

Unified Regulatory Plan of the Department of Historic Resources for State Fiscal Year 2026



Prepared on May 27, 2025

Virginia Board of Historic Resources

The Board of Historic Resources (the Board) considers nominations of historic places for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR) and the National Register of Historic Places. The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is authorized by Title 10.1, Chapter 22 of the Code of Virginia to approve new (or revised) state historical highway markers. Additionally, the Board of Historic Resources is authorized by statute to hold easements to protect historic resources throughout the Commonwealth. DHR staff administers those easements on behalf of the Board. During quarterly meetings, the Board of Historic Resources considers for approval new historical marker texts and easement donations. The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is supported by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and operates under the supervision of the Secretariat of Natural and Historic Resources.

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
Action 5798 / Stage 9597		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
Regulations Governing Contextualization of Monuments or Memorials for Certain War Veterans [17 VAC 5 - 40]		
Brief Overview		
These are new regulations pursuant to Chapters 1100 and 1101 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly. The chapters mandate in the 4th enactment clause: "That the Board of Historic Resources shall promulgate regulations governing the manner in which any monument or memorial may be contextualized pursuant to the provisions of this act." These regulations provide guidance to local governing bodies that choose to contextualize certain war monument or memorials within their jurisdiction. This guidance includes general provisions regarding the markers including their appearance, location, and ownership and the application requirements and approval process.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Discretionary Action ☒ Action required by state statute	
Deregulatory Component	Minimizes confusion and ambiguity and provides guidance to local governing bodies that choose to contextualize certain war monument or memorials within their jurisdiction.	

Expected Date	DHR has tried to receive an expected date; however, it is unknown per ORM.
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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
Guidance Document Forum ID 4641		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
How to Apply for Designation as a Certified Local Government in Virginia		
Brief Overview		
Created by the National Historic Preservation Amendments Act of 1980, the Certified Local Government (CLG) program allows the State Historic Preservation Officer (in Virginia, the Director of the Department of Historic Resources) and the Secretary of the Interior to certify for formal participation in the national historic preservation program local governments that have certain elements of a preservation program in place. General requirements for certification are identified by federal law; specific requirements for the Virginia program have been established by the Department of Historic Resources. This document explains these requirements. The anticipated revisions would be to make the document more user-friendly and to better organize the information.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute	☒ Discretionary Action

	☐ Action required by state statute
Deregulatory Component	N/A
Expected Date	January 2026

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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
Guidance Document Forum ID 4598		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
Notification and Public Participation Processes for National Register/Virginia Landmarks Register Nominations in Virginia		
Brief Overview		
State and federal laws each require different types of public notification prior to DHR board meetings to consider new landmark nominations to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. This form provides information about the process. The anticipated revisions relate to notifications sent to property owners and would enable DHR to send property owners adjacent to districts postcards instead of letters. This would be a cost savings measure for the agency.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute	☒ Discretionary Action

	☐ Action required by state statute
Deregulatory Component	N/A
Expected Date	August 2025