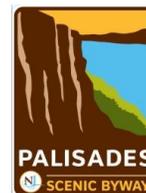


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A scenic byway is a roadway corridor that has outstanding scenic, natural, recreational, cultural, archaeological or historic significance. The 42-mile Palisades Interstate Parkway (PIP) was designated a state scenic byway by both New Jersey and New York because of its outstanding historic and scenic character. Designation of the New Jersey segment of the PIP in 2005 also includes Henry Hudson Drive, an extraordinary historic scenic road adjacent to the Hudson River.



The Corridor Management Plan (CMP) fulfills a requirement of the New Jersey Scenic Byways Program¹; each designated roadway must prepare a strategic plan. The purpose of the CMP is to establish a vision for the byway and to recommend strategies that preserve, protect, interpret and enhance the byway’s intrinsic qualities, balancing protection with roadway functionality.

VISION



To preserve, protect and promote the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive as beautiful scenic drives and significant attractions within the magnificent natural setting of the Palisades Interstate Park, whose founding mission was for the protection of the Palisades cliffs for the enjoyment of future generations;

And, to relay the contributions of the byway corridor to the rise of the American Conservation Movement by recognizing the unique and heroic efforts to protect natural features, innovations in regional and transportation planning, and pioneering efforts to protect significant sites associated with the American Revolution; all of which have offered significant and influential benefits to the public and nation.



The CMP serves as the framework for an inclusive partnership, harmonizing management practices by the Commission with the interests of host communities, adjacent landowners, land managers, visitor service providers, and tourists. As a designated scenic byway, it is eligible for grant funding from the National Scenic Byways Program to put elements of the plan into action.

A strong case can be made for National Scenic Byway Program designation of the parkway as an All American Road®. The CMP for the New York segment of the PIP, published in 2002, also recommends a bi-state application for national designation.

“The preservation of the skyline of the Palisades and the construction ultimately of a parkway on the crest of the Palisades and continuing northward to Bear Mountain, —a gift, moreover, that will provide, in the belief of the Commissioners, a source of enjoyment to the present and future generations, not only of residents in the New York metropolitan area, but of countless visitors from other states and other lands.”

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park New Jersey, January 31st, 1936

The National Scenic Byways Program of the U.S. Department of Transportation is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States. The U.S. Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

¹ Visit <http://www.newjersey.gov/transportation/community/scenic/> for more information.



The CMP presents long-range options and considerations for the rehabilitation and restoration of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive. It was prepared with an understanding of the close cooperation needed and historically established between the two states for the management of the Palisades Interstate Park and Parkway. Funding realities, transportation priorities and regional goals for recreation, conservation and planning will also influence the plan's outcome.

Although many of the CMP recommendations are directed towards the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, which has jurisdiction over the byway corridor, others have a role to play as well. Advancing the byway will require partnerships among many other governmental and non-profit organizations, including the adjacent municipalities, NYS managing agencies, and numerous non-profit organizations.

MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

1. **Recognize and interpret the Historic Significance of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive**
2. **Employ strategies that preserve and enhance enjoyment of the byway's intrinsic qualities while continuing to meet current standards for safety and accessibility.**
3. **Restore and maintain the historic character of the Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive to provide visitors with an authentic experience of the byway.**
4. **Restore historic structures within the byway corridor that can become venues for historic interpretation.**
5. **Collaborate with adjacent municipalities to strengthen protection of the byway corridor.**
6. **Promote the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive as both a gateway to and an integral part of the Palisades Interstate Park in both New Jersey and New York.**
7. **Establish gateways and employ wayfinding strategies that better inform and direct visitors to venues for byway interpretation, park attractions and visitor services.**
8. **Establish an on-going Palisades Scenic Byway Advisory Group to advance implementation of the Byway in partnership with stakeholder organizations.**

