



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2004:047

THPO/HISTORIC PRESERVATION FY 2005 FUNDING

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the U. S. Congress adopted amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA P.L. 102-575) in 1992 allowing federally recognized Indian Tribes to assume responsibility for the preservation of significant historic properties on tribal lands [Section 101(d)(2) "Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) assumption of state duties on Indian Lands"]; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1992 Amendments also authorized funding for tribal historic preservation activities, to be included in the annual budget and appropriations for the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Services (NPS); and
- WHEREAS,** the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) line item for Indian Tribes historically has not been sufficiently funded to support Tribal participation in the administration and implementation of the NHPA as noted above; and
- WHEREAS,** the HPF Tribal line item for FY 2005 exhibits a disparity in the disproportionate level of support when compared to other HPF line items as well as a significant decrease in funding over the past three years (since the FY 2001 appropriation) due to the markedly increased number of THPO tribes that are apportioned funds from the HPF tribal line item (42 THPOs in FY 2005 compared to 27 in FY 2001); and
- WHEREAS,** the Administration's FY 2005 budget request calls for no increase in funding from last year for the HPF Tribal line item, which will negatively affect all tribes participating in the THPO and competitive grant programs; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors strongly urges the U.S. Congress and the Secretary of the Interior to advocate for adequate tribal line-item funding, with individual THPO funding set at a threshold funding of \$275,000 each to satisfy the minimum requirements of each Tribe; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the competitive grants program for project-specific grants for all tribes be set at a minimum of \$1,500,000 for FY 2005; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors shall actively pursue such funding that will meet the unmet needs of each Tribe.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 5, 2004.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly M. Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"