

Annual Report of the Schoodic Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee

The Corridor Management Committee of Schoodic National Scenic Byway is happy to report on our progress in 2005.

Transportation Improvements

- ♦ The Maine Department of Transportation has moved ahead on major road improvements.
 - ♦ The Office of Right of Way has worked with land owners along Route 1 to complete the construction plan. Road renovation will begin in the summer of 2006.
 - ♦ Winter Harbor road improvement is underway, with plans to improve Main Street with parking, sidewalks, drainage, burying power lines and more.
 - ♦ Shoulder paving is planned for Winter Harbor to Birch Harbor.
 - ♦ Road improvements in South Gouldsboro and West Gouldsboro have been delayed, but efforts are underway to restore funding.

Visitor Facilities

- ♦ The Taunton Bay gateway facility in Hancock is taking shape. This new facility has been paved, trimmed with granite curbing and ornamented with a massive granite gateway memorial. The design for interpretive signs, an information kiosk, trails, benches, landscaping and a privy facility are nearly complete, with construction in 2006 and 2007.
- ♦ Significant improvements for the Scenic turnout next to Dunbar's store in Sullivan are in the works, including a paved parking area, curbing and sidewalks, interpretive signage and stone benches. This work will be done while Route 1 is renovated.
- ♦ Ridership increased in 2005 on the free shuttle bus service connecting Winter Harbor, Schoodic Point and Prospect Harbor.

Funding for Future Improvements

- ♦ The Federal Highway Administration awarded several major grants to the Schoodic National Scenic Byway in 2005 including a \$250,000 grant to fund sidewalk improvements in Winter Harbor, new informational and directional signage throughout the byway, a parking and interpretive area in Prospect Harbor and preservation of a scenic location in Sullivan.
- ♦ An additional \$130,000 was awarded early in 2006 for byway planning and administration and additional improvements in Winter Harbor.

State and National Recognition

- ♦ Schoodic Byway Corridor Committee hosted a statewide scenic byway conference at the Schoodic Education and Research Center in Winter Harbor in the spring of 2005.
- ♦ Byway Committee member Peter Drinkwater and planner Jim Fisher attended the National Scenic Byway conference in Cleveland, OH. A Maine Scenic Byways information kiosk was presented and Jim Fisher delivered a presentation on land use planning.

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. Residents in Hancock, Sullivan, Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor are always welcome at byway meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Shanahan, Chairperson