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, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive order continuing the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission.

1. Background and Need

Colorado offers abundant and easily accessible opportunities for viewing and visiting scenic, recreational, historical, education, scientific, geological, natural, wildlife, cultural and ethnic resource. Over the past 25 years, the Scenic and Historic Byways Commission ("Commission") has implemented a program intended to provide recreational, educational and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors by designating, interpreting, protecting and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado. The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program (the "Program") seeks to maintain and improve these state assets.

Cities, counties, state agencies, and the Colorado Department of 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, education, 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 the institutions have agreed to participate in and abide by the rules and regulation of the Program.

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 project for federal grant funding under the National Scenic Byways Program and reviews and approves nominations for national designation.
2. **Mission and Scope**

A. The Commission shall work to increase regional effectiveness and promote awareness of rural tourism, economic development, scenic conservation, historic preservation, recreation, and provide a significant catalyst to bring together federal, state, local and private entities under one program.

B. The Commission shall work with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, local byways organizations, and public and private resources to assist in the development of byways management plans, including interpretation, promotion and protection of distinctive byways characteristics.

C. The Commission shall develop and recommend funding sources and assist in coordinating the budget process and in the allocation of federal, state, and private funds for the purpose of byway development and management.

D. The Commission shall provide program planning and support to sustain the byways for future generations.

E. The Commission shall evaluate and recommend designation for scenic and historic byways that depict Colorado’s regional and geographical diversity. Recommendations shall be sent to the Transportation Commission for state designation and to the Federal Highway Administration for national designation.

F. The Commission shall ensure that all regions of the state are fairly represented within the system of designated scenic and history byways.

G. The Commission shall establish a set of bylaws and shall abide by said bylaws.

3. **Membership**

The Commission shall consist of no more than fifteen (15) members appointed by the Governor. Members shall be appointed to serve terms of three years. Members shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. The Commission shall include the following members:

- The Executive Director, or his designee, from the Colorado Department of Transportation.
- The Executive Director, or his designee, from the Colorado Tourism Office.

Members shall serve without compensation.
4. **Directive**

The Scenic and Historic Byways Commission is hereby continued, without interruption. All other Executive Orders concerning the Commission, specifically B 045 89, B 004 92, B 005 95 and B 003 02, are hereby superseded and replaced by this Executive Order.

5. **Duration**

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by a future Executive Order of the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado this fourteenth day of March, 2014.

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor