

PUBLIC NOTICE
Regarding the National Endowment for the Humanities' Section 106 Review of
Eastern Shore Public Library Foundation's Humanities in Service to our Community
Project

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has offered Eastern Shore Public Library Foundation, a grant to construct a Heritage Centers within a new Regional Public Library. NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. This public notice is issued as part of NEH's responsibilities under 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the regulations which implement Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 470. NEH, a funding agency, is required by regulation to identify and assess the effects of any proposed actions on historic properties. If any proposed action will have an adverse effect on historic resources, NEH works with the appropriate parties to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects. Additionally, the Section 106 regulations require NEH to consider the views of the public on preservation issues when making final decisions that affect historic properties.

In Eastern Shore Public Library's grant application, the new public library, located at 24313 Bennett Street, Parksley, VA, 23421, was identified as within the boundaries of the Parksley Historic District (DHR ID #278-0003), and potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and is therefore subject to Section 106 regulations. The application proposes to renovate the existing one-story, 12,600 square foot former Fresh Pride grocery store and construct a one-story, 18,000 square foot addition. The site is a 1.7-acre parcel that contains the store and parking spaces.

On June 5, 2020, Laura Lavernia, Architectural Historian, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Historic Resources, advised that the proposed undertaking will have **no adverse effect** upon historic properties, as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

As required by Section 106, NEH is providing the public with information about this project, as well as an opportunity to comment on any knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the proposed project area, and issues relating to the project's potential effects on historic properties. Comments may be submitted to the NEH by e-mail to FPO@neh.gov. The deadline for submitting comments is **July 13, 2020**.