

# The Mills Scenic Byway

# FAQs

## What is a Scenic Byway?

In 1991 the National Scenic Byways program was established by federal legislation to recognize roads with six notable attributes including scenic, historic, natural, recreational, archaeological, and cultural qualities. Scenic byways reflect the unique aspect of America's land and people.

The New Hampshire Scenic and Cultural Byways program was similarly enabled in 1992 to designate roads in New Hampshire. Across the state these byways are developed as grassroots programs with enthusiastic community participation, usually in the form of local volunteer advisory committees and other interested parties.



## What is a Corridor Management Plan?

Once designated by the New Hampshire Scenic & Cultural Byways Council, the advisory committee is tasked to develop a corridor management plan. The plan highlights the six attributes that may exist along the route, their significance to the community, and ways to respect these scenic and cultural attributes while protecting the property rights of owners along the route. Some committees use these corridor management plans as their "strategic marketing plans" as they also function in this capacity. Community participation is vital to these plans as goals and strategies are developed by members of the advisory committee to reflect the values and attributes of each scenic byway.

## How does a Scenic Byway Benefit the community?

Once designated, the route can be promoted and advertised to showcase businesses, historic buildings, recreation areas and cultural venues along the route. In most cases multiple towns are involved in the designation process which creates cross boundary connections that may carry over to other community projects.

## Where can I find more information?

The Mills Scenic Byway has established a byway advisory committee which meets to discuss completion of the corridor management plan and efforts to promote the byway. The public is welcome to attend meetings. Feel free to contact Sarah McGraw at Strafford Regional Planning Commission at 603-995-3500 and visit the website at [http://www.straftord.org/transportation/scenicbyways\\_over.php](http://www.straftord.org/transportation/scenicbyways_over.php)

## What are other benefits of a Scenic Byway?

The Mills Scenic Byway supports local economies by:

- Creating a unique destination for tourists
- Inviting visitors to extend their stay
- Promoting important features in the area
- Highlighting potentially overlooked areas of interest
- Advertising for businesses along the byway
- Creating a sense of place for visitors and residents



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