

Annual Report of the Schoodic Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee

The Corridor Management Committee of Schoodic National Scenic Byway is happy to report several noteworthy accomplishments in 2003 - 2004.

- ♦ In April, 2003 the byway was notified that it was to receive \$223,000 in grant awards. These grants will pay for improvements to the east and west gateways, educational and marketing materials and planning. The Corridor Committee submitted applications for an additional \$155,000, but decisions over grants have been delayed as congress debates national transportation funding.
- ♦ Free shuttle bus service ran for the first time throughout the summer of 2003 between Winter Harbor, Acadia National Park and Prospect Harbor. Resources have been assembled to run a (better) bus during the summer of 2004. This bus connects car-free visitors from Mount Desert Island to the Schoodic Peninsula. It may play a future role in transporting commuters.
- ♦ Staff from the National Scenic Byways Resource Center sponsored a regional byway conference at the Schoodic Education and Research Center in October, 2003.
- ♦ The Schoodic Byway was recognized as a competitor in the National Best Practices award ceremony in Albuquerque, New Mexico in April, 2003.
- ♦ MEDOT included more than \$2 million for improvements to Route 186 in the Biennial Transportation Improvement Plan, including road reconstruction and limited shoulder paving. Construction is likely to begin in 2005.
- ♦ Route 1 rehabilitation planning is progressing. Construction in Hancock will begin in 2004 and Sullivan is expected to begin in 2005. The Hancock approach to the Taunton Bay bridge will be graded for better site-distance and safety. A gateway facility will be built on land owned by MDOT on the Hancock end of the bridge. The facility will initially include a paved area for parking and interpretive signage.
- ♦ Byway directional signage was enhanced in 2003 with the new State Scenic Byway logo.
- ♦ MEDOT began construction of a new handicap-accessible outhouse facility at Long Cove in Sullivan. Completion of this project is anticipated for the spring of 2004.
- ♦ Coaxial cable and a rusty I-Beam were removed from the Taunton Bay Bridge.



We would like to thank all who have supported byway planning efforts, including members of the select boards, planning boards, Town offices, historical societies, Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations. We would also like to thank the Hancock County Planning Commission, the Maine Department of Transportation and Acadia National Park for their technical and financial support. You can learn about the byway at www.schoodicbyway.org or by calling Jim Fisher, Hancock County Planning Commission at 667-7131.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Shanahan, Chairperson