

Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan



By

Prepared For:
The Kansas Byways Committee
and All Counties and Communities Within
the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway
Corridor

VISION

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway facilitates conservation and promotion of signature resources along the designated route and outlines management of the route by local jurisdictions to foster increased economic activity while yet providing long-term resource protection.

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THE CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Corridor Management Plan (CMP) entered into with a spirit of cooperation, has been designed to maintain the quality of life in Northwestern Kansas. Through the conservation of resources, an appreciation of history, a regional tourism initiative and responsible growth and development, this corridor has, as individual communities and as a collective northwestern Kansas family, the opportunity to see the vision for the future become a reality.

As the history of the plains of Kansas is based on the exceptional individuals and groups that settled and shaped this distinctive area of the United States, the CMP will work to ensure the continued identification of individuals and organizations who can contribute through cultural diversity, experience, or commitment to this ongoing process.

WHY THIS PLAN WAS DEVELOPED

This Corridor Management Plan represents a broad-based, community-driven consensus regarding how best to prepare for the future surrounding rural life of northwestern Kansas. The first phase of the preparation of this plan provided one of those rare and special opportunities where people of this region sat and looked closely at their surroundings – what they like, what they value, and what is meaningful. The second phase of this exercise provided an opportunity to examine all the issues and areas where the communities expressed a desire for positive change.

The strength of this plan lies in the communities and the people of northwestern Kansas. The process by which the plan was developed solicited input from a wide range of property owners, advocates and users of the Land and Sky Scenic Byway (LSSB) route. This important process will continue as the committee works toward the implementation of this plan.

This is the work of the people of northwestern Kansas. Those ideas, goals, and plans along the three-county corridor are listed herein. This plan provides a unified point of reference, a beginning toward a bright future. Its contents represent dozens of possible activities, programs and initiatives. The implementation of each, over time as deemed appropriate by the local communities, will gradually but assuredly bring about the future envisioned with the development of the vision statement.

OUTLINE

The Corridor Management Plan includes the following sections:

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. The Corridor Defined**
- 3. History of the Corridor**
- 4. Conservation Goal: Identify and Protect Resources**
- 5. Enhancement Goal: Develop Corridor Enhancements**

- 6. Enhancement Goal: Compatible Development**
- 7. Visitor Experience Goals: Enhance and Promote**
- 8. Community Involvement through Organizational Structure**
- 9. Implementation Plan**
- 10. Conclusion**

How To Use The CMP

The Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is divided into 10 sections focusing on resources, management strategies, and project implementation. It provides, in written form, the blueprint for the Land and Sky Scenic Byway.

Sections four through eight outline the plans and strategies by which the Land and Sky Scenic Byway (LSSB) will be guided. Each section – Conservation Goal: Identify and Protect Resources, Enhancement Goal: Develop Corridor Enhancements, Enhancement Goal: Compatible Development, Visitor Experience Goals: Enhance and Promote and Community Involvement through Organizational Structure – lists both existing programs and byway committee actions.

The **Existing Programs** list identifies the impressive programs, initiatives, and agreements currently in place along the corridor and within the State. These programs provide an excellent opportunity for coordination and cooperation with planned Byway actions. Such existing programs can be a source of information, technical assistance, and encouragement.

LSSB Actions listed in sections four through seven represent possible strategies, programs, and actions the LSSB committee would like to pursue in fulfillment of the Byway's vision. Whenever a completion date for the action is known, it is listed in bold type at the conclusion of the action.

The LSSB Committee will determine the implementation of specific programs, strategies, or actions. The Committee will be responsible for determining:

1. A timetable for implementation, and
2. A work schedule for each project – See Section 9.

Additionally, issues of funding, coordination, and community involvement will be the responsibility of the Committee.

Recognizing the many independent activities currently underway or planned by the communities of LSSB, the **Local Community Actions** section provides a brief introduction to the many local initiatives underway.

Section nine identifies the strategy for an **Organizational Structure** to manage the Scenic Byway and champion its development.

The CMP concludes with an **Implementation Strategy** designed to assist the LSSB Committee in implementing the various actions. Timetables for the Committee, as well as a recommended worksheet for each action, are included.

Note: *Actions identified have been recommended based on community input during the planning process for this document. The execution of such actions ultimately lies in the communities of the LSSB corridor. It is anticipated many of the actions identified in the CMP will be executed in a voluntary manner. Any changes in community or county policies as a result of the CMP will be subject to the will and approval of the individuals and communities in which such actions would be established.*



SECTION ONE - INTRODUCTION

1.1 WHAT IS A SCENIC BYWAY?

Scenic Byways are special routes offering travelers access to the beautiful scenery and the cultural and natural riches of our country. They provide an antidote to the monotony of linear, high speed travel; open up vistas; and introduce us to places we might otherwise pass by. They may be spectacular destinations sought after by travelers and they may be local routes long admired by a community for a Sunday drive. They may be rural, suburban, and urban. They come with different names—rustic roads, scenic highways, historic roadways, or backways. As long as the community regards a roadway as a special resource to be promoted and protected, it is a Scenic Byway.

1.2 SCENIC BYWAY PROGRAMS

Many programs exist to identify Scenic Byways at the local, state, and federal level. Such programs typically establish basic criteria for eligibility and have a system for nomination and designation. The commitment required of the community and the regulation administered by the governmental entities is as varied as the routes. For some Byways, officially adopted plans, land use regulations, and inventories are required. In other communities, requests approved by the state department of transportation will suffice for designation and the erection of special signs to identify the route. In other communities, a good faith commitment by the citizens and the thoughtful stewardship of landowners may be sufficient to recognize a Scenic Byway.

In general, Scenic Byways may be identified through one of the following programs:

LOCAL PROGRAMS

Administered at the city, town, and county level, these programs exist to maintain the special qualities of routes of local importance and use.

PRIVATE SECTOR PROGRAMS

Maintained and administered by private entities, some Scenic Byways exist entirely within the private sector. These Byways may be open, sometimes with a fee, to the public. Examples include the Seventeen-Mile-Drive in Monterrey, California, and the scenic roads of Calloway Gardens in Georgia.

STATE PROGRAMS

Administered by state departments of transportations, Byway commissions and economic and tourism development offices, these programs identify routes of significance at the local and state level. Frequently, state programs seek to represent various categories of resources — cultural, scenic, historic, or natural — to recognize the different geographic regions of the state. In some states, Byways are nominated by local organizations for designation. Other states designate Byways by an administrative body. In addition, Byways may be designated by individual acts of the legislature in some states. State Scenic Byway programs generally require or encourage some form of land-use planning within the Byway corridor; in other states, Scenic Byway designation implies no particular level of management or enhancement. A vast majority of states have, or are developing, Scenic Byway programs, but they vary widely in their criteria and implementation.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Federal programs to designate and manage Scenic Byways have been developed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). BLM's program of Back Country Byways includes different types of roads – some accessible only by four-wheel drive vehicles, which lead the traveler to some of the unexplored areas of the west. The USFS has designated over 7,000 miles of Scenic Byways through national forests throughout the country. While not specifically designed as Scenic Byways, nine parkways and numerous park roads through scenic areas are managed by the National Park Service (NPS).

THE NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY PROGRAM

The National Scenic Byways Program was established under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). The Scenic Byways Advisory Committee, working with the Federal Highway Administration, recommended that the program designate a system of National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads. For a route to be eligible for designation as a National Scenic Byway, it must possess one or more of the six intrinsic qualities identified by the Scenic Byways Advisory Committee. These intrinsic qualities include:

<i>Scenic</i>	<i>Historic</i>
<i>Cultural</i>	<i>Natural</i>
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>Archeological</i>

Byway designation requires that a community commit to its designation and management and have developed a **Corridor Management Plan (CMP)**.

In addition to National Scenic Byways, the program also designates All-American Roads. These roadways represent the finest examples of Scenic Byway corridors in the country and are marketed to both domestic and international travelers. All-American Roads must possess a minimum of two of the six intrinsic resources. In addition to qualities making them “destinations unto themselves,” All-American Road

designations require the implementation of programs identified in the CMP. Designations as an All-American Road are rare.

Scenic Byways will be for travel by vehicles with at least four wheels, although bike and pedestrian pathways may be associated with the Byway. In other words, trails exclusively for hiking or snowmobiling, for example, would not be included in the national program. Nominations for National Scenic Byway designation will come from the local level through the states and most nominations will be state Scenic Byways. For the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway, demonstrated interest at the local level, designation as a Kansas State Byway, and preparation of a Corridor Management Plan (this document), must be completed. Federal agencies may also nominate Byways with the concurrence of the state.

1.3 THE KANSAS STATE BYWAYS PROGRAM

The goal of the Kansas Byway Program is to identify and designate scenic roadways for the enjoyment of the traveling public in Kansas through a grassroots process. It is their intent to designate Scenic or Historic Byways that represent the diversity of the Kansas Landscape serving as natural, social, cultural, and economic resources for the visitors of the state of Kansas, the people of Kansas, and the local communities in which the roadways are located.



The requirements include that the roadway must have a uniformly high visual or historic quality along the entire route, be a minimum of 20 miles in length unless adjacent to an interstate or major highway, and the roadway must be paved and capable of carrying tour buses and recreational vehicles. It also requires the local community groups submit the application, complete a mile-by-mile evaluation and inventory, and a Corridor Management Plan (CMP), which demonstrates how the group intends to conserve, enhance, and promote the Byway.

The Kansas Byway Committee (KBC) serves as a review and advisory role. This Committee consists of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT), and the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS). The Committee reviews and evaluates all applications for nominations and grants, develops policies and procedures, and recommends

Byways for state and national designation. The program is managed through a partnership between KDOT and KDWP.

1.4 WHAT DOES DESIGNATION MEAN?

Byway designation at any level (local, state, or federal) provides recognition of the special qualities and resources of a particular Byway and corridor. This official acknowledgement carries with it a heightened awareness of the route and recognition of the community that sought the designation.

For many communities, Byway designation will provide new tourism opportunities, increased visitation, and economic development. It should always be a source of pride. Byway designation in Kansas provides:

- Access to additional funding
- Identification on state highway maps
- Promotional materials such as brochures, a Kansas Byways website, and other marketing activities
- Technical assistance for management
- Assistance from the Kansas Byways Program
- Networking opportunities

Designation as a National Scenic Byway by the United States Secretary of Transportation will acknowledge the significance of the Byway corridor. National designation, in Kansas, will make the route eligible for Scenic Byway funds, technical assistance from the FHWA, and inclusion in a national identification and promotion plan.

1.5 WHAT IS A CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN?

A Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is a written statement developed by local community representatives and adopted by local governing bodies, which delineates the long-term focus and commitment of the local communities to the conservation, enhancement, and promotion of their Scenic or Historic Byway. It is a “living document”, serving as a guide. It should be reviewed on a regular basis so it reflects accomplishments and changing concerns of the Byway community.

A Corridor Management Plan represents a point of beginning. Bringing about a community’s vision requires an outline of steps, an approach, and a plan of action. The CMP assembles all the concerns, thoughts, and ideas of the community in a single document. Thus, issues and objectives as diverse as increased tourism development and roadway safety can be studied and planned for from a single community-based document. This helps all community members to work together, join forces on related projects and avoid the conflicts that occur when different organizations, groups or governments are planning without consulting one another.

The CMP addresses issues and suggests a method or methods by which goals may be achieved. For example, if a community has identified increased tourism as a goal, the CMP identifies the reason increased tourism is sought and outlines ways in which it might be accomplished: a tourism board, a marketing program, the development of tourism facilities such as lodging or restaurant facilities. The CMP does not need to outline the specifics involved with the development of the marketing program. Specifics will be defined in a later marketing plan. The key to the success of the CMP will be in the follow-through of an energetic community that gets together and establishes a specific marketing program. The CMP should establish a reasonable time frame in which activities should be accomplished and who is going to accomplish them. If such a program involves the assistance or approval of the state or local government, the CMP identifies the appropriate governmental agency to contact. The LSSB Committee will partner with various organizations as needed to address problems as they arise.

The Corridor Management Plan is divided into sections addressing, among others, tourism, economic development, land use management, organization, and implementation.



1.6 A CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE LSSB

The Corridor Management Plan for the Land and Sky Scenic Byway will ensure that the vision articulated by the community becomes a reality. The CMP establishes a framework and structure by which the future of the corridor can be effectively managed. As such, the CMP strives to pull together the many distinct resources, realities, fears and aspirations of the route's communities, both individually and collectively, and assemble them into a feasible and practical program that can be implemented over time.

To accomplish this, the Corridor Management Plan identifies a series of actions to be undertaken for the benefit of the Land and Sky Scenic Byway corridor. Based on extensive research with an input from local communities along the route, these actions are intended to direct and identify specific projects. Such actions will increase the opportunities for the corridor communities to conserve the quality of life and historic character that distinguish the route and enhance opportunities for economic development and tourism.

To help implement these actions, a series of task forces will be established, drawn from the LSSB Committee and existing organizations and representing all interested parties along the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway. These task forces will work to implement corridor goals at the local level.

1.7 THE LSSB CMP IS DESIGNED TO:

- Develop a stronger sense of a Land and Sky Scenic Byway community of linked Counties and Towns.
- Assist local communities with corridor-wide issues and plans.
- Provide a uniform voice endorsing corridor-wide projects.
- Increase communication among Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway communities regarding tourism and economic development initiatives.
- Provide a framework by which economic development may be encouraged without compromising the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of the region.
- Provide a stronger unified voice to solicit funding for corridor-wide projects.
- Fulfill the Corridor Management Plan requirements for designation as a State and National Scenic Byway.
- Be a flexible plan that may be modified over time as necessary.

1.8 THE LSSB CMP IS NOT DESIGNED TO:

- Impose any regulation on a county or town along the route aside from limiting commercial signage.

- Require the adoption of any new local ordinances or special districts except to limit signage.
- Prohibit new construction or development.
- Deny any community its ability to pursue funding for local projects.
- Require participation in corridor-wide projects or programs.



SECTION TWO: THE CORRIDOR DEFINED

2.1 THE KANSAS LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway is an 88-mile corridor located on the western side of the state. Its history is a fight over land use. Will the land be used for nomadic hunter-gatherer cultures? Will it be used for open-range cattle? Or will it be used for production agriculture? Agriculture won.

2.2 VISION STATEMENT

The people of the communities have a shared vision for this byway. That vision is:

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway facilitates conservation and promotion of signature resources along the designated route and outlines management of the route by local jurisdictions to foster increased economic activity while yet providing long-term resource protection.

2.3 GOALS

The primary goals for the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway were established to direct the actions necessary to implement the vision. Like the vision, these goals were determined by the Land and Sky Scenic Byway Committee in cooperation with a number of interested organizations, committees and individuals.

The Program satisfies five goals:

1. Identifies and protects cultural, natural, and historic resources.
2. Enhances Byway resources and encourages compatible development.
3. Involves the communities.
4. Builds a measurable travel product for current and future visitors.
5. Increases services to residents and visitors through appropriate enhancements providing opportunities for economic benefits from tourism.

Each of these goals will be the responsibility of the LSSB Committee. The LSSB Committee is charged with the responsibility to meet all the necessary requirements of maintaining and promoting the Byway locally to ensure its support for years to come. The committee will coordinate efforts as needed to conserve, maintain and enhance the Byway.

2.4 INTRINSIC QUALITIES

The National Scenic Byways Program identifies six intrinsic qualities for which Byways may be designated: historic, scenic, recreational, cultural, natural, and archeological. The Kansas Byways Program focuses primarily on the scenic and historic qualities of its Byways. It too, recognizes the important contributions the other qualities provide. These are the qualities that make a place what it is — the places, views and activities, which when viewed as a whole, make the Land and Sky Scenic Byway unique from any other corridor. Although developed for the National Program, the six qualities represent a comprehensive and simple approach to defining the essential features of any Byway.

Naturally, a single resource may fit in more than one category. A *historic* barn may also speak to the culture of the area or present a *scenic* resource when viewed from across a farm field. The following intrinsic quality listings represent an attempt to acknowledge general resources and patterns rather than identify specific resources. The key to a successful CMP is in recognizing the quality of a given resource and in acknowledging that it may be an example of several of the six intrinsic resources.

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway possesses features representing all of the six intrinsic qualities. After mapping the entire route and conducting a detailed inventory of resources, local representatives chose to focus on cultural (rural agriculture) and natural qualities, although there is enough historic information about the area that some of that information has also been included. The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Committee feels the following types of resources made the strongest contribution to the unique appeal of the Byway.

Cultural Resources

There are a wide variety of crops represented along this byway, which can successfully tell the story of Kansas agriculture. They include:

Alfalfa - Alfalfa is perennial forage that normally lives four to eight years. The plant grows to a height of up to 3 feet and has a deep root system making it very resilient especially to droughts.

Cane sorghum – Sorghum has its origins in the grass family. Most varieties are drought and heat tolerant.

Corn – Originally known as “maize”, corn is a large grain plant domesticated by indigenous people. The leafy stalk produces ears, which contain the grain, and seeds, which are called kernels. These kernels are often used in cooking as a starch.

Millet - Highly variable small-seeded grasses, widely grown as cereal crops or grains for fodder and human food.

Milo - Also referred to as commercial sorghum.

Oats – The oats is a species of cereal grain grown for its seed. One of its most common uses is as livestock feed.

Soybeans - Soybeans occur in various sizes, and in many hull or seek coat colors, including black, brown, blue, yellow, green and mottled. The hull of the mature bean is hard and water resistant.

Triticale – A hybrid of wheat and rye first bred in Scotland and Sweden.

Wheat – Winter wheat are strains of wheat that are planted in the autumn to germinate and develop into young plants that remain in the vegetative phase during the winter and resume growth in early spring. Winter wheat is traditionally harvested in the summer. Russian immigrants introduced winter wheat into Kansas.

Sunflowers (oil and confectionary) – Sunflowers are an increasingly popular crop grown in Kansas. Peak flowering comes in August. The sunflower seed is the fruit of the sunflower. **Sunflower seeds** are more commonly eaten as a healthy snack. **Sunflower oil** is the oil compressed from sunflower seeds. Sunflower oil is commonly used in food as frying oil, and in cosmetic formulations as an emollient.

Dry beans – Beans are one of the longest-cultivated plants. Beans have always been an important source of protein. Many tribes would grow beans together with maize

(corn), and squash. The corn would not be planted in rows as was done by European agriculture, but in a checkerboard/hex fashion across a field, in separate patches of one to six stalks each. Beans would be planted around the base of the developing stalk, and would climb up as the stalks grew. The stalks provided a trellis for the beans and the beans provided nitrogen for the corn.



The varied representation of agricultural livestock includes:

Bison – The American bison are the largest terrestrial animals in North America. They are nomadic grazers and travel in herds and can move at speeds up to 35 mph covering long distance at a lumbering gallop. Bison were essential to Plains Indians for their survival. Today they are an important contributor to the meat industry.

Goats -Goats are among the earliest animals domesticated by humans and are considered small livestock animals by farmers and ranchers. Goats are useful to farmers/ranchers when it is living and when it is dead, first as a renewable provider of milk, manure, and fiber, and then as meat and hide.

Llamas - Llamas appear to have originated from the central plains of North America about 40 million years ago. They migrated to South America about three million years ago and became extinct in North America. Using llamas as livestock guards in North America began in the early 1980s. They are used most commonly in the western regions of the United States, where larger predators, such as coyotes and feral dogs, are prevalent. Llamas are also valued for their fiber used in producing handicrafts and garments as well as rugs, wall hangings and lead ropes.

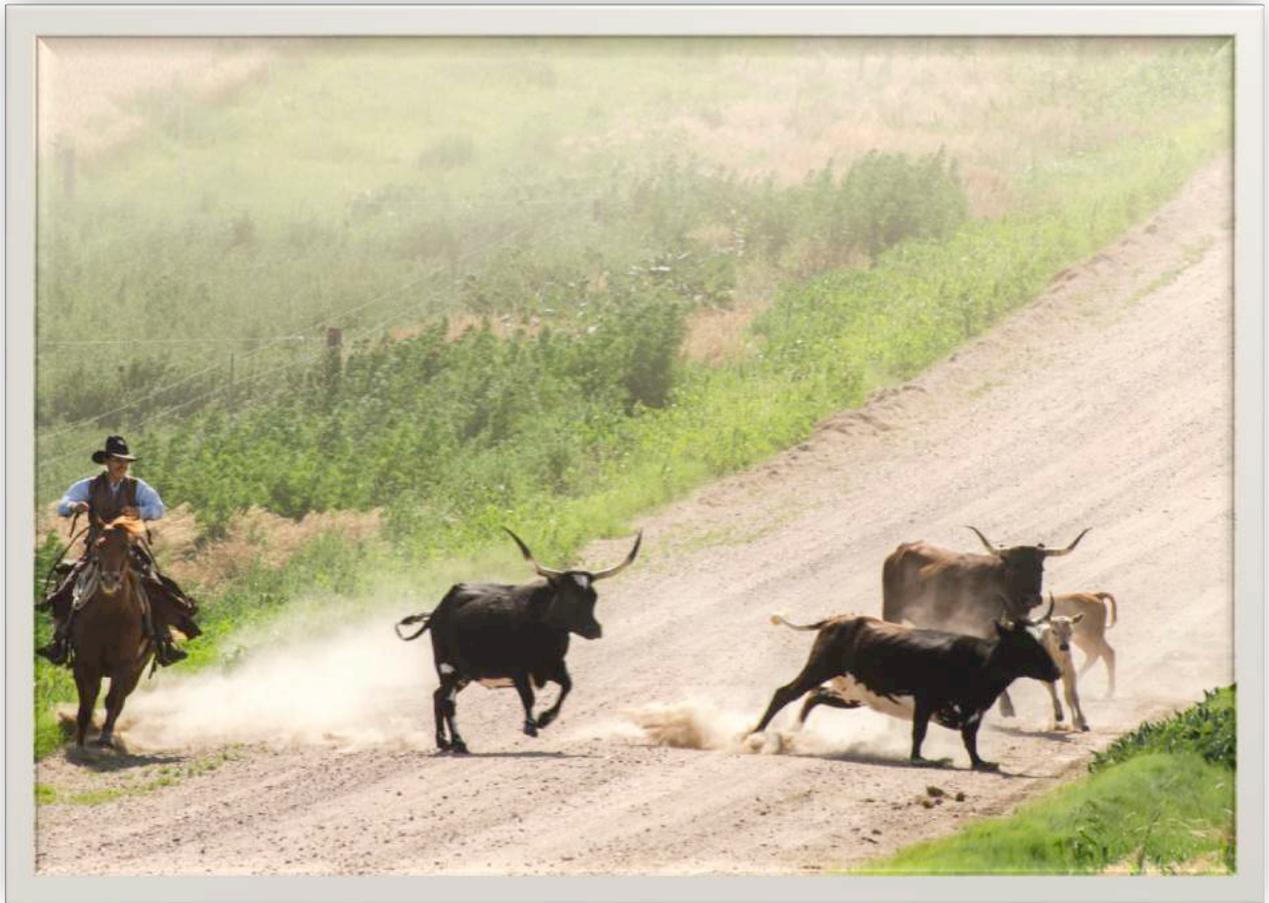
Poultry (chicken) - Chickens are one of the most common and widespread domestic animals used primarily by farmers/ranchers as a source of food, consuming both their meat and their eggs.

Rabbits - Domesticated rabbits are often raised by farmers/ranchers as a source of food and fur.

Sheep - The domestic sheep is a multi-purpose animal. There are more than 200 breeds now in existence. Almost all sheep are classified as being best suited for furnishing a certain product: wool, meat, milk, hides, or a combination in a dual-purpose breed.

Swine - Domestic pigs (often called swine) are farmed primarily for the consumption of their meat, called pork. The animal's bones, hide, and bristles are also used in commercial products.

Cattle - Cattle are raised as livestock for meat (beef and veal), as dairy animals for milk and other dairy products, and as draft animals. Other products include leather and dung (for manure or fuel). Limousin, Hereford, Angus, longhorns, Holsteins and Belted Galloway cattle are some of the breeds raised along the corridor.



Natural/Scenic Resources

Arikaree Breaks – located about 14 miles north of St. Francis. The Breaks are a rugged landscape of canyons that have formed in a type of windblown silt called loess. They are covered by short-grass prairie, particularly buffalo grass, and in places, yucca plants and prickly pear cactus. Self-guided driving tours are available at the Cheyenne County Museum and the Cheyenne County Development Office (107 W. Washington in St. Francis). The tour takes visitors past the location of the Cherry Creek Encampment and other sites associated with the Sand Creek Massacre, rural schools, cemeteries, and post offices.

South Fork Wildlife Area – located 12.5 miles northeast of St. Francis in Cheyenne County is bisected by the Republican River and has a mixture of grasslands, crop fields and riparian timbers. White tailed deer, mule deer and Rio Grande turkeys are transient visitors.

St. Francis Wildlife Area – located three miles west and two south of St. Francis in Cheyenne County it is bisected by the Republican River. In addition to wildlife viewing, there are two stocked sandpits – one on each side of the river.

Sherman Wildlife Area – built primarily for fishing but is managed primarily for wildlife.

Historic Resources

The three counties included in this byway have a number of state and national historic sites. They include:

Cheyenne County –

Cheyenne County Courthouse in St. Francis

Henry Hickert Building in Bird City

St. Francis City Park Band shell

Sherman County -

Goodland City Library in Goodland **Note:** now Carnegie Arts Center

Grant School in Goodland

Kuhr Ranch – Edson

Mary Seaman Ennis House – Goodland

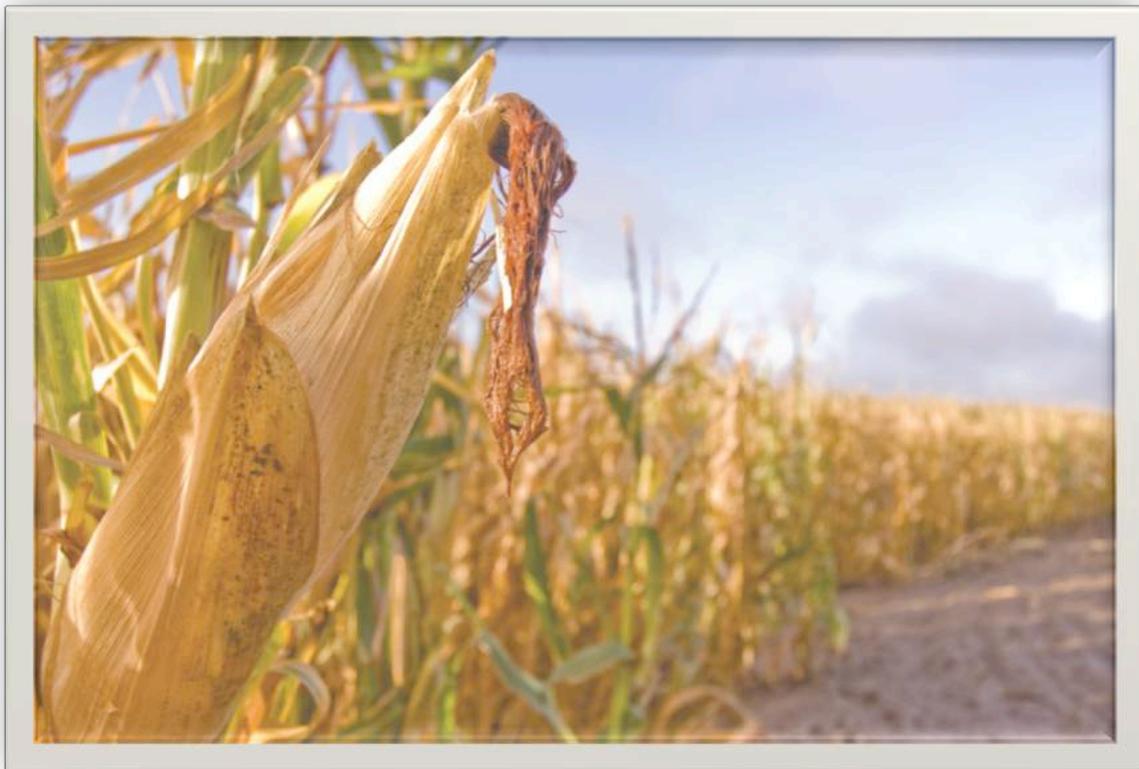
Ruleton School – Ruleton

US Post Office – Goodland

Wallace County -

Clark-Robidoux House – Wallace

Pond Creek Stage Station - Wallace



2.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF INTRINSIC QUALITIES

Kansas is known as the “Wheat State” and “Breadbasket of the World.” Farming has been a way of life in Kansas, impacting its politics, laws, innovations, culture, social customs, and traditions. The economy relies on many agricultural businesses including those related to storing, transporting, and processing farm products.

Some of the earliest people to live in this area were gardeners. In addition to hunting for game, early people gathered and ate wild plants. The best seeds were saved and planted in soil near their homes, beginning the tradition of farming. Usually the role of women, these people used buffalo bones as tools to plant and harvest crops. Corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, and sunflowers were grown and harvest was stored underground in pits. Plantings would often occur in the spring just before families headed west for the hunting season. They would return from hunting in time for harvest. Nomadic tribes offered horses and hides in exchange for corn and other crops.

When Kansas was opened for settlement in 1854, farmers from eastern parts of America and European countries brought seeds they were familiar with to the new territory. Farmers tried growing corn, oats, tobacco, and even grapes in vineyards. Many of these crops did not fare well in Kansas. Throughout history, Kansas farmers have worked to adapt varieties of crops to the climate of the state. Today, Kansas is a leader in wheat, grain sorghum, and beef production, feeding people around the world.

Approximately 90 percent of the land area of Kansas is devoted to agriculture production. Besides wheat, the most important crops in Kansas are corn, soybeans, grain sorghum (milo) and hay. A 2010 Kansas Farm Bureau report states that Kansas leads the nation in the production of both wheat and grain sorghum. It ranks seventh in corn production, 10th in soybean production and in the top three in sunflower production.

The LSSB encompasses three counties in northwestern Kansas. These three counties represent 1,103 farms totaling 1,629,486 acres and producing over \$411.28 million dollars in crop and livestock sales in 2012.

Land use within the byway corridor reflects an extremely strong agricultural base as follows:

Wallace County: 72.4 percent cropland	25.5 percent pastureland
Sherman County: 83.8 percent cropland	14.5 percent pastureland
Cheyenne County: 61.6 percent cropland	36.9 percent pastureland

The Kansas Land and Sky Byway provides an information and educational experience that tells the story of agriculture for the entire State of Kansas.



2.6 ROUTE DESCRIPTION

BYWAY NAME

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway is an 88-mile long corridor running through northwestern Kansas. Along the way, the route passes through three counties and four communities. Travelers will encounter a variety of rural experiences including agricultural enterprises and wide-open vistas.

The LSSB is predominantly a two-lane paved roadway managed by state, county and city road departments. This route is divided among the counties with:

- 16 percent located in Wallace County,
- 34 percent in Sherman County, and
- 50 percent in Cheyenne County.

KDOT performs regular maintenance of the road surface, including clearing snow and debris, managing appropriate traffic signage, clearing the ditches and mowing the groundcover where appropriate. The route has a number of functions. Its capacity includes through traffic, local service, commercial farm, and recreational use.

Traveling south to north:

The route begins at the junction of U.S. Highway 40 and Kansas Highway 27. Traveling north on Kansas Highway 27 the byway concludes at the Kansas/Nebraska state line (south of the intersection of Kansas Highway 27 and U.S. Highway 34).

TOTAL: LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY IS 88 MILES.

2.7 PROJECT AREA

The LSSB committee has identified the Kansas Land and Sky Byway corridor in the following manner:

Length: 88 miles

Northern terminus: Kansas Highway 27 and Kansas state line.

Southern terminus: Kansas Highway 27 and U.S. Highway 40

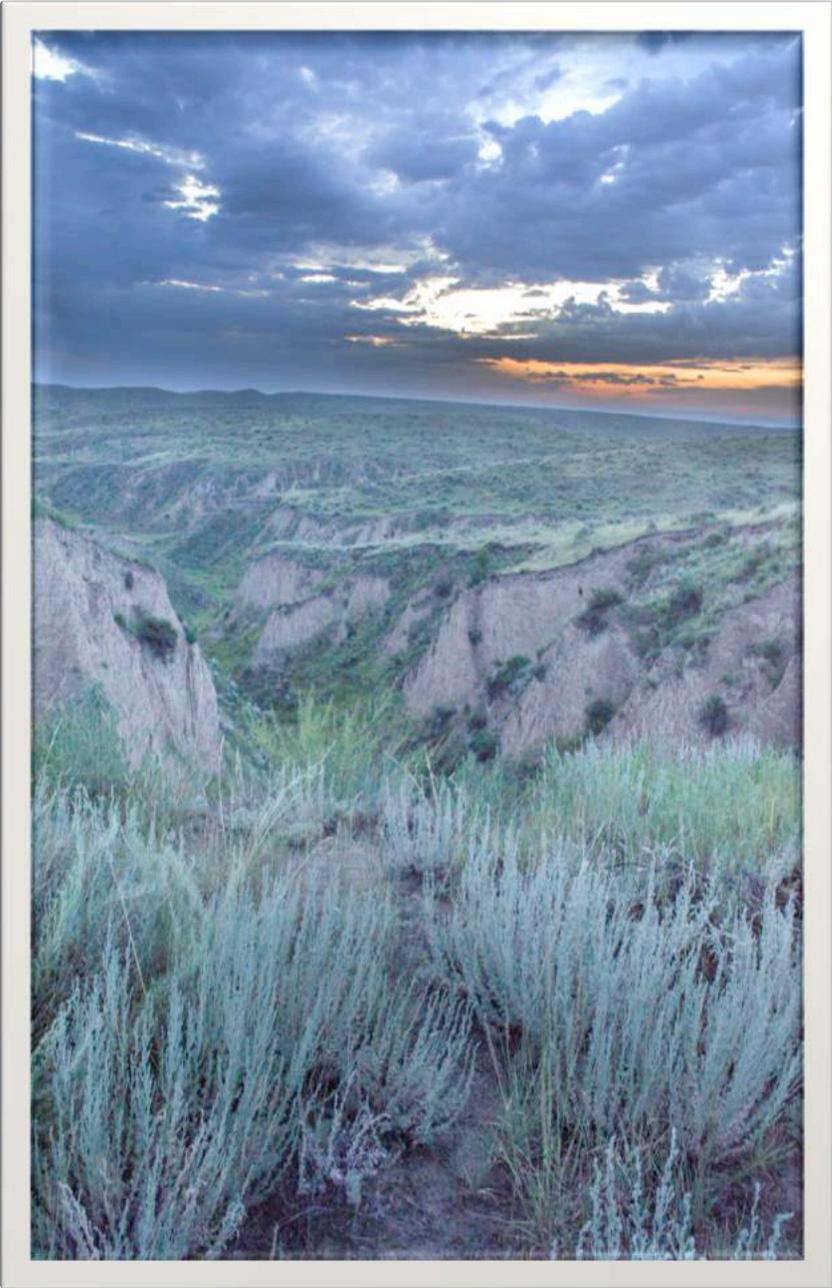
Width: The corridor width is defined as fourteen (14) miles on either side of the designated roadway. In general, a somewhat expanded view shed representing the driver's field of vision and contains landscape elements that contribute to the quality of the traveler's experience. This area extends on either side of the roadway so that a vast array of attractions that are unique to Northwestern Kansas can be included.

Exceptions to this corridor would include:

Cheyenne County – bubble out extension to include the entire wildlife drive of the Arikaree Breaks.

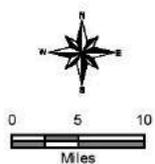
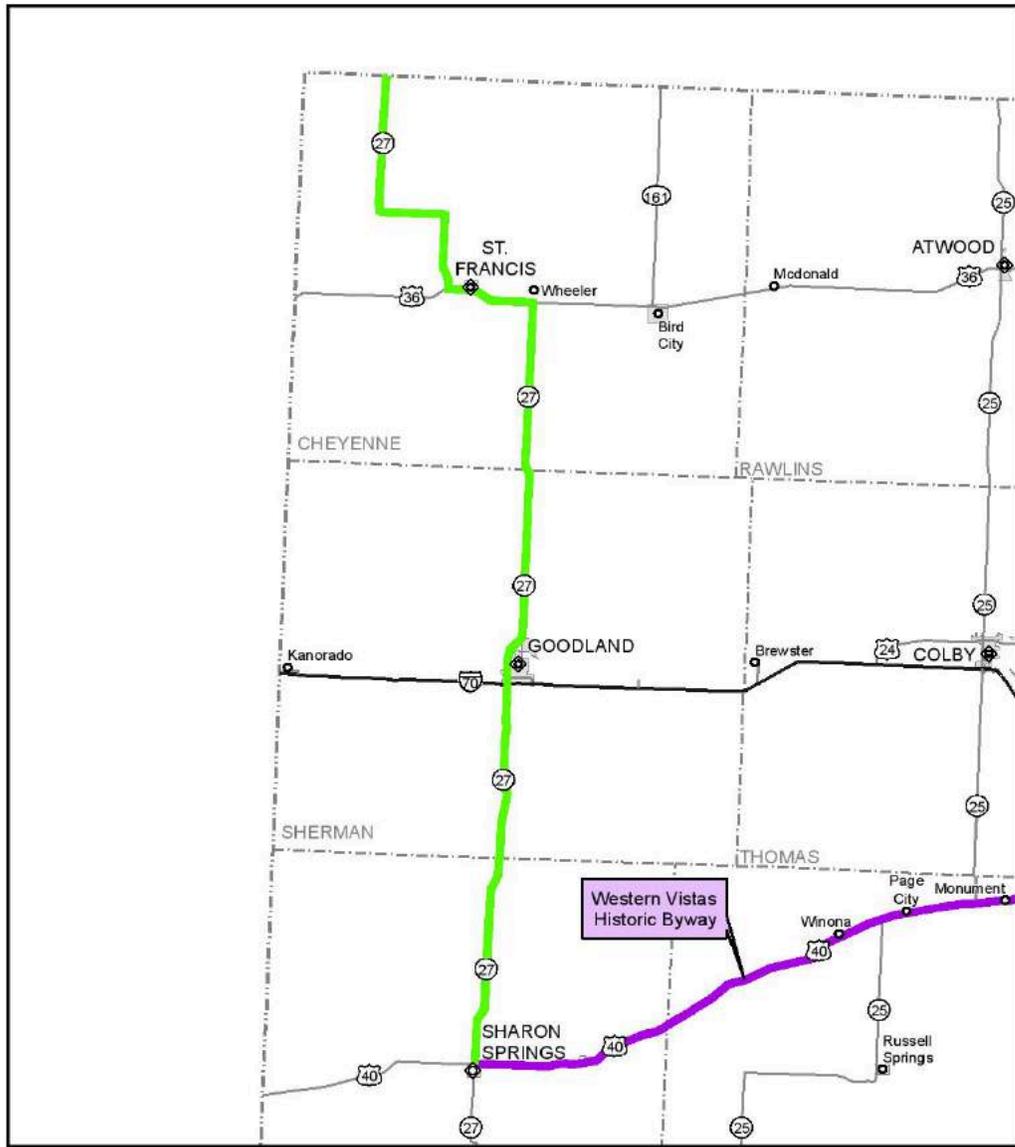
The project area definition is intended to recognize the general area “experienced” by a traveler on the LSSB and provides a general focus area for corridor activities. It is not a regular determination. Further, it is not intended to exclude those sites or

individuals beyond its boundaries from participating in the Byway process.



2.8 MAPS

Primary features and characteristics of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway (LSSB) are indicated on the following maps. These maps summarize the LSSB committee's comprehensive intrinsic quality and land use inventory completed for each of the counties in the corridor.



-  Kansas Historic Byway
-  Future Byway

PREPARED BY THE
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

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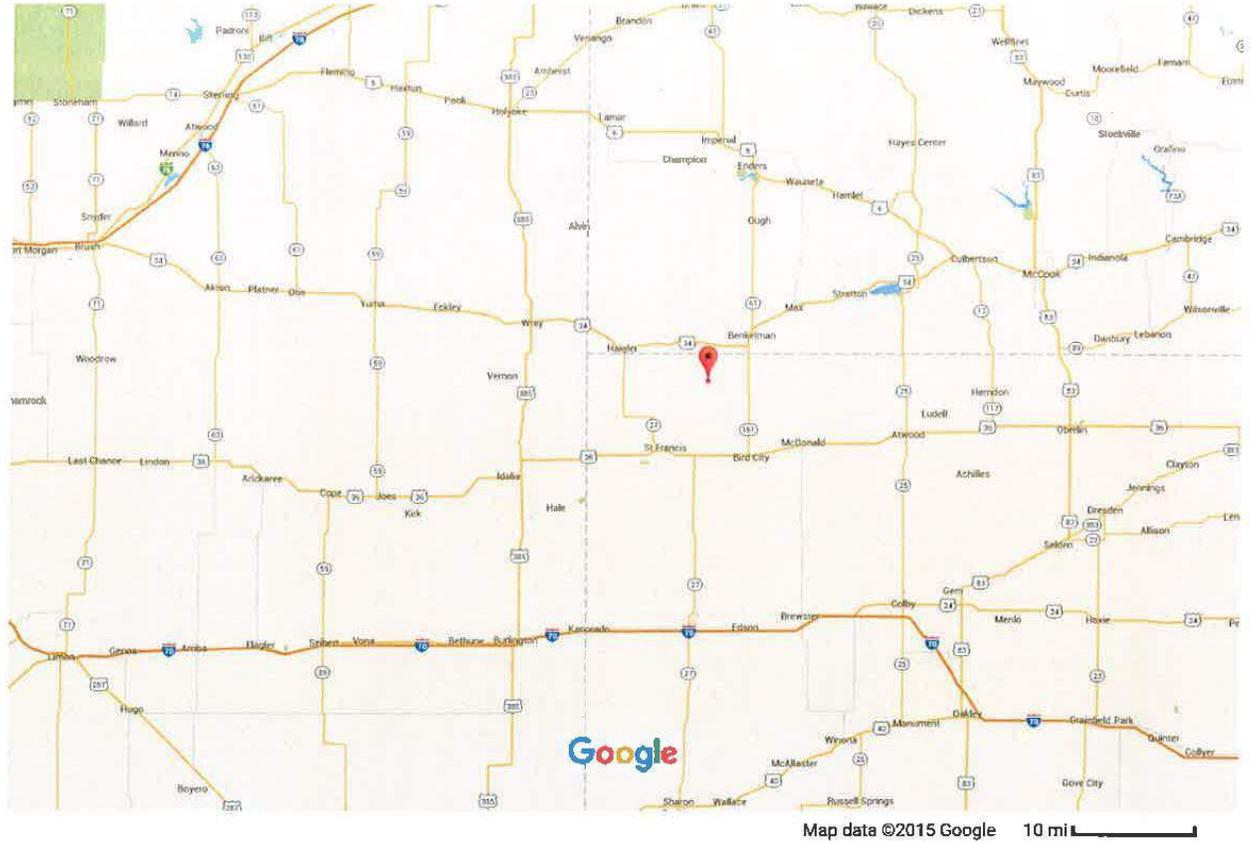
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St. Francis Wildlife Area

12/14/2015

39°56'14.5"N 101°40'06.8"W - Google Maps

Google Maps 39°56'14.5"N 101°40'06.8"W



39°56'14.5"N 101°40'06.8"W

South Fork Wildlife Area

2.9 ROAD SAFETY AND ACCIDENT RECORDS

Byway Management and Highway Safety

Present Route Status: The level of service (LOS) is a measure of the roadway's adequacy for the amount of traffic present. It is measured at the heaviest traffic times, or the peak traffic hours, and is considered as an evaluation of the amount of delay that a motorist experiences due to roadway design under varying traffic volumes.

LOS is normally described by six categories, A-F. The Land and Sky Scenic Byway is graded as "C" from Sharon Springs to US 36/K27 intersection. From there north to the Nebraska line the road has a "D" graded status.

Class C	Defined as arterials, routes that are closely integrated with Class A and B routes in service to all parts of the State —Major locations that are not on Class A or B routes are connected by a Class C route. Trip lengths are usually long. Class C routes are for regional travel and connect to higher-speed, limited-access roads. US-77 and K-10 are examples. The average number of vehicles per day on these routes is 3,800.
Class D	Routes that provide access to arterials and serve small urban areas not on a Class A, B, or C route —The routes are important for intercounty movement. Class D routes provide intercounty transport and connect to higher-speed roadways. They may have speed restrictions because of the number of local road intersections. Examples are US-50B (business route), K-16, and K-25. On average, these routes are traveled by 1,000 vehicles per day.

The speed limits throughout the route are 55–65 mph, except where otherwise posted such as within city limits or where curves or hills warrant a slower speed.

The entire route of Land and Sky Scenic Byway is paved. However, rural county gravel roads will take travelers to various sites off of the main route.

Travelers should wear their seat belts and drivers should limit their cell phone usage to when the vehicle is stopped. This route has frequent motorcycle and bicycle traffic, so please share the road.

Kansas Byways are included in KDOT's regular accident recordkeeping and analysis process. Each county, through their sheriff's office, maintains accident information of the county roads and this information is submitted to KDOT Accident Data Manager. This is where the committee got the information below. Any identified high accident locations along the Kansas Highway 27 will be addressed as part of the KDOT prioritization program. The counties use the TEAP (Traffic Engineering Assistance Program) for review and recommendations on high incident areas if there is a problem.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT SUMMARY

West Junction of US-40/K-27 to the Nebraska State Line

Year	ACCIDENTS				PEOPLE	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	PDO*	Deaths	Injuries
2005	17	-	6	11	-	6
2006	26	1	8	17	1	11
2007	23	-	5	18	-	5
2008	21	1	6	14	1	10
2009	21	1	8	14	2	7
2010	25	-	8	17	-	9
2011	21	1	4	21	1	7
2012	1	-	4	13	-	4
2013	21	-	5	16	-	6
2014	20	-	4	16	-	6
2015**	8	-	3	5	-	3
Total	225	4	59	162	5	74

*PDO- Property Damage Only Accidents

**Data are incomplete and unofficial

SECTION THREE: HISTORY OF THE CORRIDOR

Although the first American explorers who passed through the Kansas territory reported that the region was totally unfit for human habitation, history records that Indians who lived on the Kansas plains before the coming of the white men practiced agriculture after a crude fashion. Thus the first Kansas farmers were Native American women who raised small crops of corn and beans to supplement the diet of game.

Many of the early settlers, who turned to agriculture as the only means of livelihood, had no natural aptitude or training for it. They were brought into the Kansas Territory by the New England Emigrant Aid Company and other organizations solely for the purpose of setting up communities of anti-slavery voters, with little thought of their fitness as practical farmers. Therefore, it is not difficult to conceive that Kansas agriculture; hampered from the outset by climate conditions, inexperience on the part of settlers, and bitter political strife, did not prosper.

At the close of the Civil War, the government offered homesteads in Kansas to Union Army veterans and more than 100,000 took advantage of the opportunity. These were Kansas' first real pioneer farmers since the majority of them had been reared as farmers in the older semi-prairie state such as Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Therefore, they understood the difficulties confronting the farmer who breaks virgin soil in prairie country.

The first radical change in Kansas agriculture occurred in 1874 when a colony of Mennonites came to the plains of Kansas from southern Russia, introducing a variety of hard wheat called Turkey Red Wheat. Kansas produces thirty (30) times more wheat as it did before these immigrants brought their Turkey Red to the State.

The second revolution in Kansas' agricultural methods, machine farming, was hailed at its inception as the dawn of an era of everlasting plenty. Farming in Kansas during the last two decades of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth was a matter of horsepower and wheeled machinery.

Accompanied by a steady increase in farm tenancy, Kansas agriculture moved into the 20th century and the motor age. The use of motorized farm machinery presented a third cycle in Kansas' farming.

Kansas has never suffered from a lack of transportation from production center to market, owing to the fact that the State, after the first decade of immigration, was settled as part of a great railroad expansion scheme.

The story of Kansas can easily be told through the eyes of agriculture.



SECTION FOUR: CONSERVATION GOALS

4.1 OVERVIEW

Preservation of the cultural, natural/scenic and historic resources of the LSSB is an important component of the long-term wellbeing of the byway.

Management of the intrinsic qualities along the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway will involve coordination with existing programs and technical assistance from various resources. The development of new programs, combined with current projects, can meet the objectives of the Corridor Management Plan and fulfill the *vision* established by the LSSB Committee.

Many of the existing programs noted here share similar conservation objectives to those of the LSSB Committee. Soliciting the expertise and assistance of these programs can only help in the overall development of the Byway.

Existing Site Specific Programs

Currently, there are many programs in place to protect the intrinsic qualities along the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway.

The existing programs will form the core of an overall strategy to ensure that the resources for which the route is being nominated to the Kansas Byways Program are protected over time.

The protected sites and management efforts include:

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

The Agritourism Division within KDWPPT assists with the development and promotion of agritourism operators throughout the state. One such site is Kuhrt Ranch Ringneck Resort, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a licensed member of the Kansas Bed & Breakfast Association. The Land and Sky Scenic Byway will work with the KDWPPT's Agritourism Division.

Kansas Historical Society

The Kansas State Historical Society maintains state historic sites throughout Kansas. The Land and Sky Scenic Byway will work with the Kansas State Historical Society for the promotion and preservation of these state and national historic sites.

Cheyenne County –

Cheyenne County Courthouse in St. Francis

Henry Hickert Building in Bird City
St. Francis City Park Band Shell

Sherman County –

Goodland City Library in Goodland **Note:** now Carnegie Arts Center
Grant School in Goodland
Kuhrt Ranch – Edson
Mary Seaman Ennis House – Goodland
Ruleton School – Ruleton
US Post Office – Goodland

Wallace County –

Clark-Robidoux House – Wallace
Pond Creek Stage Station - Wallace

Existing Technical Assistance

The area currently benefits from the technical assistance provided by the following organizations:

Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)

The Kansas Department of Transportation is responsible for providing a safe and efficient transportation system to move people and goods throughout Kansas. They are responsible for the state roadway segments of the Byway, the Kansas Byway Program itself, and the Transportation Enhancement Program, a source of funds for historic, bicycle/pedestrian, scenic, and environmental projects.

Kansas Byways Program (KBP)

The Kansas Byways Program will assist the communities along the route with the promotion and conservation of the resources that currently exist. They will also provide the technical expertise and assistance needed to secure a national byway designation once the Kansas Byway designation has been established, if so desired by the committee.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is responsible for providing services and expertise that promote and protect Kansas' food supply and natural resources while stimulating economic growth.

**Western Prairie Resource Conservation & Development Council
(Western Prairie RC&D)**

The Western Prairie RC&D represents the counties of northwest Kansas as a unified region working cooperatively to attain economic viability, enhanced quality of life, and realizing regional growth compatible with quality environment.

Wallace, Cheyenne, and Sherman County Conservation Districts

The County Conservation Districts provide conservation technical assistance program supported by science-based technology and tools to help people conserve, maintain, and improve their natural resources.

Sunflower District Extension Office

Sunflower Extension District is comprised of offices in Cheyenne County, Sherman County and Wallace County. We provide service and information in Agronomy, Family and Health, Livestock and 4-H and Youth. Our staff is available in all three counties.

Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC)

The Kansas Department of Commerce is the state's lead economic development agency and is responsible for business recruitment and expansion and workforce development.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

The USDA is responsible for developing and executing federal government policy on farming, agriculture, forestry, and food. It aims to meet the needs of farmers and ranchers, promote agricultural trade and production, work to assure food safety, protect natural resources, and foster rural communities.

Kansas Water Authority (KWA)

The Kansas Water Authority is a part of the Kansas Water Office. It is responsible for advising the Governor, the Legislature, and the Director of the Kansas Water Office on water policy issues for approving the Kansas Water Plan and revisions thereto, for approving water storage sales, federal contracts, administrative regulations, and legislation proposed by the Kansas Water Office.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT)

As a cabinet-level agency, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism is administered by a Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and is advised by a seven-member Commission. Serving as a regulatory body for the Department, the Commission is a non-partisan board advising the Secretary on planning and policy issues regarding departmental administration. Regulations approved by the Commission are adopted and administered by the Secretary. The driving force behind the Commission's actions is the goals and objectives of managing and promoting the wildlife and natural resources of the state of Kansas.

Tourism Division of Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

There is no question that tourism is an important contributor to the economy in the State of Kansas. Business and leisure travelers experience the recreational, historic, and natural advantages of the State and its facilities. Thanks to strong relationships with travel writers, motor coach tour operators, individual travelers, the international travel community, and Internet, the word about Kansas is getting out. Kansas is often

ranked among the top vacation bargains and new destinations are being developed every year.

The following programs and services are offered to help Kansas tourism communities prosper in a highly competitive marketplace:

- Attraction Development Grants
- TravelKS.com (website)
- Travel planning assistance is available by calling 1 (800) 2-KANSAS
- KANSAS! Magazine

These offerings will be used by the LSSB Committee.

Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS)

The Kansas State Historical Society identifies, collects, preserves, interprets, and disseminates materials and information pertaining to Kansas history in order to assist the public in understanding and appreciating their Kansas heritage and how it relates to their lives. In meeting this mission, the Historical Society states, “Human beings, are by their nature, historical creatures. History is a part of us; it is what we call upon as we identify ourselves and determine where we are going in light of where we have been. The Kansas State Historical Society will be recognized by all Kansans as vital to themselves and their communities through the provision of high quality public programs and services which facilitate the understanding and appreciation of their heritage and its importance in shaping the present and fashioning the future.” Their expertise will be helpful for interpretive projects.

Kansas League of Municipalities (KLM)

The mission of the League shall be to unify, strengthen and advocate for the interests of Kansas municipalities to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities. Established by municipal officials in 1910, the League of Kansas Municipalities is a voluntary, nonpartisan federation of over 500 Kansas cities. It operates as a public agency and is defined by state law as an instrumentality of its member cities. The powers and duties of the League are prescribed by state law and in bylaws adopted by the voting delegates of its member cities. They can provide legal advice and technical assistance to the Byway communities.

Kansas Association of Counties (KAC)

The Kansas Association of Counties is a quasi-public agency, which seeks to advance the public interest by promoting effective, responsive county government in Kansas. Founded in 1975 as an instrumentality of its 105 member counties, the Association serves county governments through legislative representation, technical assistance, and leadership and professional education. The Association’s mission is grounded in state law and shaped by the leadership of its 16-member Governing Board. They too can provide helpful technical assistance on Byway issues.

4.2 LSSB ACTIONS

4.2a Historic and Cultural Preservation

The LSSB will work with existing organizations such as the Kansas Agritourism Division, Kansas Department of Agriculture, and the Kansas State Historical Society to identify and inventory the cultural and historic resources along the LSSB. The inventory will then be used to develop a preservation plan to schedule activities and possible organizations to undertake the proposed activities.

4.2b Kansas Eco-tourism Committee

The Kansas Eco-tourism Committee is working to develop birding and wildlife watching opportunities in Kansas and to promote tourism based on those opportunities. Birders and other outdoor enthusiasts already use many sites in Kansas. LSSB will work to become an anchor for northwestern Kansas highway-based nature trails.



SECTION FIVE: ENHANCEMENT GOAL – DEVELOP CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT

5.1 OVERVIEW

The Byway experience will be enhanced by projects proposed during the Fermata, Inc. interpretive plan developed for the state byway program. The local members of the community see the potential benefits Kansas Byway designation will bring. They are working diligently to develop the resource base, community consensus, and project direction. Each of the projects listed in this section is within the Byway Corridor and will act to encourage people to come to the area and spend a significant amount of time learning about the cultural (agriculture), natural/scenic, and historic qualities of the corridor.

5.2 ENHANCEMENTS

5.2a Interpretive Plan

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) acquired a National Scenic Byway grant in order to develop interpretive plans for the overall Kansas Byway Collection as well as each of the existing Kansas Byways. Fermata Inc. had the following recommendations in their interpretive plan:

- * Develop a theme
- * Partner with other Kansas resource venues
- * Develop marketable itineraries
- * Develop a regional web-based marketing approach

The LSSB will work independently and in coordination of the state for the implementation of the interpretive plan for this byway.

5.2b Visitor Itineraries

The Interpretive Plan developed by Fermata, Inc., recommends the development of themed itineraries for visitors along each of the Kansas byways. According to the plan, a themed itinerary “forsakes direct promotion of local businesses and focuses instead on what makes a destination unique and worthy of visitation.”

The recommended theme for the Land and Sky Scenic Byway is:

***The Kansas Land and Sky Byway
showcases a strong agricultural tradition
that predates statehood.***

5.2c Education Programs

Recognizing that the successful management of the LSSB will rest with the Committee,

concerned citizens, and local governments, the Committee will sponsor or facilitate educational programs on management, planning, tourism, conservation, and design. This may include national programs from the US Federal Highway, State and regional programs such as Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, and the Kansas Byways Program. Additionally, the Committee will look inward for local experiences of the communities of the LSSB Community and area leaders will be invited to share successful and innovative projects with the other LSSB communities.

5.2d Beautification Programs/Adopt-A-Highway Programs

The Committee will coordinate existing beautification wildflower planting and adopt-a-highway programs. Existing local initiatives will be encouraged to incorporate the byway corridor to their priority project listings.

5.2e Route Markers, Information and Wayfinding Signs

The Kansas Department of Transportation will provide a Byway Sign Plan and route markers for the Land and Sky Scenic Byway. Local artists will be used, if possible, to develop the Land and Sky Scenic Byway logo for the route markers. The Kansas Department of Transportation will install the route markers on state roadway segments of the Byway.

Additional informational signs will be considered to provide information along the Byway at strategic turnouts for our visitors. This signage will describe the unique story lines that have shaped the agricultural landscape of northwestern Kansas. The LSSB Committee will work with the Kansas Byways Program on sign plans. The Kansas Byway Committee, prior to installation, will approve all signs.



The LSSB Committee will work with the community and special interest groups to identify conservation, educational, and recreational waypoints along places of significant interest on the Byway

5.2f Hike/Bike Paths

The State of Kansas is in the process of developing a master hike/bike plan for each of the Kansas byways. The LSSB will partner with the State of Kansas for the implementation of this master plan for hiking and biking our byway.

5.2g Natural Resources

The Committee will work with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism as well as other key organizations to coordinate with and enhance existing amenities and programs.

5.2h Itineraries

Develop agritourism and nature-based opportunities and itineraries for the FIT (fully independent traveler) market. Agriculture-themed itineraries will be varied. They will build itineraries that revolve around water, crops, livestock and sky, clouds and precipitation.

5.2i Community Involvement

Encourage communities, attractions, local service clubs and media to include the byway in their marketing /promotional materials and news releases.

5.2j Awareness Campaign

Develop a scenic byway awareness campaign encouraging municipalities and citizens to have pride in their byway and all lands, public and private, within the byway corridor.

SECTION SIX: ENHANCEMENT GOAL – COMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT

6.1 QUALITY OF LIFE

Community Background

A consistent comment made by the people of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Committee during the course of the preparation of the CMP has been the recognition of the “quality of life” of the region and the desire to ensure the quality is maintained and enhanced for future generations. Local citizens are equally clear in their desire to attract economic development to enhance the quality of life of the region through new investment, employment opportunities, and increased revenue. Accommodating new development in a manner that is consistent with the intrinsic qualities of the corridor is a desired goal for the LSSB. However, while most communities are willing to advance the ideals of good planning and stewardship, few have the governmental structure, expertise, or financial resources to develop and promote quality techniques in this pursuit.

6.1a Model Guidelines for Development

As a response to the needs of residents and visitors, the LSSB determined they will reasonably follow the recommended model guidelines for the development of experiential tourism in the LSSB corridor as outlined in the interpretive plan developed by Fermata, Inc. In staying consistent with the recommendations made by Fermata Inc., the LSSB Committee supports the following four recommendations:

- Develop a theme
- Partner with other Kansas resource venues
- Develop marketable itineraries
- Develop a regional web-based marketing approach

The Plan also incorporated principles and guidelines that will provide an introduction to the integrity of the land, roadways, and sign management, traffic hazards, residential and commercial development, and the conservation of natural resources.

Wallace County

Wallace County has a Comprehensive Plan for general land use and land development regulations in parts of the County.

Sherman County

Sherman County has a Comprehensive Plan for general land use and land development regulations in certain parts of the County.

Cheyenne County

Cheyenne County has a Comprehensive Plan for general land use and land development regulations in parts of the county.

Local officials continue to share the guidelines and improve the regulations through annual review by their Planning Board as prescribed by State statute. The Committee will promote responsible development and land use along the corridor, ensuring a level of uniformity for new development and consistency for travelers along the route. **LSSB**

ACTIONS

With the implementation of interpretive materials and the accompanying marketing exposure we are confident of increasing visitation roughly 17 percent. Additional enhancements will also increase visitation. As is the case now, most of the anticipated visitors will be experiential travelers desiring to find authentic rural experiences. These travelers enter rural America to expand upon their life experience. They gather or collect experiences and knowledge through the act of travel.

6.2a Corporate Partnering

The Committee is seeking to establish working relationships with corporations, developers, and industries planning or considering projects along the LSSB Corridor. The Committee will assist potential project developers in understanding the role of the byway, encourage development plans sympathetic to maintaining the quality features and resources of the region, and provide information regarding local and state resources supportive of quality development.

6.2b Utilities

The Committee will coordinate with the local utilities on corridor projects and utility construction and act as a liaison for community redevelopment projects. Potential associations may involve assistance in determining location of wires necessitated by road widening or upgrades in service to ensure that scenic views are retained or enhanced, assistance in tree maintenance or selection in utility rights-of-way.

6.2c Maintenance

The Committee will notify KDOT of areas in which maintenance is needed, organize volunteer cleanups of the route, and ensure that the corridor is maintained in an attractive manner. County resolutions were passed and are included in this Corridor Management Plan.

6.2d Inventory of Visitor Services

The LSSB Committee has conducted an inventory of visitor services enhancing the safety of the route. Gas stations, garages, towing services and various other visitor amenities have been identified to determine areas in which such services are readily available. Emergency services for police, fire and rescue will be inventoried in the future. LSSB Committee will list areas where cell phone service is weak or absent. The LSSB Committee will revisit these inventories on a regular basis to ensure the reliability of the information. The visitor services inventory can be found in Appendix A.

6.3 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING

The LSSB committee will ensure the character and quality of the route is maintained and enhanced and that the route does not become an advertising corridor. Resolutions passed by each of the involved counties limit signage along the route.

The initial challenge in pursuing state and national designation was the length of the route. Having organized corridor-wide endorsement of the designation, the Committee will work to ensure the integrity of the corridor is maintained without segmentation (segmentation is the removal or de-designation of a portion of byway to allow the erection of billboards). The Committee will work to educate potential advertisers of the vision and goals of the route and encourage alternative advertising in corridor publications and brochures.



6.4 COORDINATION AND SAFETY

Recognizing that the Scenic Byway experience is shaped through the quality of the driving experience, the Committee will coordinate activities so that the qualities of the roadway that currently make the route attractive and pleasant to drive will be safe, maintained, and enhanced.

Local planning offices are currently working with the Committee to ensure safety is maintained and enhanced with new development projects. The Committee will also review the route to determine areas where there is no provision for passing or breakdowns. The development of pull-offs or passing lanes will be investigated for enhancing safety, without the expense or visual impact of shoulders. The Committee will coordinate with KDOT and counties to ensure maintenance practices, rehabilitation, and new construction throughout the Corridor will reinforce the character of the corridor. Land use and zoning manuals show current regulations and land use maps. The majority of the adjoining land is designated for agricultural use and will naturally maintain the view for travelers. There is no language in either land use plans directly related to the Byway, since the plans were developed prior to its consideration.

ACCESS

Currently, the 88-mile long Land and Sky Scenic Byway is accessible to traffic for its entire length. Some areas of the Byway are more suitable for bicyclists and pedestrians. Nearby proposed hike and bike trails will provide areas for cycling enthusiasts and pedestrians. The road surface is generally good, the roads are signed, and maintenance is adequate. Travelers who take county roads should be attentive to weather and road conditions.

SECTION SEVEN: VISITOR EXPERIENCE GOALS – ENHANCE AND PROMOTE

7.1 OVERVIEW

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway will attract individual automobile travelers and possibly some groups traveling in vans or buses. The location in the high plains of northwestern Kansas makes it an ideal weekend getaway from the pressures of urban life. Ongoing efforts to enhance agricultural education programming add to the special appeal of the route to the family market.

The LSSB is a premium destination for the traveler seeking an authentic rural/agritourism experience. Experiential/nature travel is estimated to be increasing at an annual rate between 10 and 30 percent (Reingold 1993). Between 40 and 60 percent of international visitors travel to enjoy and appreciate nature (Filion et al. 1992). As a long weekend destination, the route offers agritourism opportunities, scenic vistas, natural areas, and historic attractions. This is all at an affordable cost for budget travelers.

The growing interest in travel to rural and natural destinations promises even greater popularity for the LSSB in the near future. Wildlife-associated recreation, as opposed to outdoor recreation in general, now involves millions of Americans in hunting, fishing, and a variety of non-consumptive activities such as birding, bird feeding, and wildlife photography. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, during 1996 almost 80 million Americans participated in some form of wildlife-associated recreation activity (USFWS 1997). During that year, more than 60 million Americans enjoyed primary wildlife watching activities such as observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife.

7.2 DEVELOPMENT OF VISITOR SITES AND FACILITIES

In order to increase the appeal that the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway has for visitors, the LSSB Committee will consider the development of agritourism and nature sites as visitor attractions as well as the development of new visitor facilities. By preserving existing agritourism and nature sites and increasing their accessibility to the public, additional attractions can be made available for potential visitors. These added attractions will lure more people to the area and provide more reasons for the visitors who are here to stay longer and spend more money.

Existing Routing of the Scenic Byway

The Committee has already undertaken an evaluation of the visitor experience along the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway. Drivers along the route will experience panoramic views of agricultural lands, farmsteads and old barns, farmland and circle

irrigation, pastures and grassland with native grasses, flowers and plum thickets, grazing cattle and other livestock, windmills, farm ponds, grain elevators, and wide open vistas.

7.3 LSSB ACTIONS DEVELOPMENT OF VISITOR SITES/FACILITIES

7.3a Service Areas

Initial efforts have focused on identifying the necessary traveler services such as gas, food, and lodging available along the route. Long-range plans will identify strategies for the improvement of both aesthetics and safety of existing establishments within the corridor. The Committee will continue to work to enhance aesthetic quality of the corridor through enhancement and development of existing facilities through landscape development, nuisance enforcement, sign management, and parking improvements.

7.3b Pull Offs

Additional roadside parks and pull-offs for interpretative facilities and scenic overlooks will be developed as determined by future planning.

7.3c Inventory of Visitor Sites and Services

A comprehensive inventory of existing agricultural, scenic/natural, and historic sites, along with lodging, restaurants, gas stations, shops, and public restrooms, has been initiated and will become available on a database thru the byway website. This site will also have a page dedicated to the LSSB. The database can be used to identify gaps in the visitor sites and facilities that are currently offered and will provide information to the general public on the amenities offered along the corridor. It can also be provided to various agencies and organizations so they will be better prepared to provide information to visitors.

s INTERPRETATION PLAN

Preserving the agritourism and natural sites and allowing public access is only the first part of creating a tourism attraction. Interpretive techniques will be used to make the sites come alive—to tell the unique story of the land, sky, and the people who live there. The rural way of life felt robustly in Kansas will be shared. Interpretive techniques will include guided tours, pamphlets, booklets, audio-visual presentations, signage, interactive displays and many other creative enhancements.

The story of the LSSB will be placed in context to the theme developed by the interpretive plan. The theme is:

The Kansas Land and Sky Byway showcases a strong agricultural tradition that predates statehood.

The experience will be a series of vignettes that illustrate this theme; with glimpses of the rural cultural world and interprets human history in the context of this region.

These vignettes can be broken down into interpretive sections as defined in the state byway interpretive plan. They are well placed to align with:

- (1) **First People/First Nations** by telling the story of these initial farmers.
- (2) **Immigrants All** would include the story of Union soldiers that were given parcels of land, which gives this byway a strong tie to the Bleeding Kansas story of eastern Kansas.
- (3) **Bridging the American Divide** would include the importance of the railroad to the advancement of agriculture.
- (4) **Lands Legacy** would be focused primarily on the uniqueness of such areas as the Arikaree Breaks.

This theme will provide the interpretive thread to tie the stories of the corridor together and provide the visitor with a bigger picture of the area's rural cultural wealth through agriculture.

Additional information for consideration in the interpretive development has been included in Appendix C.





Existing Programs

Hospitality Training

Recognizing the importance of hospitality to the visitor experience and the need for training front-line employees along the corridor has been identified. All communities along with byway corridor will emphasize the importance of good customer service and encourage full participation in the state's "Kansas At Your Service" online training.

7.5 LSSB ACTIONS INTERPRETATION PLAN

7.5a Interpretive Plan

To ensure that the story of the LSSB unfolds for the visitor in a logical sequence, the interpretive plan will be used as the main point of reference.

7.5b Panels and Kiosks

Panels and kiosks will be located along the entire length of the LSSB. These installations will be of standard design, material, and finish to ensure easy recognition by the traveler. In addition to the interpretive themes, the panels and kiosks will also

provide reference maps (corridor and local), nearby attractions, and in some locations, provide facilities for local brochures or information desks. Panels and kiosks will be developed to acquaint the traveler with the overall story of the corridor. Local attractions and interpretive programs will continue to exist independently, but the Committee will encourage coordination efforts whenever possible.

7.5c Thematic Tours

Thematic tours will be developed that can be used as self-guided auto tours or motor coach tours.

7.6 CHILDREN'S EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION PROGRAM

Recognizing the appeal of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway as a family destination, the Committee plans a Children's Education and Interpretation Program. This program will be designed for both visiting and local children using the intrinsic qualities of the region as an exciting discovery experience.

Classroom Programs

The Committee will promote classroom education with the development of materials about the interpretive themes of the corridor. Additionally, Kansas Department of Agriculture has existing classroom programs, and educational youth activities.

Field Trips

Taking advantage of the agritourism and natural sites throughout the corridor, the Committee will work to develop programs or facilitate interactions between local schools and the facilities.

7.7 MARKETING

The Committee will structure a marketing and management scheme to ensure that visitors to the LSSB appreciate the transitions and distinctive areas in a manner that is organized and logical.

Existing Convention & Visitors Bureaus/Chambers of Commerce

The Convention and Visitors Bureau and Chambers of Commerce located along the corridor already market their communities in travel publications and other promotional materials. However, the Sherman County Convention & Visitors Bureau will become the point of contact for coordination of marketing information about the Scenic Byway.

7.8 LSSB MARKETING ACTIONS

Regional/National Marketing

The LSSB byway is included in tourism marketing materials distributed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. The Committee will also work closely with organizations currently marketing the byways.

The Byway is showcased in a driving tour booklet called “Kansas Byways” published by the KDWPT. Reference to the Byway will be included in all promotional pieces developed for area tourism. Since some of the communities do not have a paid Chamber of Commerce or Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Sherman County Convention & Visitors Bureau will be the primary point of contact on the Land and Sky Byway marketing plan for the three-county byway corridor.

7.8a Marketing Plan

The Sherman County Convention & Visitors Bureau will work with the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Committee to develop a long-range, detailed marketing plan for the area. This plan will address the diverse activities and attractions along the route in a comprehensive strategy for promotion, management, development, and marketing research. The plan will also propose strategies to monitor travel trends along the route through the development of a visitor profile for the corridor. Realizing this is a somewhat “undiscovered treasure”, the LSSB Committee is looking forward to the assistance of the Kansas Byways Program to identify markets and get quality material about the Byway into those markets.

7.8b Driving Tour Brochure

The LSSB Steering Committee, partnering with the Kansas Byway Committee, will develop a driving tour brochure that will identify the route in its entirety, along with information about agritourism opportunities, attractions, scenic/natural sites, services and facilities, and calendar of events.

7.8c FAM Tours

Familiarization (FAM) tours will be coordinated to attract both nationally recognized travel writers and freelance writers to educate them about the opportunities along the route. There will also be an effort to attract media attention from major national magazines.

7.8d Media Campaign

The Sherman County Convention & Visitors Bureau will launch a national media campaign. The media campaign will include public relations, advertising, and promotions. Future media campaigns will be designed around major events taking place along the Scenic Byway. The Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the Kansas Byways Program’s media resources will also be used as appropriate.

7.8e Press Kits

Press kits with news releases, maps of the route, listings of visitor attractions and services and other appropriate information will be assembled to provide concise and timely response to media inquiries and to be used in media campaigns.

7.8f Package Tours

Tour packages will be created and marketed to target audiences. Packages will be based on interpretive themes and will be designed to extend the visitor experience along the LSSB.

7.8g Web Based Initiative

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism is currently providing a Web site domain for the byway. The byway committee has secured the domain *LandAndSkyScenicByway.com* to act as the main website for the byway and has secured social media accounts. This website will include tour options, itineraries, maps, etc.

7.8h Outreach/Speakers Bureau

In addition to informing the state, region and nation about the Land and Sky Scenic Byway, local communities will need to be informed. The LSSB Committee will develop a speakers' bureau program to present to local civic groups and schools.



SECTION EIGHT: PROMOTION GOAL – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT THROUGH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Some of the communities along the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway are currently undergoing or planning community improvement and enhancement projects. Such projects have been initiated independent of this Corridor Management Planning effort. It is hoped that all communities along the corridor will continue to work toward the improvement of quality of life.

This document seeks to recognize the following existing efforts and encourage all communities to review such projects in the context of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway VISION. The development of local goals and initiatives in coordination with the CMP will ensure that all communities reap the benefits of the corridor plan, while maintaining the distinct individuality that makes travel in the northwestern Kansas landscape a unique experience.

8.1 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Steering Committee has been established to promote the development of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway, secure its designation as a state byway, and work toward the implementation of the CMP. The Committee will function as a board of directors setting policies, charging task forces with their responsibilities, structuring partnerships and cooperative agreements, soliciting support for the project, and making organizational decisions for policy and direction.

Sherman County will be the designated administrative organization for this byway. Along with the Committee, they will assist in coordinating transportation enhancement requests for corridor projects and conduct a five-year review of the CMP. This entity has the ability to receive and distribute funds on behalf of the byway committee.

The LSSB Committee includes:

Brett Poling, representing the County of Cheyenne (commissioner);

Ken Klemm, representing the County of Sherman (commissioner);

Adam Smith, representing the County of Wallace (commissioner);

Jayne Pearce, representing the community of Wallace;

Rod Klepper, representing the community of Bird City;

John Foster, representing the community of Sharon Springs;

Donna Price, representing the community of Goodland;

Helen Dobbs, representing the community of St. Francis;

Gary Walter, representing the Arikaree Breaks;

Mike Hopper, representing KDWPT;

Roxie Yonkey, Byway Coordinator.

The **Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau** will be the designated **Marketing Organization** for the byway.

Sherman County will be the designated **Administrative Organization** for the byway.

These members will each have one vote on the committee. Other ex-officio members (non-voting) may be added as the committee deems necessary. The byway steering committee will not exceed twelve (12) voting members.

The Committee will meet a minimum of quarterly, or more frequently as needed, depending on the needs of the LSSB.

Members of the committee will serve a two (2) year appointment. At the end of their term the community/resource/county may ask for their representatives' continued representation on their behalf or make a new appointment.



The LSSB Committee will be composed of:

Committee Chair - The Committee Chair will oversee the meetings, coordinate efforts and work to promote and maintain the vision established for the LSSB.

Task Force Chair- Task Force Chairs will coordinate regional efforts of the various task force areas.

County Representatives - County Representatives will coordinate the LSSB Committee activities and projects, coordinate task force initiatives and serve as a liaison with the local communities and governments within the respective counties.

Resource Representatives - Resource Representatives will serve as technical and resource experts providing specialized assistance and administrative support.

Executive Committee - The Executive Committee will be composed of the Task Force Chairs and the Committee Chair. The Committee has established the following short-term goals:

- Form county coalitions for local-level projects.
- Build committee structure and create a long-term management structure.
- Implement two or three short-term, visible projects.
- Continue to seek public endorsement of the project.
- Conduct regular reviews of the status of the plan implementation.

(Hargrove Report Recommendations – Chair, Official Byway Coordinator, Finance Team Leader, Marketing Team Leader, Byway Experience Team Leader)

The goal of the LSSB Committee is, above all, to ensure that the Corridor Management Plan outlining the LSSB vision is implemented in the most effective and efficient manner providing the greatest benefits to the people of northwestern Kansas. Naturally, as the Committee evolves and matures with the Scenic Byway, it will meet to re-evaluate its structure, management, and organization on a periodic basis. It will be the responsibility of the Committee Chair, the County Representatives, Task Force Chairs, and Resource Representatives to determine the direction of the LSSB Committee and its leadership.

The focus of the Leadership and the overall byway committee needs to always be centered around the responsibilities as outlined by the overall state byway evaluation report (Hargrove & Associates). They are:

- Proactive Management
- Ongoing Stewardship
- Authentic Interpretation
- Quality Product Development
- Targeted Marketing
- Performance Measurement

The byway committee will share byway updates and information at least annually with elected officials located along the byway. Members of the byway committee (possibly through their speakers bureau) will conduct at least two local presentations annually to civic groups, clubs, organizations, or entities located along the byway to share information, encourage support of and participation in byway programs.

The byway committee will recruit at least two residents annually to participate in activities and expand the task force capacity of the byway.

8.2 COMMITTEE TASK FORCES

The LSSB Committee has identified the following task forces (subcommittees) to assist with the successful implementation of the LSSB. Additional task force categories or subdivisions will be generated according to future need.

Tourism Development

The main focus of the Tourism Development subcommittee is:

- Marketing and Promotion (publish brochures, purchase ads, attract group tours, arrange magazine articles, and conduct visitor/market research).
- Byway identification, signage.
- Route interpretation (development of interpretive guides, interpretative signage, kiosks and tours)
- Development/improvement of attractions and visitor services (develop roadside parks, bicycle trails, visitor centers, kiosks).

Resource Management

The main focus of the Resource Management subcommittee is:

- Protection and conservation of natural/scenic resources.
- Current and future land use (voluntary easements, planning, and zoning).
- Design and Aesthetics (landscape development, design guidelines, outdoor advertising management).
- Government and liaison (roadway management issues, local government implementation of programs).

Economic Development

The main focus of the Economic Development subcommittee is:

- Identify economic development activities appropriate to the route and region (value-added industry, tourism-based industry, resource-based industries supportive of the corridor vision).
- Promote the positive aspects of locating along the route (quality of life).
- Provide examples of good corporate development “success stories.”
- Distribute recommended guidelines for Corridor Development.
- Provide regular opportunities for public education and community programs.
- Enhance educational efforts (schools, communities, journals).
- Develop media relations (print, radio, and television coverage of events).

Note: LSSB subcommittees will carry out the actions identified in the CMP on a county-by-county basis or a corridor-wide basis, depending on the nature of the project. For each action, a primary committee will be responsible for coordinating necessary research, funding, communication, and implementation.

8.3 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

As a growing and evolving organization, the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway Committee will regularly reinvent itself to respond to new needs and circumstances along the corridor. In addition to specific actions associated with the Task Force Committees, the LSSB Committee will investigate or pursue the following:

Identification of New Members

The success of the Byway project to date has been due largely to the energy, commitment, and dedication of local community representatives. In order that the Committee will always have fresh, talented, and committed individuals, the Committee will ALWAYS welcome new, interested parties to serve either as representation of their entity or in a subcommittee fashion.

Project Visibility

The Committee will work to promote and advance the corridor management planning process. This will be presented to the community through the media, participation projects, ribbon cuttings, and the political arena. We will continue public outreach activities begun earlier.

Funding

The Committee will participate in identifying funding for corridor-wide projects. Identification of an administrative organization and a marketing organization will help enable the committee to apply for and receive grant funding. The byway may also decide to receive their own 501(c)(3) status or operate under the umbrella of another not-for-profit organization.

SECTION NINE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Although a tremendous amount of work has already been done to conserve and promote this area, the LSSB Committee realizes the success of the Byway rests with active participation and commitment to the cultural/agricultural theme. The LSSB Committee has established a process to coordinate future actions and further the goals of the LSSB Committee. This process will also provide a tracking mechanism for future efforts to promote and enhance the Byway. This process is outlined below.

ACTION WORKSHEETS

It is the purpose of the action worksheet to determine the most appropriate timing and implementation strategy for each action identified in the plan. It is not expected that any one person will have all the answers to the questions in great detail, but hopefully this exercise will help the LSSB Committee to plot a structured and comprehensive future for the Byway.

Action Worksheets also offer the ability to accurately track the progress of certain goals, determine who will be responsible for each task involved with the goals and the timeframe under which each goal should be accomplished.

WHAT TO DO

An Action Worksheet will be completed for each goal and outline the necessary tasks that will need to be undertaken to ensure the goal is met. Use the sample copy of the worksheet, which follows, and make a separate copy for each project. Fill in the requested information to the best of your ability. Under item one (1), add additional names on an attached sheet. Regarding the funding question, number five (5), do some basic research and make an educated guess. Be honest with funding needs. This is a reference document and it requires a clear sense of financial realities.

TIMETABLE

The preceding projects, programs, and initiatives should be identified on the following timetable. The purpose of this table is not to oblige the communities of the LSSB to a rigid structure, but rather to indicate a sense of priority and organization regarding the multiple initiatives that are mentioned in the guidebook. Everything can be accomplished, just not all at once. This table will help keep the Scenic Byway project on track, coordinate efforts whenever possible, and mark progress.

WHAT TO DO

The action worksheets will be assembled by the Committee. Each action on the timetable will be identified and indicate the lead committee, if funding will be required and the estimated start and stop dates for each project.

Sample Worksheet:

1. Participation Information (for each, list the following information)

Committee	Contact
Address	E-Mail
Telephone	Fax

2. Action to be undertaken

3. Committee Assignment(s), Check All That Apply

Tourism Development	Resource Management
Economic Development	Public Education

Note: If more than one committee is active, indicate lead committee and/or individual.

4. List other organizations that may require coordination with or courtesy communications, list all that apply.

Examples: KDOT, KDOC, KDWPT, Local Government, County Government, Elected Officials, Private Landowners, etc.

5. Funding – Is funding required? In kind services? Amounts? Budget? Sources?

6. Effective Start Date

7. Projected completion date (or cycle)

SECTION TEN: CONCLUSION

The Corridor Management Plan for the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway is predicated on the belief that individuals, organizations, and government can come together in the spirit of cooperation and concern and articulate a voluntary strategy through which a quality future can be ensured. The very existence of this plan testifies to the willingness of the communities along the LSSB to join together in meaningful discussions. The future of the plan will depend on that continued dialogue, flexibility, compromise, and a commitment to excellence.

This document, for the first time, establishes a corridor VISION complete with the goals, actions, and implementation plan necessary to make the vision a reality.

The future of the LSSB corridor is not dependent on chance or good fortune. It is, through this CMP, grounded in careful thought and wise action. The rich heritage of the communities along the LSSB corridor, which have always sustained local pride and identity will now lead the region into a new focus; one based in realizing the wealth of the local experience and the beauty of the simplicity offered in northwestern Kansas.

This CMP is a living document — one that will evolve and be modified over time, but will clearly demonstrate the intent of the LSSB committee to share rural Kansas, while preserving the lifestyle and beauty that now defines the rural way of life. The periodic review of programs, projects, successes, and pitfalls, will keep the plan responsive to the needs of the communities and state. The strength of the visioning process and the articulated VISION will always provide the communities of the Kansas Land and Sky Scenic Byway route with the strong basis from which the CMP may be reviewed or modified over time.

The uniqueness of the communities along the route — the history, rich traditions, landscape setting, and tourism resources — is a powerful economic tool for the region. Careful management through this CMP will not ensure only the region's quality of life and economic future, it will also provide a way for us to share what we know and love about this area with others.

APPENDIX A

LIST OF TOURIST AMENITIES

Land & Sky Scenic Byway
Tourism Asset Inventory-Cheyenne County
Central Time Zone

TOURIST AMENITIES

St. Francis

ANIMAL CARE

Republican Valley Vet Clinic, 429 East Highway 36, P.O. Box 884, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332-2262 Office

AUTO ASSISTANCE

St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange, 105 S. River, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2421, Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday 7:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Majestic, 510 W. U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2905, Gas/Fuel 6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. M-F, 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Sat, 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Sun

St. Francis Tire & Service, 506 E. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3366, 1-800-560-4587

Brice's Auto Repair, W. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas, 785-332-2261, M-F 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Most Sat. 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

Bumper to Bumper Auto Parts, 307 W. Jackson St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2141, M-F 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat. 7:30 a.m.-noon

NAPA Auto Parts, 100 E. Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2138

Yost Ford Mercury, 530 E. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2188, Open Monday-Friday

BANKING & ATMs

BankWest of Kansas, 121 West Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3333, ATM outside bank accessible 24 hours

First National Bank, 201 West Washington Street, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2145, ATM. Located outside Bank-accessible 24-hours

Western State Bank, 400 East Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3100, ATM Located outside Bank-accessible 24-hours, www.wsbk.com

CULTURAL/HISTORIC

Cheyenne County Museum, U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-4950,

Open during summer months & by appointment. Features a diorama complete with prehistoric fossils uncovered locally that show life as it progressed over the millennia on the High Plains. The museum has an outstanding collection of furniture and period exhibits of frontier life, all of which come from county residents.

Quincy Gallery, 109 N. Quincy St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756,
785-332-4950/785-332-0308, <http://www.facebook.com/cheyennecenterforcreativity>
Thursday & Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monthly
Featured Artists and Literary Events.

St. Francis Motorcycle Museum, E. Washington St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756
Opening April 1, 2016. Tentative Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Home to vintage and antique motorcycles of all makes
and vintages.

GAS STATIONS/QUICK SHOPS

Eagle Convenience Store, 218 E. US Highway 36, St. Francis, KS, 67756,
(785) 332 - 3222 Office, Monday - Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm

Majestic, 510 W. U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2905, Gas
6:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m. M-F, 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Sat, 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Sun

St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange, 123 North River St., PO Box 123
St. Francis, KS, 67756, (785) 332 - 2113 Office, Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am -
5:30pm, Saturday 8:00am -12:00 p.m.

St. Francis Tire & Service, 506 E. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756,
785-332-3366, 1-800-560-4587, M-F

LAUNDROMAT

B&E Hilltop Laundry, 704 S. Benton St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2048.

LODGING

Homesteader Motel with RV Hookups, 410 W. Business Highway 36, St. Francis,
Kansas 67756, 785-332-2168 Office, 785-332-8607 Cell

The Dusty Farmer Motel, 105 E. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756,
785-332-8924

The Empire Motel, 115 E. Business Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2231, empiremotel@ymail.com, 18 rooms with connecting rooms available. King suites available for longer stays

The Spencer House Bed & Breakfast, 110 E. Spencer St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2513, www.thespencerhousebandb.com, TripAdvisor and Yelp

The Jackson Suite, 217 W. Jackson St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-5001, Private residence on one level with 2 bedrooms, living/dining area, & full kitchen.

St. Francis Road Side Park (Camping), U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, KS 67756. No reservations. No charge. No hookups. Dump station. Camp sites, some with tables and grills. Covered picnic areas. Bathhouse open in warm weather months, with showers and toilets. Some electrical hookups for charging phones. Turn south between the Emergency Medical Services Building and the Cheyenne County Museum on U.S. Highway 36 and the park is behind the EMS Building.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Cheyenne County Clinic, 221 West First Street, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332-2682

Cheyenne County Hospital, 210 West First Street, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332-3142 Office

Krien Pharmacy, 105 West Washington Street, P.O. Box 664, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332 - 2177 Office

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

St. Francis Roadside Park, West U.S. Highway 36 (on south side of highway next to museum), St. Francis, Kansas 67756, Restroom facilities and Local information

St. Francis City Park, on Webster St. between Scott St. and Benton St. (Behind Court House). Restrooms are on Benton St.

RECREATION/ENTERTAINMENT

Cheyenne Bowl, 709 Quincy St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-6508, open 11:00 a.m. -12:00 midnight, Bowling Alley and Restaurant

Cheyenne Theater, 104 East Washington Street, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, [SHOW TIMES: 7:30 PM CENTRAL Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 2:00 PM SUNDAY](#), 785-332-2747

Frisbee/Disc Golf, St. Francis Roadside Park has a 9-hole course just south of and behind the museum on U.S. Highway 36/Kansas Highway 27. Bring your own disc.

Riverside Recreation Golf Course, W. U.S. Highway 36 (west of St. Francis), St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3401

St. Francis Swimming Pool, Open May thru August, Hours: Regular Sunday-Friday 1:30-5:30 and 7:00 -9:00, Saturday 1:30 - 5:30, Lap swimming: Monday-Friday 6:30 am-7:30 am, Admission \$1.50 (Season passes/punch cards available also)

RESTAURANTS/FAST FOODS

Cheyenne Bowl, 709 Quincy St., St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-6508, open 11:00 a.m.-midnight, Bowling Alley and Restaurant.

Diamond R Bar & Grill, 118 W. Washington, St. Francis, KS 67756, 785-332-3936
Open Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. till close, Facebook/DiamondRBar

Eagle Travel Stop & Convenience Store, Chester Fried Chicken/Inovasian Cuisine, Dennison & US Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3222, Open 6:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m., Serving Hot Food 6-7.

Fresh Seven Coffee, 314 W. Washington, St. Francis, KS 67756, 785-772-0823
Open Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon, See us on Facebook.

Hilltop Diner, 707 South Benton, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-772-1536, Monday-Friday, 11:00 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Closed Sunday, Facebook

Majestic Cafe and Subway, 510 W. U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2905, Restaurant M-F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sat 6:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Sun 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Subway subway.com, M-F 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Sat & Sun 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Park Hill Restaurant, U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756; 785-332-2255
Open 11:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Closed Monday

Pizza Hut, 620 W. U.S. Business Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2601, Open Thursday 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Friday 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Riverside Recreation Dining, W. U.S. Highway 36 (west of St. Francis), St. Francis, Kansas 67756 785-332-3401

Sunflower Restaurant & Catering, 216 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3800, Open Monday-Friday 11 a.m.-9 p.m., sunflowerrac.com, Facebook

The Old Iron Pub-Bar & Grill, 105 E. Highway 36, St. Francis, KS 67756
785-332-8924, Open at 5:00 p.m.

SHOPPING

Brentwood Renovations and Restorations, 102 West Washington Street, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332 - 7242 Office

Cowgirl Creations & Design, 220 East Webster, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332-2220 Office, Unique Hand Made Gifts & Cards

Donna's Gift Palace, W. Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3300

DzBz, P.O. Box 623, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 772 - 7404 Office, Honey and Herbal Remedies

Frontier Arms Company, 116 East Washington Street, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332-3600 Office, Gun Shop.

Schultz's Ltd., 114 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kansas 67756, 785-332-2833, Home Decor/Gifts/ Flooring.

St. Francis, Supers, 120 East Washington, P.O. Box 945, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332 - 2064 Office, Grocery Store.

United Methodist Thrift Store, 104 West Washington, P.O. Box 805, St. Francis, KS 67756, (785) 332 - 2953 Office, Open Thursday & Friday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m,

Yost Farm Supply & Machinery, 1545 U.S. Highway 36, St. Francis, Kansas 67756 785-332-3351, M-F 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Parts M-F 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. New Holland Toys and farm machinery replicas.

Land & Sky Scenic Byway
Tourism Asset Inventory-Cheyenne County
Central Time Zone

TOURIST AMENITIES

Wheeler

SHOPPING

American Implement, John Deere Dealer, 685 Kansas Ave, Wheeler, Kansas 67756,
Phone: (785) 332-2124, Toll Free: (800) 832-2124, Fax: (785) 332-2122

John Deere Gun Safes, miniature farm implements, wagon and other toys. STORE
HOURS: Monday: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, Tuesday: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm., Wednesday: 7:30
am - 5:30 pm, Thursday: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm Friday: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, Saturday: 8:00
am - 12:00 pm, Sunday: Closed

RESTAURANTS

Captain Hooks, 1902 U.S. Highway 36, Wheeler, Kansas 67756, 785-332-3275 Open
7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday, Closed Sunday, Facebook. Home Style
cooking where you can still get a cup of coffee for 25 cents.

Land & Sky Scenic Byway
Tourism Asset Inventory-Cheyenne County
Central Time Zone

TOURIST AMENITIES

Bird City

BANKING AND FINANCIAL

The Bank, P.O. Box 40, 210 N. Bird Ave, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2100. ATM
Located on south side of building-accessible 24-hours, www.thebankks.com

Dining & Grocery

Big Ed's, 104 W. Bressler, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2475, Open Monday-Saturday
5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

The Daily Bread Restaurant, 2845 US Hwy 36, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2780,
dailybreadfamilyrestaurant.com, Open Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.-2:00p.m., Closed
Sunday

Hometown Market, 112 W. 4th, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2050, Open Monday -
Saturday 8 am – 6 pm, Lunch Special Monday–Friday

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

Active Balance Chiropractic and Acupuncture Clinic, 315 S. Bird
Bird City, KS 67731, Mondays, Wednesdays 785-626-6491, Thursdays 785-626-3274

Beauty Box, 117 W. First, Bird City, Kansas 67731, 785-734-2288
By Appointment

Cheyenne County Clinic – 233 W. 4th, Bird City, KS 67731
785-734-2306, Open Monday, Wednesday – Friday; 9 am – Noon
Open Tuesday; 9 am – 5 pm

Designs By Dawn Salon & Day Spa, Full Service Salon, 117 W. Second St. Bird City,
Kansas 67731, 785-734-2222, Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Friday 10:00
a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Hair Nest, 104 E. 6th, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2335, By appointment

LODGING

Isley Home, Bird City, Kansas, 785-734-2380, njisely@gmail.com

TNT RV Parking, Highway 36, Bird City, Kansas, 785-734-7100

Mom's House Country Hunting Lodge, 610 Rd. 25, 785-734-2549, The hunting lodge has 5 bedrooms and 2 bath; accommodates a single hunter to a maximum of 8 hunters. Accommodations for hunting dogs are available as well.

RECREATION

Bird City Golf Course, Take Highway 36 to North on Highway 161 (Ancient Indian Trader's Trail) west on Road Q for 1 mile. \$5 non-member fee.

Bird City Swimming Pool, 100 Rich Avenue across from VanDoren Park on west side of town.

RETAIL

Cards & Gifts by Wanda, 115 E. 5th, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2383, Open Wednesday-Saturday; 10 am-1:30 pm or call for an appointment *All-Occasion Greeting Cards *Personalized Books & Cards *Hand-Crafted gifts including: glassware; crocheted, knitted and quilted items beaded items *Porcelain dolls, miniature doll furniture, teddy bears and outfits

McGilvray Farms, 785-734-2663, For your prize winning Clydesdale, or for your every wagon and wagon wheel needs, contact us! www.sandhillclydes.com

Nelsen's Lures, 785-734-2572, Fishing Lures & Collectibles

2nd Beginnings Thrift Store, 309 N. Bird, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-2443, Wednesday 9 am – 9 pm, Friday 9 am – 6 pm, Saturday 9am-noon

SERVICES

Country Trader Gun & Pawn Shop, 785-734-2762, Custom made leather, Restoration of antique Brunswick pool tables, Restoration of leather sewing machines , 45' dry storage trailers for sale.

Service Repair, 402 Rich Avenue, Bird City, KS 67731 970-630-3684

T-N-T Car Wash, US Hwy 36, Bird City, KS 67731, 785-734-7100

Land and Sky Scenic Byway

Tourism Asset Inventory-Sherman County
Mountain Time

TOURIST AMENITIES Goodland Corridor Community

Public Restrooms

Chambers Park, 13th and Center. Hours: Daytime, closed in winter.

City Hall, 204 W. 11th. Hours: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Goodland Public Library, 812 Broadway. Hours: (summer) M-Th 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; F-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; (winter) M-Th 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; F-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Gulick Park, Ninth and Caldwell. Hours: Daytime, closed in winter.

Phillips Park, 10th and Cattletrail. Hours: Daytime, closed in winter.

Rosewood Park, Poplar and Acacia. Hours: Daytime, closed in winter.

Sherman County Courthouse, 813 Broadway. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Steever Park, 17th and Cherry. Hours: Daytime, closed in winter.

Gas Stations/Quick Shop – National Credit Cards

24/7 Travel Stores, 2710 Commerce Rd., gasoline, diesel, convenience store, (785) 899-7179, Hours: Open 24 hours

Casey's General Store, 320 E. Eighth St., gasoline, diesel, propane tank exchange, convenience store, pizza, sandwiches, doughnuts, (785) 899-7107, Hours: 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

Cowboy Corner Xpress, 1631 Main, ATM, gasoline, diesel, propane tank exchange, convenience store, pizza, sandwiches, doughnuts, (785) 890-7728, Hours: 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

Frontier Ag Inc., 1202 Highway 24; gasoline, diesel, convenience store, full vehicle service and auto repair, propane tank refill, (785) 899-2375, Hours: Pumps open 24 hours via cardrol. Convenience store and repair shop open 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. M-F, 7 a.m.-noon Sat. Saturday hours only in summer.

Presto Express, 2510 Commerce Rd., ATM, gasoline, diesel, convenience store, pizza, sandwiches, doughnuts, propane tank refill, (785) 899-7527 Hours: Always open.

Tesla Supercharger, Holiday Inn Express parking lot, 2631 Enterprise Rd., electric vehicle charging station, (877) 798-3752, Hours: Always open.

Travel Shoppe, 2423 Enterprise Rd., gasoline, diesel, convenience store, (785) 899-5451, Hours: Always open.

Restaurants/Fast Food

Anthony's at The Vault, 921 Main, gourmet soups and sandwiches, dine in or carry out, (785) 890-3003, Hours: M-F, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Arby's, 2515 Enterprise Rd., dine in, drive through or carry out, beef, chicken and fish sandwiches, free wifi, (785) 890-6106, Hours: 9:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. daily.

Butterfly Café, 602 Renner Field Rd., Manager home cooking, pies, home made jam, dine in or carry out, (785) 890-2085, Hours: M-F, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sat.-Sun., 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

China Gardens, 1108 Main, Chinese food, dine in or carry out, (785) 890-3345, Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. M-Sat.

Clark Crossing Co., 223 E. 10th, coffee and pastries, used books, free wifi, dine in or carry out, (785) 262-9517, Hours: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. M-Sat., 7-11 p.m. Fri.-Sat.

Crazy R's Bar & Grill, 1618 Main, steaks and burgers, dine in or carry out, free wifi, 8 Wonders of Kansas Cuisine Finalist, (785) 890-3430, Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. M-Sat.

Doc's Coffee, 1103 Main, sandwiches, bierocks (meat pies wrapped in bread), pastries, free wifi, (785) 899-6100, Hours: 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F, Sat. 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

El Reynaldo's, 2320 Commerce Rd., Mexican fast food, dine in, carry out or drive through, (785) 899-7077, Hours: 8 a.m.-11 p.m. daily.

Gambino's Pizza, 402 E. 17th, pizza, pasta, hand-dipped ice cream, dine in, carry out, delivery, (785) 890-5988, Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily.

L&T Family Restaurant, 1016 Main St., Mexican food, barbecue, fried chicken, dine in or carry out, (785) 890-3710, Hours: 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. M-Sat., 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun.

Latino's Buffet, 2215 Enterprise Rd., Mexican and American cuisine, dine in, (785) 728-2141, Hours: M-W 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Th-Sat. 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

McDonald's, 2325 Enterprise Rd., burgers, fish and chicken, dine in, drive through, carry out, free wifi, (785) 899-7371, Hours: 6 a.m.-11 p.m. daily.

Mulligan's, Sugar Hills Golf Club, 6450 Road 16, prime rib, steaks, fried chicken, (785) 899-2785, Hours: W-Sun., 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; W-Sat., 5:30-9 p.m.

Pizza Hut, 1803 Cherry, pizza, pasta, dine in, carry out, delivery, (785) 899-3661, Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

Shiraz Dining & Spirits, 824 Highway 24, American cuisine, dine in, (785) 890-4130, Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. M-Sat.

Sonic Drive In, 2219 Enterprise Rd., burgers, hot dogs, ice cream, eat inside or outside, carry out, (785) 890-3186, Hours: 6 a.m.-midnight daily.

The Sports Bar, 2218 Commerce Rd., bar, American cuisine, dine in or carry out, (785) 899-6288, Hours: 11 a.m.-11 p.m. M-Th, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. F-Sat.

Steak N Shake, 2629 Enterprise Rd., steak burgers, shakes, dine in, drive through or carry out, (785) 890-6757, Hours: 7 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

Subway, 2421 Enterprise Rd., breakfast, sandwiches, (785) 899-5245, Hours: 7 a.m.-9 p.m. M-F, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun.

Taco John's, 2304 Commerce Rd., breakfast, Mexican fast food, dine in, drive through, carry out, (785) 890-8226, Hours: 7 a.m.-9:30 p.m. daily.

Tequila's Mexican Grill, 118 E. 17th St., Mexican food, drinks, dine in, (785) 899-2400, Hours: 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. M-Th, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat.-Sun.

Lodging

Hotels/Motels

Comfort Inn, 2519 Enterprise Rd., interior corridors, cold weather hook-up, guest use copy machine, windows open, free high speed internet, free coffee, bus parking, free hot breakfast, guest use fax machine, guest laundry, indoor heated pool, truck parking, exercise room, pet-friendly, (785) 899-7181 Hours: Always open.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2631 Enterprise Rd., interior corridors, business center, health and fitness center, indoor pool, free Internet, guest laundry, ATM, safe deposit box at front desk, (785) 890-9060 Hours: Always open.

Maverick Inn, 830 W. Hwy. 24, indoor pool, guest laundry, on-site restaurant, business center, (785) 890-3621 Hours: Always open.

Super 8, 2520 S. Hwy. 27, Continental breakfast, wifi, pet-friendly, (785) 890-7566 Hours: Always open.

Sunset Inn & Suites, 2218 Commerce Rd., wifi, free hot breakfast, on-site restaurant, (785) 890-3644 Hours: Always open.

Campgrounds

Goodland KOA, 1114 E. Hwy. 24, 50-amp plug-ins, 75' pull-throughs, outdoor pool (open Memorial Day-Labor Day), tent and RV spaces, cabins, snack bar, laundry, snack bar, mini golf, pavilion, playground, cable TV, wifi, (785) 890-5701 Hours: Open March 15-Oct. 31.

Mid-America Camp-Inn, 2802 Commerce Rd., 50-amp hookups, cable TV, pets welcome, outdoor pool, pull-throughs, sewer hook-ups, park with playground, dump station, wifi, laundry, store, telephone hook-ups, (785) 899-5431. Hours: Always open.

Hunting Lodges

Kansas Prairie Lodge, 7580 Road 25, four bedrooms, loft and commons area with kitchen, buffalo hunting packages, primitive tent camping, (785) 899-5804 Hours: Call for reservations.

Kuhr Ranch, 2733 Rd. 75, Edson, KS 67733, gathering room and two full bathrooms, three private bedrooms each with two double beds, one semi-private bedroom with a queen bed and a roll-away, satellite TV, community kitchen, picnic tables and gas grills, deer, turkey and upland bird hunting packages, (785) 899-5306, Hours: Call for reservations.

Shopping

Carnegie Arts Center, 120 W. 12th, building on National Historic Register, original prints and artwork from local and regional artists, books from local and regional authors, jewelry and gifts, (785) 890-6442, Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tu-Sat.

Designs Unlimited, 1012 Main, Land of Kansas products, Olde Westport Spice seasoning blends and Made by Jade mixes, florist, gift shop, bedding plants (seasonal), (785) 890-7673, Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F, 9 a.m.-noon Sat.

Goodland Churches Thrift Shop, 1002 Main, clothing, small appliances, furniture, (785) 890-2007, Hours: M-F 10 a.m.-5 p.m

Goodland Farmers' Market, Chambers Park, 13th and Center (June-Sept.), Doc's Coffee, 1103 Main (Oct., Sat. hours only), produce, artisanal bread and pastries, jams, jellies and preserves, mixes, spice blends, all locally produced, (785) 899-5809, Hours: 4-6 p.m. Tues., 8-11 a.m. Sat.

Grower's Outlet Store, 114 W. 12th, locally raised buffalo meat and grass-fed beef, specialty flours, (785) 899-9274, Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F.

Junk by Janna and Friends, 1006 Main, one-of-a-kind repurposed furniture, gifts, art and Christian apparel, (785) 890-4247. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. M, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Tues.-F.

Lou Lou's Boutique, 110 Main, trendy women's clothing boutique, (785) 821-5515, Hours: Tues.-Sat., noon-4 p.m.

Olde Westport Spice, 1218 Main, award-winning spice blends, soup mixes, Made by Jade cake mixes, (785) 899-2020, Hours: 6:30-10:30 a.m., Tues.-Sat. (winter), 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tues.-Sat. (summer). Call ahead for tours. Note: Jade Artzer started Made by Jade when she was 11 years old. Olde Westport and Made by Jade use the commercial kitchen here.

Smitty's Sports, Goodland Cowboy and Northwest Tech apparel, clothing, gifts, (785) 899-6100, Hours: 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., M-F, Sat. 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Medical Assistance

Hospital

Goodland Regional Medical Center, 220 W. Second, (785) 890-2563. Hours: Always open.

Banking and ATMs

Bankwest, 924 Main, full banking, (785) 899-2342. Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. M-F.

Bankwest Motor Bank (ATM), 123 W. 10th, drive-through, (785) 899-3041. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. ATM always open.

Cowboy Corner Xpress, 1631 Main, ATM, (785) 890-7728, Hours: 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

First National Bank, 202 E. 11th, full banking, (785) 890-2000, Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.-3 p.m. (lobby), 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (drive-through).

First National Bank ATM, 10th and Broadway. Hours: Always open.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2631 Enterprise Rd., ATM, (785) 890-9060. Hours: Always open.

Northwest Tech Student Union, 15th and Eustis, ATM, Hours: 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Peoples State Bank, 1302 Main, ATM, full banking, (785) 890-2224, Hours: Always open (ATM), 9 a.m.-3 p.m. M-F (lobby), 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (drive-through).

Presto Express, 2510 Commerce Rd., ATM, (785) 899-7527 Hours: Always open.

Walmart Supercenter, 2160 Commerce Rd., ATM, (785) 899-2111, Hours: Always open.

Western State Bank, 815 Center, ATM, full banking, (785) 890-2393. Hours: Always open (ATM); 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. M-F (lobby); 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (drive-through).

Laundry

Garrett's Coin Laundry, 918 Main, (785) 890-5972, Hours: 6 a.m.-9 p.m. M-Sat., 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun.

Animal Care

Boarding

4-B Boarding Kennel, 6480 Road 18, pet boarding and pet sitting, (785) 899-3847. Hours: Call for reservations.

Slide on Inn Horse Hotel, 2675 Hwy. 24, overnight stabling and full boarding, (785) 821-0199. Hours: Call for reservations.

Veterinarian

Heartland Animal Hospital, 204 N. Caldwell, (785) 899-6166. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F.

Recreation

Centennial Park Softball Complex, 1305 W. 25th St., four softball fields, concession stands, restrooms, playground, (785) 890-7242. Hours: Call for game times.

Chambers Park, 13th and Center, GoodLand Farmers' Market (seasonal), playground, tennis courts, restrooms, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Goodland Activities Center, 808 Main, health club, gym, racquetball courts, weight room, (785) 890-7242. Hours: 5:30 a.m.-8 p.m. M-F, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat., 1-5 p.m. Sun.

Goodland Community Track, 13th and Eustis, walkers may walk in lanes 5-8, (785) 890-5656. Hours: Daytime.

Goodland Gun Club, 6699 N. Caldwell, shotgun-only skeet range with high house and low house, (785) 821-2607. Call for reservations.

Goodland Skate Park, Steever Park, E. 16th and Cherry, 1,000 square feet, half pipe, quarter pipe, 7-foot roll-in, fun box, ledges, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Gulick Park, 11th and Caldwell, playground, picnic shelter, tennis courts, restrooms, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Max Jones Fieldhouse, 13th and Arcade, seats 1,700 in bleachers and 3,000 with floor seating, walkers' track, (785) 890-5656. Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. during school year.

Memorial Field, 1324 W. 25th St., baseball field, concessions, restrooms, (785) 890-7242. Hours: Call for game times.

Phillips Park, baseball/softball field, playground, picnic shelter, restrooms, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Pioneer Park West, E. Hwy 24 and Cherry St., walking trail (leashed pets only), picnic shelter, sledding hill, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Rosewood Park, Poplar and Acacia, picnic shelters, playground, restrooms, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Sherman County Fairgrounds, 417 N. Main, picnic shelters, restrooms, playground, grandstand, horse arena, home of Northwest Kansas District Free Fair, first week in August, (785) 821-1863. Hours: 7 a.m.-11 p.m. (grounds), 7 a.m.-10 p.m. (buildings during fair week).

Sherman County Speedway, Sherman County Fairgrounds, 417 N. Main, 3/8-mile semi-banked dirt track hosting econo, hobby stock, stock, northern sport modified and modified races, (785) 399-8041. Call for race schedule.

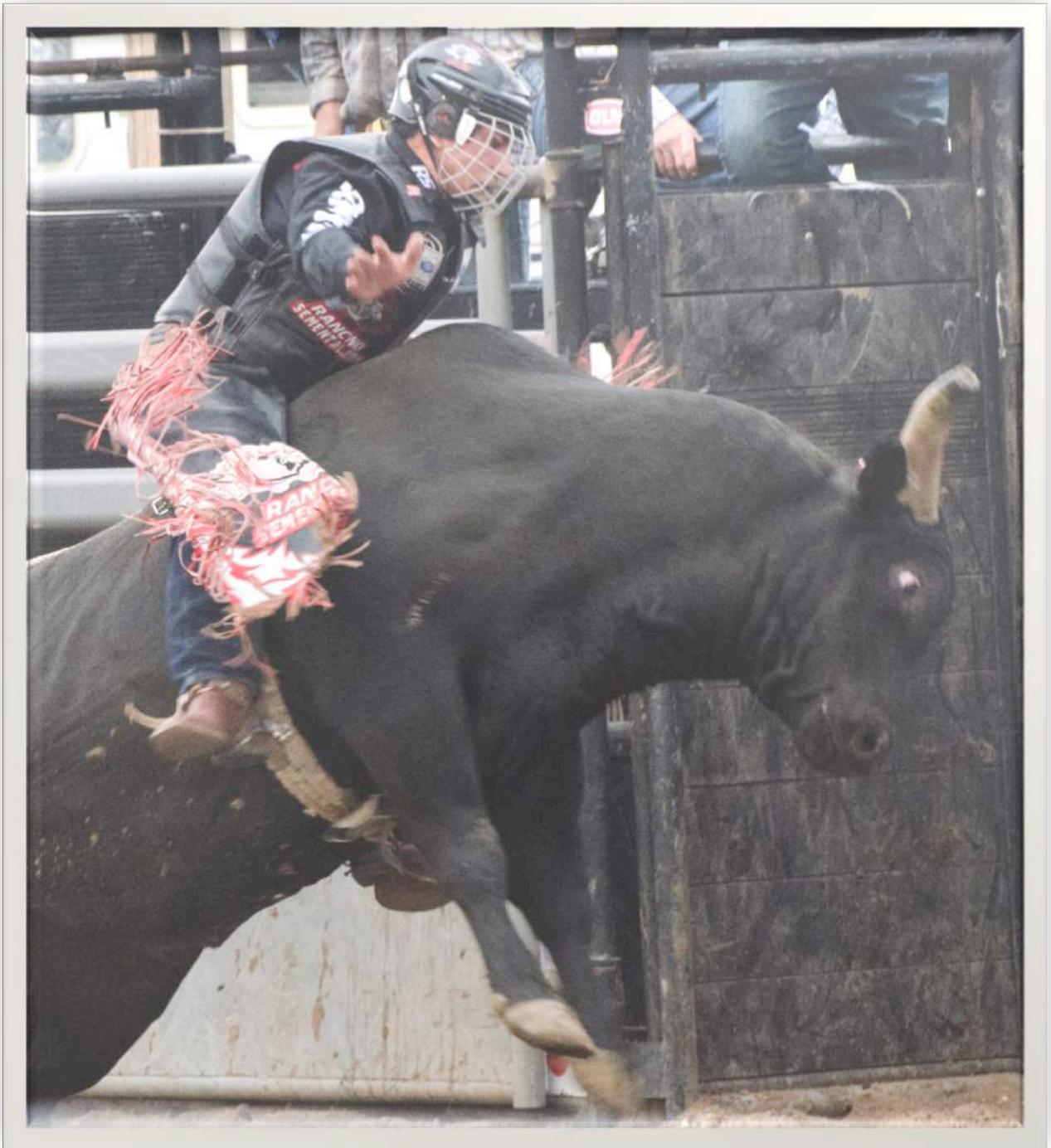
Smoky Gardens, Highway 27 and Rd. 57, then three miles south, picnic shelters, camping, outhouse, fishing (seasonal), walking trail, disc golf, playground, (785) 821-1808. Hours: Always open.

Smoky Gardens Archery Club, 18th and Arcade, compound and recurve bows, (785) 821-1863. Hours: Call for times.

Steever Park, E. 16th and Cherry, picnic shelters, playground, restrooms, Goodland Skate Park, Steever Water Park, (785) 890-4500. Hours: Daytime.

Steever Water Park, E. 16th and Arcade, slides, diving board, accessible, kiddie pool, lap pool, (785) 890-4500. Hours: noon-9 p.m., Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Sugar Hills Golf Club, 6725 Road 16, 18-hole golf course with bluegrass fairways and bentgrass greens, paved cart paths, cart rental, driving range, practice putting green, Mulligan's Restaurant, pro shop, (785) 890-2785. Hours: Daytime (course), 11 a.m.-2 p.m. W-Sun., 5:30-9 p.m. (restaurant)



Land and Sky Visitor Amenities – Wallace County Mountain Time Zone

Public Restrooms:

Fort Wallace Museum: Highway 40, mm 26, Wallace Kansas. Open M-F, 9-5; Sun 1-5

Motels:

Mount Sunflower Bed and Breakfast: Eight amazing rooms of pure elegance, tucked away in a charming old church. The site where Teddy Roosevelt attended church in 1903. – 229 N Gardner, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4004.

www.mtsunflowerbandb.com

Oak Tree Inn: Clean rooms at reasonable prices; 24-hour 50s diner on premises. K-27 and Commerce St, Junction US 40 and Highway 27, Sharon Springs, KS 67758.

785.852.4664. www.oaktreeinn.com/hotels/sharon-springs-kansas.

Heyl's Traveler Motel: Find budget prices for great accommodations. Hunting dogs welcome. 702 N Hwy 27 and 40, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4293.

Tumbleweed Motel: Charming bungalows offer peace, quiet and privacy. Junction 27/40 PO Box 601, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 - 785.852.4664.

Restaurants:

Stephens' Restaurant: Down-home family atmosphere. Monthly seafood and international buffets, Sunday buffet. A Wallace County Tradition. 200 E. US 40, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4182. www.stephensofkansas.com. M-F 6 Am to 9 PM, Sun. 6 – 2 PM. Closed every 2nd Sunday of the month.

Penny's Diner: 50s-60s style chrome diner – Burgers, shakes and more – 801 N Highway 27, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4664 – Open 24 hours a day.

Convenience Stores

27/40 Store: Gas for travelers; Pizza, chicken, sandwiches, pop and snacks for hungry travelers on the go; ATM. 102 E. Hwy 40, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4333 – gas available 24 hours a day. Store open 6 am to 9 pm.

Unique Shopping

Denim and Lace Gift Shop: Lovely gifts for every occasion, jewelry, accessories, glassware. 219 N Main St, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.952.4412 – open 9 to 5 Mon – Sat.

General Store: Antiques, enamelware, bulk spices, frozen foods, sewing supplies. 212 N Main, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 785.852.4256. – Mon – Sat. 9-5.

Antiques Nice As New: Beautiful antique furniture, glassware a specialty; 308 Morford Drive, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – 620.339.9391. – www.antiquesniceasnew.com. M-F, 9-4; Sat. 9 -3.

Automobile Assistance:

Main Street Auto Repair: 504 N Main Street, Sharon Springs, and KS 67758. (785)852-4219. Includes soda and snack vending. Alternate phone: (785)852-5040.

Steve's Body Shop: Car Body repairs, glass replacement. 406 S Main, Sharon Springs, KS 677658. (785)852-4143. Open 9-5 M-F.

Bumper-to-Bumper Auto Parts: S Highway 27, Sharon Springs, and KS 67758. (785)852-4373. Open M-F 9-5, Sat. 9-12 pm.

Walker Car Wash: Located at the intersection of Hwys 40 and 27, just west of 27/40 Convenience Store. Coin operated. Not automatic. Open 24/7. 785.852-4862.

Daniel Tire Service: 525 South Main, Sharon Springs. KS 67758. 785.852-4886. Tire Service, Tire Repair, Oil Change.

Medical Assistance:

Wallace County Family Practice Clinic: a satellite clinic of Greeley County Hospital and Greeley County Family Practice. 504 E 6th St., Sharon Springs, KS 67758. Open M-F 7:30 am to 5 PM. (785)852-4230

Dixon Drug: 107 W 2nd St., Sharon Springs, KS 67758 (785) 852-4218. Open M-F 9-5 pm. Located inside the Eastern Colorado Bank Building.

Collett Chiropractic: 322 Main St. Sharon Springs, KS 67758. (785)852-4942.

Banking/ATMs

Eastern Colorado Bank: - 133 North Main Street, Sharon Springs, KS 67758. (785)852-2000. M-F 9-3 pm. www.yourfriendlybank.com

ATM: located at the 27/40 Convenience Store at the intersection of Highways 27 and 40 in Sharon Springs. 102 E. Highway 40. (785) 852-4333. Available during business hours 6 AM to 9 PM.

Personal Care

The Hair Team: 326 N Main, Sharon Springs, KS 67758 – (785) 852-4190. Manager: Virgie Popp. Full service hair salon, massage, nails, dry cleaning drop off.

Amber's Salon and Day Spa: 612 Kansas 27, Sharon Springs, KS – (785) 852-5041. Full service hair salon, tanning, nail care.

Recreation

Sharon Springs Golf Course: located ½ mile south of Sharon Springs along Highway 27. Nine-hole private golf course. Driving Range available. (785) 852-4220.

Wallace County Swimming Pool: June-August. Located at the Wallace County Fairgrounds at southwest edge of Sharon Springs. (785) 852-4282.

Sharon Springs South Park: Lovely wooded park with large trees, a concrete walking path, landscaped areas, picnic shelters, new graveled play area, disc golf course, tennis courts, basketball courts. Restroom adjacent to play area. For info, call (785) 852-4224. Open to the public.

Wallace County North Park: Located in N Sharon Springs between Boeke Street and Gardner Street. New play area; restroom adjacent. Picnic shelters, Basketball court.

Strand Movie Theater: Movies play each Saturday and Sunday night. First run movies for small-town prices. Reasonably-priced concessions. Fully digital with Dolby surround sound. 132 N Main Street, Sharon Springs, KS 67758. (785) 852-4273. Latest movie info on Facebook “Strand Theater”

Agritourism

21st Century Bean: 21st Century Bean was formed in 1998 as a farmer-owned processing cooperative. Our producer owned dry bean company continues to thrive in an extremely competitive environment by being solution-driven. Today, 21st Century Bean is proud to be a major provider of packaged dry beans for the USDA food

assistance programs, delivering product to food banks throughout the United States.
21st Century Bean Processing, LLC, 715 SE 2nd Street, Sharon Springs, Kansas 67758

CHS/United Plains Ag Dry Fertilizer Facility: A huge dry fertilizer facility located east of the Sharon Springs grain elevators that stores 26,500 tons of UREA, MESX, MAP, Potash, Sulfur and Zinc to local farmers, and stores the fertilizer for the tri-state area. CHS/United Plains Ag also owns elevators in Wallace, Sharon Springs and Weskan.

Quirky landmarks:

Strange concrete statues are tucked into the residential area of south Sharon Springs. The owner is a folk artist and former sheriff's deputy.



APPENDIX B
COUNTY RESOLUTIONS
AND
SUPPORT LETTERS

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan (CMP) that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway includes the route described as follows, to wit;

"Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kan., northward to the Kansas-Nebraska state line in Cheyenne County."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the City Commission of the City of Sharon Springs, Kansas, meeting in regular session this 5th day of October 2015, the said route is hereby designated; the Land and Sky Scenic Byway.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Sharon Springs shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Sharon Springs, Kansas on October 5, 2015.



Deborah M. Benisch

City Clerk

Steve B. Paul

President of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-6

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife & Parks and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historical Byways, and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group, composed of community leaders, civic group representatives, residents, and other interests parties have submitted an application to the KSBC to develop a corridor management plan that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this route, reviewed the corridor management plan, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway include the route described as follows, to with:

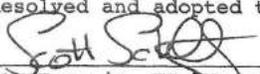
Beginning at the point where US-40 intersects Kansas-27 in Sharon Springs, Kansas, continuing north to the intersection of US 36, then following US 36/K27 west through St. Francis, to the intersection of US-36 and K27 turning north along K-27 north to the Kansas/Nebraska State Line.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, KANSAS, THE SAID ROUTE IS HEREBY DESIGNATED: LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY.

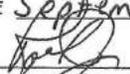
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or devise along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except sign in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233 (a) (b) (c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

Resolved and adopted this 28th day of September, 2015.



St. Francis, KS, Mayor



St. Francis, KS, City Council



St. Francis, KS, City Council



St. Francis, KS, City Council

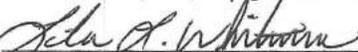


St. Francis, KS, City Council



St. Francis, KS, City Council

ATTEST:



St. Francis, KS, City Clerk

**City of Wallace Resolution for
Land and Sky Scenic Byway**

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan (CMP) that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway includes the route described as follows, to wit;

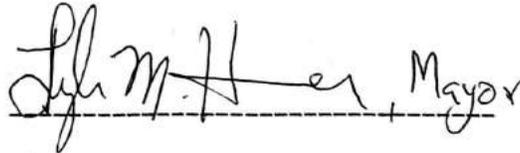
"Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kan., northward to the Kansas-Nebraska state line in Cheyenne County."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the City Commission of the City of Wallace, Kansas, meeting in regular session this 2nd day of February 2016, the said route is hereby designated; the Land and Sky SCENIC BYWAY.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission of the City of Wallace shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Wallace, Kansas on February 2, 2016.


-----, Mayor



City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 15-13

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife & Parks and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historical Byways, and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group, composed of community leaders, civic group representatives, residents, and other interests parties have submitted an application to the KSBC to develop a corridor management plan that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this route, reviewed the corridor management plan, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway include the route described as follows, to with:

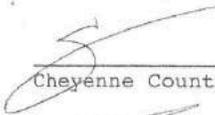
Beginning at the point where US-40 intersects Kansas-27 in Sharon Springs, Kansas, continuing north to the intersection of US 36, then following US 36/K27 west through St. Francis, to the intersection of US-36 and K27 turning north along K-27 north to the Kansas/Nebraska State Line.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHEYENNE COUNTY THE SAID ROUTE IS HEREBY DESIGNATED: LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the County shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or devise along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except sign in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233 (a) (b) (c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

Resolved and adopted this 31 day of August, 2015.

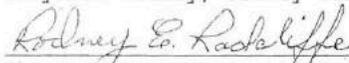


Cheyenne County, County Commissioner

ATTEST



Cheyenne County, County Commissioner



Cheyenne County, County Commissioner



Cheyenne County, County Clerk

RESOLUTION 2015-06

Land and Sky Scenic Byway

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan (CMP) that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the **Land and Sky Scenic Byway** include the routes described as follows, to wit:

"Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kan., northward to the Kansas-Nebraska state line in Cheyenne County."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the County Commission of WALLACE COUNTY, KANSAS, meeting in regular session on this 13th day of October 2015, the said route is hereby designated; the **LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY**.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Commission of WALLACE COUNTY, KANSAS, shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of WALLACE COUNTY, KANSAS on October 13th, 2015.

ATTEST:


County Clerk


County Commissioner; Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner

RESOLUTION 15 - 7

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife & Parks and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway includes the route described as follows, to wit:

Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kan., northward to the Kansas-Nebraska state line in Cheyenne County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the Board of County Commissioners of Sherman County, Kansas, meeting in regular session this 18 day of Aug, 2015, the said route is hereby designated: the **LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY**.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the County shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

Dated at Goodland, Kansas, in the County of Sherman this 18th day of August, 2015.

ATTEST:



Ashley N. Mannis
Ashley N. Mannis, County Clerk

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SHERMAN COUNTY**

Ken Klemm
Ken Klemm, Chairman

Larry Enfield
Larry Enfield

Steven Evert
Steven Evert



ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH CREATIVITY AND THE ARTS
CHEYENNE CENTER FOR CREATIVITY
P O BOX 647
ST. FRANCIS, KS 67756

Scott Schields
Kansas Department of Transportation
Topeka, KS 66603
12/10/15

Dear Scott Schields:

The Cheyenne Center for Creativity is very excited at the prospect of having Highway 27 from Sharon Springs to the Nebraska line designated a scenic byway. We value the beauty and character of the prairie and the dramatic Arickaree Breaks that the byway passes through. What a delight to share this with tourists and interested travelers who are drawn by the scenic designation.

Our community is growing with new businesses, a motorcycle museum, and creative entrepreneurs. Visitors to our town would boost the economy and add a new dimension to the expanding opportunities in St. Francis.

This scenic byway will benefit both travelers and local business in the area.

Thank you so much for considering the designation of Highway 27 from Sharon Springs to the Nebraska state line as a scenic byway.

Sincerely,

Janet Carman
President
Cheyenne Center for Creativity

CHEYENNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WEST US 36
PO BOX 611
ST. FRANCIS, KS 67756

Scott Schields
Kansas Department of Transportation
Topeka, KS 66603
12/10/15

Dear Scott Schields:

The Cheyenne County Historical Society welcomes the prospect of having Highway 27 from Sharon Springs to the Nebraska line designated a scenic byway. What a wonderful opportunity to share the beauty and history of the prairie and the dramatic Arickaree Breaks that we value so much. Members of the Historical Society realize that this byway basically follows the Western Cattle Trail and is quite significant to the history of this area. In addition, the museum staff is delighted at the prospect of hosting more visitors as a result of this designation.

Our growing community is enthusiastic and welcoming. Visitors to our town would boost the economy and add new opportunities for expansion in St. Francis.

This scenic byway will benefit both travelers and local business in the area.

Thank you so much for considering the designation of Highway 27 from Sharon Springs to the Nebraska state line as a scenic byway.

Sincerely,

Sandy Smull, Secretary

Board of the Cheyenne County Historical Society

BEAVER CREEK BUFFALO

Ken Klemm
Peter Thieriot
114 W. 12th
Goodland, KS 67735
Direct. 785-899-9274
Fax. 785-890-8417
ken@thehomesteadranch.com
www.TheHomesteadRanch.com

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter expresses our support for the proposed Land and Sky Scenic Byway. As the byway's intersection with Interstate 70, we look forward to increased tourism along Highway 27. We are excited to have a byway and look forward to welcoming all visitors to our beautiful northwest corner of Kansas.

Sherman County is one of only two sunflower oil market prices in the United States. Besides the standard Great Plains crops, the county is also a leader in pinto bean production and has a liquid fertilizer plant.

Conflict erupted along Beaver Creek in northeastern Sherman County in 1867 and 1875. Lt. Lyman Kidder and his detachment were all killed in 1867 while searching for Lt. Col. George Custer. Three buffalo hunters were killed in 1875, sparking the Battle of Sappa Hole. Wallace Branch of Great Western Cattle Trail also crossed Beaver Creek in the same vicinity from 1883-86. Two historic ranches are nearby.

"America's First Patented Helicopter" was patented in Goodland in 1912. A replica may be seen at High Plains Museum. Sherman County Historical Society preserves Ennis-Handy House, a 1907 Queen Anne home, on a brick street intersection. "Speed King" Jim Brown laid those bricks in 1927.

Goodland is an arts community with several murals and Art Deco buildings. Carnegie Arts Center sponsors monthly artist showings in a former Carnegie Library. The "World's Largest Painting on an Easel", a 24 by 32 feet replica of Vincent van Gogh's "Three Sunflowers in a Vase" stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East. Three other parks have smaller paintings on easels in the Art in the Parks program.

Sincerely,

Ken & Laurie Klemm

Ken and Laurie Klemm



GNWKCF

Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation

107 West Bressler PO Box 593
Bird City, Kansas 67731
785-734-2556 - Phone
785-734-2536 - Fax

www.gnwkc.org

info@gnwkc.org

December 7, 2015

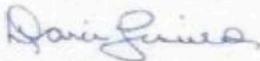
To whom it may concern:

I am writing a letter in support of the Scenic Byway Proposal that would run from US Highways 40 & 27 to the Kansas / Nebraska state line, and ask your support in funding this project that would be a great benefit to Northwest Kansas.

There is a lot of beauty and history in this part of Kansas! Becoming an official 'Scenic Byway' and using signage in this manner would not only be informative to people about some added attractions within our counties, but would also offer them easy access to locating these additional sites that run off the main highway.

Your support of this proposal would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your consideration,



Darci Shields
Foundation Director

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter is to express our support for the proposed Land and Sky Scenic Byway. This Byway would encourage people to take time and see the sights of Sherman County and Goodland, both of which offer a variety of recreational, historical, and educational opportunities. We are eager to showcase the wonders of Sherman County, including our historical background.

As the museum director of the High Plains Museum, we proudly display how settlers and current residents utilize the land. Agriculture is the cornerstone of Sherman County. The first settlers were predominately farmers and ranchers and carved a way of life out of the Plains.

They utilized the land in different ways; these included housing, wells, and farming. Houses were mainly made of sod, which was cut from the earth using a sod cutter. Water wells were dug and the iconic windmill was placed alongside. The museum has a diorama display about homesteading, that provides information on the hardships of settling the Plains. In order to plant the crops, various farming implements were used. These included the early plow, planters, proto-type pickers, and eventually motorized tractors and combines.

Implements such as the early plow, scythe, corn sheller, and a 1928 proto-type corn picker can be seen in the agricultural exhibition in the museum. This exhibit allows visitors to reconcile these implements with newer technology and to understand the hardships of farming in the late 1800's to early 1900's.

From the early settlers to present day residents, agriculture is still the major industry in Sherman County. Displaying our agricultural history, allows residents and visitors to see how farming helped shape Sherman County and how it is still shaping it today.

Sincerely,



Samantha Philbrick
Director, High Plains Museum

Cheyenne County
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

December 10, 2015

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, Kansas 66603

Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter is to express our support for the proposed Scenic Byway from Sharon Springs, Kansas, along Kansas Highway 27 to the Nebraska State line, as a way to promote Northwest Kansas.

The three counties of Cheyenne, Sherman, and Wallace, have a great deal to offer visitors to our area.

Educational opportunities abound at the Fort Wallace Museum which has recently added an exhibit of the cast of "Thof's Dragon," the elasmosaurus platyurus cope plesiosaur that was an interesting part of the history of Fort Wallace and early paleontology. Tours are available at the McCarty Dairy in Bird City and Callicrate Cattle Company southwest of St. Francis, which showcase just a part of our agriculture heritage.

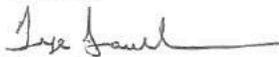
All along the proposed byway route one can see farming of various crops, including wheat, sunflowers, milo, corn, and beans. Round bales of hay dot the countryside and a large variety of cattle can be seen grazing. Windmills and barns are everywhere.

Most of the terrain is flat to gentle rolling until one reaches the northern part of the route which is home to the Arikaree Breaks, Cheyenne County's "Mini Grand Canyon," an amazing site to view. Speaking of views, we have some of the best sunrises, sunsets and nighttime star gazing in our wide open spaces that can't be seen just anywhere.

Additionally, one finds art galleries, historic sites and buildings, the largest sunflower painting in the world, hunting and fishing, photo opportunities, bird watching, geo caching, special events and the soon to open St. Francis Motorcycle Museum.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



Tye Faulkender, President
Cheyenne County Development Corporation
P.O. Box 255
St. Francis, Kansas 67756

Resolution #16-03

Land and Sky Scenic Byway

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan (CMP) that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway includes the route described as follows, to wit;

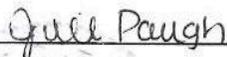
“Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kansas, northward to the Kansas-Nebraska State line in Cheyenne County.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the City Council of the City of Bird City, Kansas, meeting in special session this 27th day of January, 2016, the said route is hereby designated; the LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Bird City shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Bird City, Kansas on January 27th, 2016.



City Clerk



Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 1461

WHEREAS, the Kansas Scenic Byways Committee (KSBC), consisting of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Commerce, Housing, Wildlife, Parks & Tourism and the State Historical Society, has developed guidelines and policies regarding the designation of Kansas Scenic & Historic Byways; and

WHEREAS, a local advocate group has submitted an application to KSBC to develop a corridor management plan that includes specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance and promote a scenic byway, and

WHEREAS, the KSBC has evaluated this local committee's application, and recommends that the Land and Sky Scenic Byway includes the route described as follows, to wit:

Beginning on the point along Kansas Highway 27 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 at the northernmost city limits of Sharon Springs, Kan., northward to the Kansas-Nebraska state line in Cheyenne County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: By the City Commission of the City of Goodland, Kansas, meeting in regular session this 8th day of September 2015, the said route is hereby designated: the LAND AND SKY SCENIC BYWAY.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission of the City of Goodland shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display or device along any portion of the scenic byway that is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal Aid Primary System except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

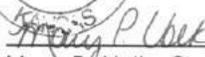
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the KSBC as part of the corridor management plan to preserve this scenic route.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Goodland, Kansas, on September 8, 2015.



Brian Linin, Mayor





Mary P. Volk, City Clerk

Mid-America Camp Inn

2802 Commerce Rd., Goodland, KS 67735 • 785-899-5431

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter expresses our support for the proposed byway. As the byway's intersection with Interstate 70, we look forward to increased tourism along Highway 27. We are excited to have a byway and look forward to welcoming all visitors to our beautiful northwest corner of Kansas.

Sherman County is one of only two sunflower oil market pricing locations in the United States. Besides the standard Great Plains crops, the county is also a leader in pinto bean production and has a liquid fertilizer plant.

Conflict erupted along Beaver Creek in northeastern Sherman County in 1867 and 1875. Lt. Lyman Kidder and his detachment were all killed in 1867 while searching for Lt. Col. George Custer. Three buffalo hunters were killed in 1875, sparking the Battle of Sappa Hole. Wallace Branch of Great Western Cattle Trail also crossed Beaver Creek in the same vicinity from 1883-86. Two historic ranches are nearby.

"America's First Patented Helicopter" was patented in Goodland in 1912. A replica may be seen at High Plains Museum. Sherman County Historical Society preserves Ennis-Handy House, a 1907 Queen Anne home, on a brick street intersection. "Speed King" Jim Brown laid those bricks in 1927.

Goodland is an arts community with several murals and Art Deco buildings. Carnegie Arts Center sponsors monthly artist showings in a former Carnegie Library. The "World's Largest Painting on an Easel", a 24 by 32 feet replica of Vincent van Gogh's "Three Sunflowers in a Vase" stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East. Three other parks have smaller paintings on easels in the Art in the Parks program.

Sincerely,



Karen Weber

Owner



2655 Highway 40
Wallace, KS 67761

January 28, 2016

Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Kansas Byway Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Fort Wallace Museum Board of Directors, I wish to heartily endorse the establishment of the new Land and Sky Scenic Byway, which will include Wallace and the Fort Wallace Museum. We are so appreciative of the opportunities for increased travel through our area. As you may know, we have embarked on some ambitious projects here at our museum and want to be a worthy stop on both the Land and Sky, and the Western Vistas Byways.

We are grateful for the opportunities that will be afforded us by being added to the Land and Sky Scenic Byway! Thank you for investing in Western Kansas!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jayne Humphrey Pearce".

Jayne Humphrey Pearce
President,
Fort Wallace Memorial Association

December 8, 2015



Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields,

I am writing to express our support for the proposed High Plains Scenic Byway. With the Byway intersecting Interstate 70, it will enable the communities of northwest Kansas to encourage increased tourism along Highway 27. As you know, much of the local business economy of our small communities depends greatly on tourism, and being able to draw additional traffic from Interstate 70 is a key factor.

Sherman County is home to significant agricultural production and related industries. Sunflower oil prices have a market report from Sherman County. Besides the volume of wheat, corn, and other grain production, Sherman County is a leader in pinto bean production. Agro-Culture Liquid Fertilizer has a plant in Sherman County, that helps them to serve the needs of more than 40 states, Mexico, Canada, and Belize.

Sherman County is also flush with great historical events. In 1867 there was conflict along Beaver Creek in northeastern Sherman County. Lt. Lyman Kidder and his detachment were all killed while searching for Lt. Col. George Custer. In 1875, three buffalo hunters were killed, sparking the Battle of Sappe Hole. Wallace Branch of the Great Western Cattle Trail also crossed Beaver Creek in the same vicinity from 1883-86. Nearby that location are two historic ranches.

America's First Patented Helicopter was patented in Goodland in 1912. A replica may be seen at the High Plains Museum. The Sherman County Historical Society preserved the Ennis-Handy House, a 1907 Queen Anne home, on a brick street intersection. Jim "Speed King" Brown laid those bricks in 1927. Many of the red bricks that decorate Main Street and the downtown Goodland area were set by Mr. Brown, an Oneida Indian. He worked for Cook and Ransom Company, and could easily lay 36,000 bricks in a single day.

Goodland is an arts community with several murals and Art Deco buildings. Carnegie Arts Center sponsors monthly artist showings in a former Carnegie Library—with December featuring the work of talented local artists. The World's Largest Painting on an Easel, a 24 by 32 foot replica of Vincent VanGogh's "Three Sunflowers in a Vase" stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East. Three other parks have smaller paintings on easels as a result of the Arts in the Parks program.

During April 1886, our institution was opened as the first bank in Sherman County, and has been owned and operated by my family since the 1950s. With so much of our bank's history tied to Sherman County and northwest Kansas, I have been involved with economic development efforts, founding new charitable organizations, and assisting the schools and other organizations however I can. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to support the High Plains Scenic Byway. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything further from me.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Schylee D. Goodwin", is written over the word "Cordially,".

Schylee D. Goodwin, Esq., MBOE, CSSBB
Director | VP, Operational Excellence



924 Main | PO Box 499 Goodland, KS 67735



(888) 828-BANK (2265)



www.cBankWest.com

March 4, 2016

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Kansas Byway Committee

To Whom it may concern

For the Land and Scenic Byway:

Wallace County is part of the the High Plains and the highest point in Kansas is known as Mount Sunflower, a knoll near the Kansas - Colorado border is 12 miles north and 1 mile west of Highway 40. The lofty altitude is 4,039 feet above sea level. The high point is located in a privately owned pasture that is part of a working cattle ranch. The public is welcome to explore the area as long as they treat it with respect.

Weskan is an unincorporated farming community with a population of approximately 250 friendly souls. It was born as Montero on April 30, 1887. Ed Carter coined the name of Weskan from the first 3 letters of west and Kansas. It is located along Highway 40 at the base of Mount Sunflower.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Harold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E".

Ed Harold
Curator of Mount Sunflower

Brenda Chatfield, Interim-President
Northwest Kansas Technical College
1209 Harrison Ave.,
Goodland, KS 67735

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields:

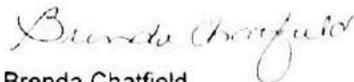
This letter is written to express the support of Northwest Kansas Technical College for the proposed 'Land and Sky Scenic Byway' in western Kansas. The byway will provide much incentive for travelers to explore the many attractions our area has to offer.

Northwest Tech has strong ties to the regional community including a rich tradition supporting the agribusiness economy of western Kansas. Our sixteen academic programs include the Kansas Institute of Diesel Technology, the graduates of which are essential to the agricultural operations of regional farmers. We are currently in the process of developing a Precision Agriculture program that will train the next generation of farmers with the high tech knowledge and skills to ensure the sustainability and efficiency necessary for the needs of 21st century agriculture operations. These, and all of our programs, would be available for visitors to tour and learn from as the traverse the 'Land and Sky Scenic Byway.'

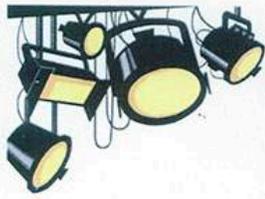
The Goodland community offers a variety of art, cultural, and historical attractions for visitors, as well. Northeast of town is the site of the "Kidder Massacre," a well-documented historical war event that took place in 1867. Our High Plains Museum features a working replica of "America's First Patented Helicopter," which was patented in 1912. Goodland is also home to the "World's Largest Painting on an Easel", a 24 by 32 feet replica of Vincent van Gogh's "Three Sunflowers in a Vase" stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East.

We are excited to have a byway through our community and look forward to the opportunities it will provide to the region and visitors alike.

Sincerely,



Brenda Chatfield
Interim-President



P.O. Box 448
Goodland, KS 67735
Phone: (785) 899-6103
www.goodlandnet.com/movies

Enjoy Tonight at the Movies

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

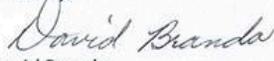
Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter expresses our support for the proposed **Land and Sky Scenic Byway**. As the byway's intersection with Interstate 70, we look forward to increased tourism along Highway 27. We are excited to have a byway and look forward to welcoming all visitors to our beautiful northwest corner of Kansas. Sherman County is one of only two sunflower oil market prices in the United States. Besides the standard Great Plains crops, the county is also a leader in pinto bean production and has a liquid fertilizer plant.

Conflict erupted along Beaver Creek in northeastern Sherman County in 1867 and 1875. Lt. Lyman Kidder and his detachment were all killed in 1867 while searching for Lt. Col. George Custer. Three buffalo hunters were killed in 1875, sparking the Battle of Sappa Hole. Wallace Branch of Great Western Cattle Trail also crossed Beaver Creek in the same vicinity from 1883-86. Two historic ranches are nearby. "America's First Patented Helicopter" was patented in Goodland in 1912. A replica may be seen at High Plains Museum. Sherman County Historical Society preserves Ennis-Handy House, a 1907 Queen Anne home, on a brick street intersection. "Speed King" Jim Brown laid those bricks in 1927.

Goodland is an arts community with several murals and Art Deco buildings. Carnegie Arts Center sponsors monthly artist showings in a former Carnegie Library. The "World's Largest Painting on an Easel", a 24 by 32 feet replica of Vincent van Gogh's "Three Sunflowers in a Vase" stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East. Three other parks have smaller paintings on easels in the Art in the Parks program.

Sincerely,


David Branda
Owner

THE BUFFALO GUYS

Ken Klemm
104 E. 10th
Goodland, KS 67735
Direct. 785-899-9274
Fax. 785-890-8417
ken@thebuffaloguys.com
www.TheBuffaloGuys.com

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

Dear Mr. Shields:

This letter expresses our support for the proposed Land and Sky Scenic Byway. As the byway's intersection with Interstate 70, we look forward to increased tourism along Highway 27. We are excited to have a byway and look forward to welcoming all visitors to our beautiful northwest corner of Kansas.

Sherman County is one of only two sunflower oil market prices in the United States. Besides the standard Great Plains crops, the county is also a leader in pinto bean production and has a liquid fertilizer plant.

Conflict erupted along Beaver Creek in northeastern Sherman County in 1867 and 1875. Lt. Lyman Kidder and his detachment were all killed in 1867 while searching for Lt. Col. George Custer. Three buffalo hunters were killed in 1875, sparking the Battle of Sappa Hole. Wallace Branch of Great Western Cattle Trail also crossed Beaver Creek in the same vicinity from 1883-86. Two historic ranches are nearby.

"America's First Patented Helicopter" was patented in Goodland in 1912. A replica may be seen at High Plains Museum. Sherman County Historical Society preserves Ennis-Handy House, a 1907 Queen Anne home, on a brick street intersection. *"Speed King"* Jim Brown laid those bricks in 1927.

Goodland is an arts community with several murals and Art Deco buildings. Carnegie Arts Center sponsors monthly artist showings in a former Carnegie Library. The *"World's Largest Painting on an Easel"*, a 24 by 32 feet replica of Vincent van Gogh's *"Three Sunflowers in a Vase"* stands on an 80-foot high easel in Pioneer Park East. Three other parks have smaller paintings on easels in the Art in the Parks program.

Sincerely,
Ken Klemm
Ken Klemm
Managing Partner

OLDE WESTPORT

Spice & Trading Co.

Scott Shields
Kansas Byways Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

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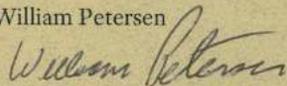
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Sincerely,

William Petersen



Board Member, Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau

P O Box 749 Goodland, Kansas 67735 (785) 899-2020
www.oldwestportspice.com



GOODLAND

SHERMAN CO - GOODLAND
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

PO Box 927 • 925 Main • Goodland, KS 67735 • 785-890-3515 • 888-824-4222

Scott Shields
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Sincerely,

David Branda

Chairman, Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Gary J. Walter
Janelle S. Walter
705 N. East Ave
Oberlin, KS 67749

Steven L. Miller
1511 Upland Dr
Silver Spring, MD 20905

January 28, 2016

Mr. Scott Shields
Kansas Byway Coordinator
Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

RE: Letter of support for the Land and Sky Scenic Byway

Dear Mr. Shields,

As residents of Northwest Kansas and land owners in the Arikaree Breaks we would like to voice support for a byway in Cheyenne County.

You are aware of the work being done by not only St. Francis but also other area communities to promote themselves to both new residents and travelers. The opening of the Motorcycle Museum being the newest addition to the community. Community attitudes exist that are geared to both get things done in this community and complement other area communities in bringing people to the area. Tourism can certainly be an additional source of revenue in the area and help support the people and communities.

As an owner of part of the Arikaree Breaks we are pleased that others appreciate its uniqueness as well as we do. People have gathered the history of the breaks and put that in written form where routes used ages ago can be followed by visitors. While people may appreciate the area looking at pictures, to actually realize the grandeur of the breaks the area must be seen in person. We are very pleased it has made the Bucket List and has been getting more publicity.

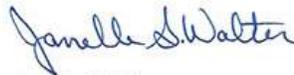
Governor Brownback was shown the Arikaree Breaks by then Representative Ward Cassidy and was very impressed by not only the size and scope of the area but also the topography change from farm ground to the breaks in such a short amount of distance.

It is our hope the Land and Sky Scenic Byway can be realized. I believe there will be increased appreciation for the State of Kansas and work to remove the perception that there is nothing of interest in the Northwest part of the State.

Sincerely,



Gary J. Walter



Janelle S. Walter



Steven L. Miller

APPENDIX C
ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION
FOR USE IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF
INTERPRETATION

Land and Sky Scenic Byway Possible Interpretive Points of Interest

Land's Legacy

- High Plains and Short Grass
 - Mt. Sunflower
- Western Interior Sea
 - Hoodoos
 - *Elasmosaurus Platyurus*
 - Smoky Hill Chalk Member
- Badlands
 - Smoky Hill River Badlands
 - Horsethief Draw
 - Salt Grass Canyon
 - Red Hills
 - Motti Hill
 - Hudkins Draw
 - Bradshaw Draw
 - Wallace Bluffs
 - Homestead Canyon
 - Headquarters Draw
 - Barrel Spring Draw
 - Rattlesnake Gulch
 - Arikaree Breaks
 - Three Corners
 - Mini Grand Canyon
 - Devil's Gap

First People, First Nations

- First farmers
 - Story of corn
 - Cheyenne
 - Arapaho
- Fort Wallace Museum
- High Plains Museum
- Cheyenne County Museum

Immigrants All

- Crop origins
- Settlers
 - *"They Came to Stay"*
 - Volga Germans (*Volgadeutschen*)
 - Salem Lutheran Church
 - GAR Civil War veterans
 - GAR Cemetery
 - Goodland Cemetery
 - Fort Wallace Museum
 - Clark-Robidoux House
 - Ennis-Handy House
 - Rhea Antique Pump Organs
 - Swedes
 - Bethany Lutheran Church

Bridging the American Divide

- Immigrant Trails
 - Smoky Hill Trail/Butterfield's Overland Despatch
 - Leavenworth and Pikes Peak Express
- Railroads
 - Transportation of crops and implements
 - Farmer/soldiers
 - Rock Island
 - Burlington Northern
 - Kansas Pacific
 - Kansas Pacific Railroad Superintendent's House
- Great Western Cattle Trail
 - Homestead Ranch
 - Texas Trail Canyon
- Frontier Military
 - Fort Wallace Museum
 - Fort Wallace Post Cemetery
 - Kidder Massacre
 - Cherry Creek Encampment
 - Round Hole Campsite
 - Central/Mountain Time

Past Forward

- National Weather Service
- Conservation
 - Windbreaks
 - Contouring
- Fertilizer plant
- Northwest Kansas Technical College
 - Precision agriculture
- Range management
- Grass-fed beef
 - GoodLand Beef
- Elevators
- Grain bunkers
- Agricultural aviation
- Center-pivot irrigation
- GPS
- Sunflowers
 - Oil
 - Confectionary
 - Giant van Gogh Painting, “Three Sunflowers in a Vase”
 - Sunflower processing center
 - Sunflower marketing center
- Crops
 - Wheat
 - Corn
 - Triticale
 - Dry beans
 - 21st Century Bean
 - Alfalfa
 - Cane sorghum
 - Millet
 - Milo
 - Oats
 - Soybeans
 - Triticale
- Livestock
 - Bison
 - The Buffalo Guys
 - Cattle
 - Various breeds
 - Feedlots
 - Callicrate Bander
 - Dairy
 - Goats
 - Llamas

- Poultry (chickens)
- Rabbits
- Sheep
- Swine
- Upland game birds (pheasants, chukars, quail)
- Railroads
 - Kyle Railroad
 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - BNSF
- County fairs
 - Northwest Kansas District Free Fair
 - Cheyenne County Fair
 - Wallace County Fair

State Byway Interpretive Themes

The following is some additional historic information to be considered for interpretive development based on state interpretive theme/sub-themes.

First People/First Nations

Native American farmers were generally east of LSSB corridor. The nomadic tribes who claimed what would become the corridor traded for corn and other produce, along with many other products they wanted and needed.

The Ancient Indian Traders' Trail crosses LSSB about a mile south of the Cheyenne-Sherman County Line.

The first nations domesticated the dog as a beast of burden. Spanish explorers reintroduced the horse to the Americas. Native Americans traded for and raided Spanish communities for horses. They developed a culture surrounding the horse, becoming expert hunters and the world's finest light cavalry.

Immigrants All

Former Union soldiers eventually homesteaded in the LSSB three counties, along with many other people who sought a new life and new opportunities. Germans from Russia (*Volgadeutschen*) brought a wheat variety called Turkey Red to the Great Plains. Turkey Red was much better adapted to the drier climate in Kansas than previous varieties and wheat became the dominant crop. When the twin plagues of Dust Bowl and Great Depression struck in the 1930's, many abandoned the High Plains for what they hoped would be greener pastures on the West Coast.

John C. Fremont, "The Great Pathfinder", explored parts of Northeast Kansas, including the Flint Hills, in 1842. On his return from California in 1848, he discovered the Smoky Hill River's headwaters. Following the river, Fremont's party camped twice in what is now Wallace County.

In 1859, would-be gold miners raced to the Colorado gold fields. People poured out of Eastern Kansas in hopes of striking it rich. Some of the '59ers followed the Smoky Hill River, a dangerous, ill-marked route which crossed what is now Wallace County. Many died. The least used gold field route followed the Republican River through what is now Cheyenne County. On February 26, 1859, Lawrence's *Herald of Freedom* newspaper expressed the hope that the Jayhawkers would all leave for the gold fields so the remaining people could recuperate from the battles of Bleeding Kansas.

In May 1858, *New York Tribune* Editor Horace Greeley came to the Kansas Republican Convention in Osawatomie. He was taking his own advice to “Go West and grow up with the country”. He had popularized the phrase “Bleeding Kansas” and was also a strong advocate of a transcontinental railroad. After the convention, Greeley took a Leavenworth and Pikes Peak Express stagecoach, passing through what is now Cheyenne County on his way to Denver.

Shortly after Greeley’s visit, the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention met. One of the convention’s tasks was to define the state’s borders. Those in the “Big Kansas” faction wanted a state that reached from the Platte River to the summits of the Rockies. The “Little Kansas” faction wanted what would eventually become the state’s borders, with one possible exception. Some of the delegates wanted the state’s western border set at the 100th meridian, which would have placed LSSB corridor in Colorado. Instead, it was set at the 102nd meridian, the current western border. Congress accepted the Wyandotte Constitution and Kansas entered the Union Jan. 29, 1861, ending the Bleeding Kansas period.

In 1865, Fort Wallace was established to guard the Smoky Hill Trail and the Butterfield’s Overland Despatch stage route. Buffalo soldiers were stationed there to protect passengers and freight. The fort was the center of many battles as Native American warriors, soldiers and settlers competed to decide whose vision of the future would prevail. At the end of the fort’s existence, the Wallace Branch of the Great Western Cattle Trail offered yet another vision of the future. Eventually, the homesteaders’ vision won and the LSSB corridor became farm and ranch country.

Land’s Legacy

Water is one of the important stories along LSSB. Hard as it may be to believe, LSSB corridor once was drowned beneath the vast Western Interior Sea. The sea reached from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Circle. Dinosaurs swam in its depths, including *Elasmosaurus platyurus*, discovered near Fort Wallace. A replica now hangs in the Fort Wallace museum. *E. platyurus* and many other fossils were discovered in the Smoky Hill Chalk geological formation. Many fossils are still found in Smoky Hill Chalk.

Continued uplift of the Rocky Mountains produced rivers. Erosion covered those rivers and created the Ogallala Aquifer. In an ironic twist, the Rockies extend a vast rain shadow over the land to their east, forcing farmers to irrigate. In the early 20th century, Wallace County had more miles of running water than any other Kansas county. Irrigation dried up those water sources. Farmers began mining the aquifer, the gift of the Rockies, the same Rockies whose rain shadow kept the land drought prone. Parts of Wallace County have only 15 years left of aquifer water, which has very grim implications for agriculture’s future.

In the rain shadow of the Rockies, water has always been precious. Nomadic Native American tribes climbed the Ladder of Rivers as they followed the great herds of game. The great cattle drives also climbed that ladder, going from water source to water source as cowboys drove their cattle to the northern trailheads.

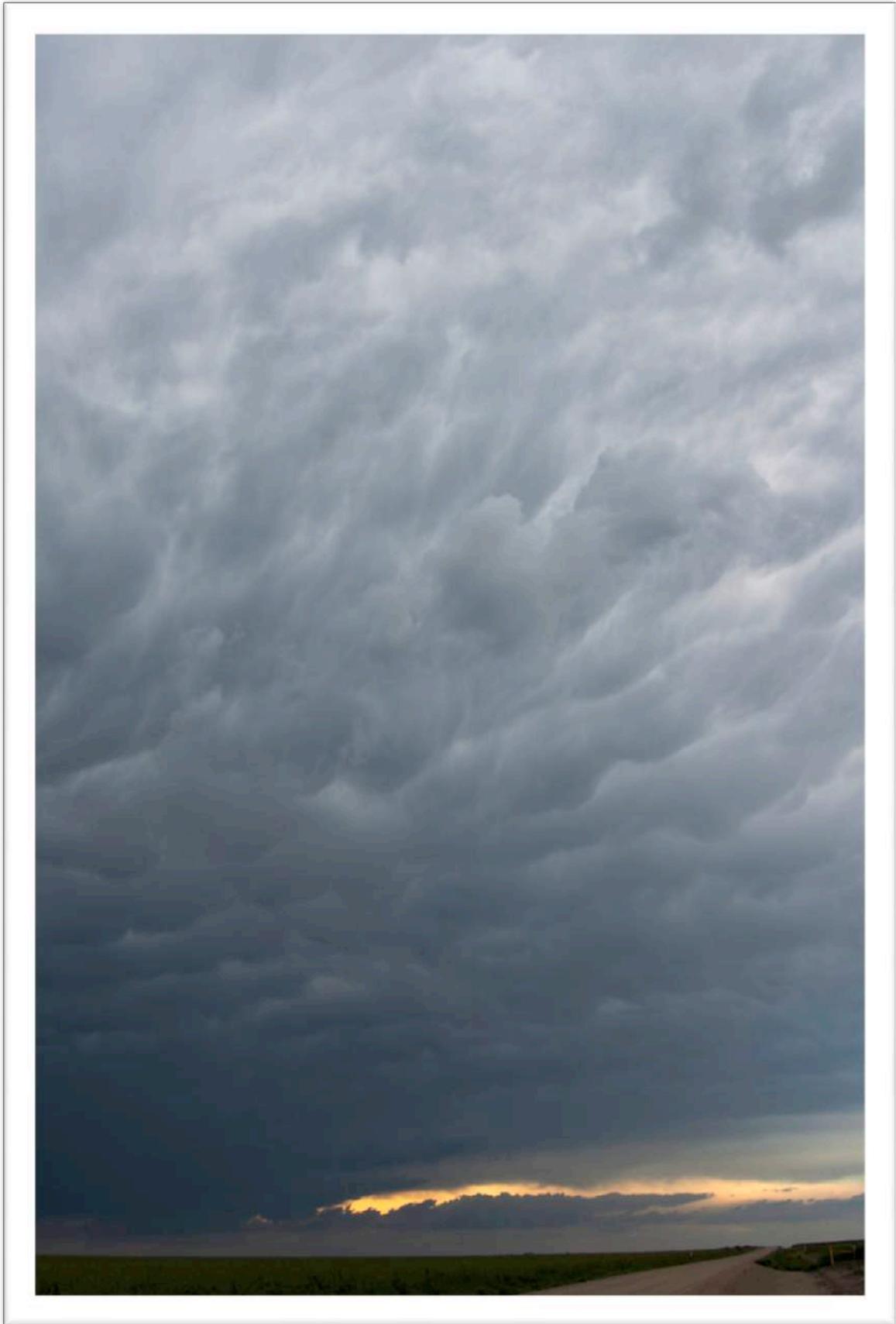
Past Forward

Barbed wire changed LSSB corridor's future. Cheap fencing allowed each homesteader to differentiate his or her property from the neighbor's property. Cowboys on the cattle trail cut settlers' barbed wire whenever they could so their herds could pass. But the Legislature was on the settlers' side. Texas longhorns carried deadly ticks that killed settlers' cattle. Legislature pushed quarantine lines ever westward until the Wallace Branch of the Great Western Cattle Trail was the only corridor remaining for cattle drives in Kansas. Soon the settlement line – and its barbed wire – encroached on the final cattle trail routes and the Legislature pushed out the cattle.

The original tractors led to current precision agriculture, a farming management concept based on observing, measuring and responding to inter and intra-field variability in crops. The environmental disaster of the Dust Bowl led to current conservation practices.

Windmills pumped water from the ground, bringing water to homesteads, livestock and crops. Eventually, windmills gave way to irrigation via gated pipe, then to center-pivot irrigation. Center-pivot irrigation has evolved to deliver water ever more efficiently. Even with the most efficient irrigation systems, drought has at times restricted water use to the point where ranchers have had to ship their cattle to greener pastures, including those in the Flint Hills.





Land And Sky Scenic Byway Wildlife

Animals

Amphibians:

Frogs and Toads

Great Plains Toad, *Anaxyrus cognatus*
Green Toad, *Anaxyrus debilis* (Threatened)
[Woodhouse's Toad](#), *Anaxyrus woodhousii*
[Blanchard's Cricket Frog](#), *Acris blanchardi*
[Boreal Chorus Frog](#), *Pseudacris maculate*
[Plains Leopard Frog](#), *Lithobates blairi*
[Bullfrog](#), *Lithobates catesbeianus*
[Plains Spadefoot](#), *Spea bombifrons*

Salamanders

[Barred Tiger Salamander](#), *Ambystoma mavortium*

Reptiles:

Turtles

[Common Snapping Turtle](#), *Chelydra serpentine*
[Northern Painted Turtle](#), *Chrysemys picta*
[Ornate Box Turtle](#), *Terrapene ornate*
[Yellow Mud Turtle](#), *Kinosternon flavescens*
[Spiny Softshell](#), *Apalone spinifera*

Lizards

[Lesser Earless Lizard](#), *Holbrookia maculate*
[Prairie Lizard](#), *Sceloporus consobrinus*
[Six-lined Racerunner](#), *Aspidoscelis sexlineata*

Snakes

[Eastern Racer](#), *Coluber constrictor*
[Prairie Rattlesnake](#), *Crotalus viridus*

Significant Mammals:

[Black-Tailed Prairie Dog](#), *Cynomys ludovicianus*
[Coyote](#), *Canis latrans*
[Mule Deer](#), *Odocoileus hemionus*
[White-tail Deer](#), *Odocoileus virginianus*
[Pronghorn Antelope](#), *Antilocapra americana*