

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 Coloradoans 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.

2. Mission and Scope

- A. 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.
- B. The Commission shall assist in coordinating the budget process and in the allocation of federal, state, and private funds for the purpose of byway improvements.
- C. The Commission shall evaluate and recommend designation for Scenic and Historic Byways that depict Colorado's regional and geographical diversity.
- D. The Commission shall ensure all regions of the state are fairly represented within the system of designated Scenic and Historic Byways.

3. Membership

The Commission shall consist of not more than fifteen (15) members appointed by the Governor, including one Transportation Commissioner and one member of the Colorado Tourism Office. Commission members shall be appointed for staggered terms of three years beginning with terms expiring in 2003. In 2002, the appointed members shall be apportioned into three groups roughly equal in number, and the first group of members shall be appointed for one year terms, the second group shall be appointed for two year terms, and the third group shall be appointed for three year terms.

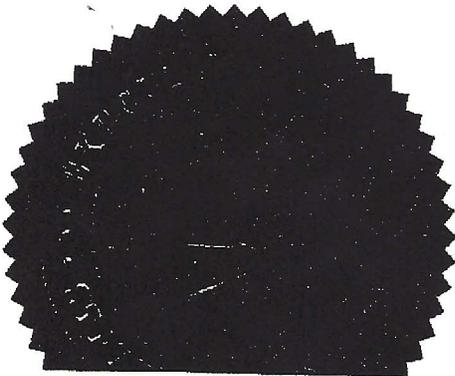
Members shall serve without compensation. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor may also appoint ex-officio members for terms expiring at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. Directive

The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission is hereby continued.

5. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in force until further modification or rescission by the Governor.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this nineteenth day of March, 2002.

Bill Owens
Governor