

2011-2012 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 2011 and the start of 2012.

Transportation Improvements

- ♦ The Town of Gouldsboro received a Transportation Enhancement Grant to design a sidewalk system for Prospect Harbor. This will someday connect the school, town office, library and more.
- ♦ The 84 mile multi-use Down East Sunrise Trail from Ellsworth to Pembroke had a good year. A new parking area is being planned for Route 200, the Tunk Lake Road. Learn more at www.sunrisetrail.org.
- ♦ The Schoodic Point Shuttle bus continued to operate during the summer. Improvements in Prospect Harbor will provide riders with an improved place to wait for the bus.

Visitor Facilities

- ♦ Scenic turnouts at Taunton Bay in Hancock, Frenchman Bay and Long Cove in Sullivan and the flag pole in Winter Harbor continue to be popular destinations along Route 1.
- ♦ A building at Gordon's Wharf in Sullivan is now to Friends of Taunton Bay and Maine Coast Heritage Trust. These organizations are providing children's educational program, a big benefit for the byway visitor.
- ♦ The Prospect Harbor gateway area now a granite sculpture, improved parking area and pedestrian walkways. The next round of improvements will take place this summer.
- ♦ Additional improvements for the Taunton Bay gateway and the Frenchman Bay Scenic Turnout are planned for this summer.
- ♦ New Acadia National Park signs were purchased with byway funds and are going up this year.

Funding for Future Improvements

- ♦ A grant proposal was submitted in 2011 and funded that will pay for new interpretive signs for existing and new byway venues.
- ♦ A new grant proposal was submitted early in 2012 to create a series of educational sites for children called "Kids Quest". The proposal was ranked #1 by MaineDOT and is currently under review by the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, DC.
- ♦ New grant proposals have been submitted by the Town of Sullivan for improvements at Gordon's Wharf.

Public Participation

- ♦ The corridor committee published a new regional map-brochure in May, 2011. The brochure highlights historic, scenic, recreational and natural resources along in the Schoodic region.
- ♦ A number of new small-size interpretive panels were produced this year as part of our geo-tourism initiative. Samples are posted to www.downeastexplorer.org.
- ♦ Reductions in state matching funds for byway grants have placed new importance on municipal and other contributions to continue improvements along the byway. Thanks to all that have given support.

We thank the select boards, planning boards, staff, historical societies, Chamber of Commerce and other organizations for their support. We also thank the Hancock County Planning Commission, the Maine Department of Transportation and Acadia National Park for their technical and financial support.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway Corridor Committee is a collaboration of Hancock, Sullivan, Gouldsboro, Winter Harbor and Acadia National Park to protect and promote this scenic corridor. Area residents are always welcome to attend byway meetings. You can learn more at schoodicbyway.org, or by calling the Hancock County Planning Commission at 667-7131.

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Shanahan, Chairperson