incentives such as opportunity zones, TIF districts, employment bonuses, lending practices, and insurance practices;
• Public/private partnerships, including large public or non-profit institutions;
• Environmental concerns from zero carbon footprints to rising sea levels; and
• Information technology and Big Data.

The Forum is designed to stimulate discussion and debate among presenters and the audience. Thus, the program will consist of 15 papers with approximately half the Forum devoted to audience and presenter discussion. Participation will be limited to a maximum of 150 attendees.

Papers should not be just case studies, but examine how local preservation policies and procedures might be better integrated into other local government policies, procedures, and professional practices. Abstracts, no longer than 500 words, double-spaced, 12 pt. type, should be submitted electronically in Word no later than November 20, 2019, to Laura Blokker, Preservation Studies, Tulane School of Architecture, lblokker@tulane.edu. Submissions must identify the author’s name, professional title, affiliation, postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone number at the top of the page. Successful proposals will be selected based upon how effectively they address the Forum’s focus, critical thinking, creativity, thoughtfulness, organization, and ability to engender discussion. The decision of the Papers Review Committee will be announced to all submitters no later than January 5, 2020.

Abstracts selected will be required to submit a 3,700-word draft (plus footnotes and bibliography) of the complete paper, no later than March 1, 2020. They will be reviewed by the Papers Review Committee and may be returned to the authors for additional work no later than May 15, 2020. An electronic copy of the final paper, without illustrations, will be due no later than July 10, 2020. Electronic copies of final papers will be made available to attendees prior to the conference. It is our intention that a White paper will be developed from the presentations within 60 days of the Forum and distributed to organizations, public agencies, and individuals in positions to effect recommended changes. The best papers, with possible revisions, will also be published in a proceeding.

Inquiries, questions, and abstracts should be submitted electronically to: Laura Blokker, Preservation Studies, Tulane School of Architecture, lblokker@tulane.edu.

The 8th National Forum on Historic Preservation Policy is co-sponsored by American Cultural Resources Association; Historic Preservation Program, School of Architecture, University of Illinois; Historic Preservation Program, School of Architecture and Environment, University of Oregon; Louisiana Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation; Master of Heritage Conservation Program, University of Southern California; National Alliance of Preservation Commissions; National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers; and National Preservation Institute.