

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

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Bill Owens
Governor

B 003 02

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Continuing the Scenic and Historic Byways Commission

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order continuing the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission.

I. Background and Need

Colorado offers abundant and easily accessible opportunities for viewing and visiting scenic, recreational, historical, educational, scientific, geological, natural, wildlife, cultural, and ethnic resources. The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program (the "Program") seeks to maintain and improve these state assets. The Program is a statewide partnership that provides recreational, educational, and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors by designating, interpreting, protecting, and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado. The State benefits from increased national exposure given to these exceptional byways.

Cities, counties, and the Colorado Transportation Commission have the authority to designate and fund promotional activities for scenic and historic byways, and the Program coordinates and enhances these efforts. Designated byways are subject to periodic review to ensure proper maintenance and improvement of their scenic, historical, cultural, wildlife, recreational, educational, geological and natural features, and can lose their designation if appropriate. The Program is conducted in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, and these institutions agreed to participate in and abide by the rules and regulations of the Program.

In the Program's thirteen years, it has designated twenty-three diverse scenic and historic byways across the state. The Program is the recipient of numerous state and national awards, and it is nationally recognized as a leader of the scenic byways movement.

The Scenic and Historic Byways Commission (the "Commission") plays a significant role in the Program. Commission members represent agencies and organizations in promoting, protecting and understanding scenic byways. In addition, the Commission prioritizes projects for federal grant funding under the National Scenic Byways Program and reviews and approves nominations for national designation.

