



Press Release

Chinook Scenic Byway

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The Chinook Scenic Byway was recently awarded a \$59,495 grant from US Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. This is one of five grants awarded in 2012 to byway organizations in the State of Washington through the National Scenic Byways Program.

The grant will fund an update to the existing Chinook Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan (CMP) to incorporate the entire 86 miles of the Byway. The byway follows SR 410 from the gateway portal of the City of Enumclaw through the communities of Greenwater and Cliffdell; along the Mather Memorial Parkway through the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Forest, Mt. Rainier National Park and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest; to the eastern portal of the Town of Naches.

When the byway was designated an All American Road in 1998, a Corridor Management Plan was completed for the western portion of the byway. The new CMP will build on this previous effort to:

- Include the eastern section of the byway, engaging stakeholders in Cliffdell, Naches and Yakima focusing on the byway traveler benefits
- Update the CMP information for the west and central sections of the byway
- Develop a focused action plan of projects for the next ten years

It is anticipated that the Plan will focus on: improved wayfinding signs, traveler information, visitor services, and targeted capital improvements that will make the Chinook Scenic Byway a "must see" destination for byway travelers.

The planning process will also further define the existing partnership between the Chinook Scenic Byway and the White Pass National Scenic Byway, looking specifically at the connecting road, SR 123 through Mount Rainier National Park, to increase the overall visitor experience. An immediate project will be to improve signage along the byway. Over the course of the CMP, visitors can look forward to improved visitor communications, energized stakeholder support of the byway, and continued stewardship of the byway's outstanding intrinsic resources including the national scenic treasure of Chinook Pass.

Learn more at www.chinookscenicbyway.com. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Chinook Scenic Byway Board Member, Danielle Surkatty at Tel. 509 966 1529 or danielle@yakindowebdesigns.com