



**Date:** October 1, 2016

**To:** The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership,

The California Historic Route 66 Association strongly supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. This national commemoration will provide much needed support for preserving and promoting iconic features of Route 66 in California, as well as across the other seven states through which the Mother Road passes.

In 1999, the U.S. Congress authorized the National Park Service to create the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, helping to reinvent the road as a domestic and international tourism destination.

However, with that program scheduled to sunset in 2019, the virtually unanimous congressional support for the internationally popular road will not be sustained. Although Congress reauthorized the ten-year Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in 2009, we are told that another reauthorization is unlikely. The National Historic Trails program, with assured permanent funding and connection with many other historic corridors will sustain federal focus and provide a far more secure and more broadly supportive haven.

We are totally dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and enjoyment of the historic corridor in California and are committed to helping insure that National Historic Trail designation will continue the work of the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. In the process, a Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among communities, non-profit organizations, and state organizations such as our California Historic Route 66 Association that help preserve and promote Route 66.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glen Duncan". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Glen Duncan, president  
California Historic Route 66 Association



## ***Route 66 Association of Missouri***

**Date:** February 6, 2017

**To:** The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership,

**THE ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI** supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail *at this time but reserves the right to amend our decision when other details become available.* This designation will provide much needed support to preserve the iconic features of Route 66 and maximize the benefits available through heritage tourism.

Route 66 has served as an economic engine since the 1920s. It brought significant commerce in serving the travelling public with restaurants, motels, gas stations, and merchandise. Unfortunately, it was eventually replaced with the interstate system. As a result, many communities, businesses, attractions, and individuals suffered economic loss. In 1999 Congress created the Corridor Preservation Program to help revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating Route 66, helping reinvent the road as a domestic and international tourism destination.

The Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is scheduled to sunset in 2019. Securing National Historic Trail designation will permanently ensure a Federal focus on Route 66 that will help preserve and promote Route 66 and its historic role in developing America through strong partnerships between the National Park Service and the communities, non-profit organizations, and state organizations along this important historic road."

National Historic Trail designation for Route 66 will be of significant economic and cultural benefit. Accordingly, **THE ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI** supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail.

Sincerely,

Tommy G. Pike, President

Route 66 Association of Missouri

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*Your contact information will not be shared; it will only be used to show the number of supporters from specific congressional districts or states. Providing your email means you will receive periodic updates and communications from "Route 66: The Road Ahead Initiative." You may opt out at any time.*

First Name: TOMMY PIKE, PRESIDENT, ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

Address: 1602 East Dale Street

City: Springfield      State: Missouri      Zip Code: 65803-4014 (home address)

Email Address: [furyon66@earthlink.net](mailto:furyon66@earthlink.net)

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI, P O BX 8117, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63156 (Association address)

***The Main Street of America***



**Old Route 66 Association of Texas**  
**3511 SW. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
**Amarillo, TX 79106**

September 26, 2016

**The Old Route 66 Association of Texas** supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. This designation will provide much needed support to preserve the iconic features of Route 66 and maximize the benefits available through heritage tourism.

Route 66 has served as a true economic engine since the 1920s but when it was replaced with the interstate system in the 1970s, the Texas Panhandle from Shamrock to Glenrio was changed forever.

However, in 1999 the National Park Service created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, reinventing the road as a domestic and international tourism destination.

For Texas' stretch of Route 66 this has resulted in-

- increased visitation, especially from international tourists.
- increased local and state sales tax revenue.
- new and reopened businesses along the route.
- regional and national festivals along the route.
- bus tours including Texas in their Route 66 itineraries.
- cooperative marketing amongst federal, state and local organizations.
- increased awareness of protecting our historic Route 66 resources.

The continuation of these economic benefits may be in jeopardy, however. Despite its reauthorization by Congress in 2009, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is scheduled to sunset in 2019. Securing National Historic Trail designation will permanently ensure a federal focus on Route 66 that will continue the work of the Corridor Preservation Program. A Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among the

communities, non-profit organizations, and state agencies that help ensure visitors have the best experience possible when traveling Route 66 to discover America.

National Historic Trail designation for Route 66 will be of significant benefit to the Texas Panhandle. **The Old Route 66 Association of Texas** strongly supports this designation.

Sincerely,



Dora Meroney  
President  
Old Route 66 Association of Texas



**National Trust for  
Historic Preservation**  
*Save the past. Enrich the future.*

May 27, 2021

The Honorable Darin LaHood  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1424 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1610 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: The Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act

Dear Congressman LaHood and Congresswoman Napolitano,

We appreciate the opportunity to share our support for the Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act. The National Trust enthusiastically endorses this bill and look forward to working with you to ensure its enactment.

### **Interests of the National Trust for Historic Preservation**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a privately-funded charitable, educational, and nonprofit organization chartered by Congress in 1949 to “facilitate public participation in historic preservation” and to further the purposes of federal historic preservation laws. The intent of Congress was for the National Trust “to mobilize and coordinate public interest, participation, and resources in the preservation and interpretation of sites and buildings.” With headquarters in Washington, D.C., 28 historic sites, more than one million members and supporters, and a national network of partners in states, territories, and the District of Columbia, the National Trust works to save America’s historic places and advocates for historic preservation as a fundamental value in programs and policies at all levels of government.

### **Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act**

We appreciate your leadership on this legislation to designate Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. In the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, this legislation had strong bicameral and bipartisan support, was endorsed by the National Park Service, and passed the House unanimously.

Historic Route 66 stretches approximately 2,400 miles from Chicago, IL to Santa Monica, CA, passing through eight states and more than 300 communities. This vital transportation corridor between the Midwest and southern California has endured as a symbol of freedom and mobility while epitomizing a new optimism that pervaded the nation’s economic recovery following World War II.

It is along this route that the National Trust embarked on a Route 66 road trip in the summer of 2018, making 232 stops on the journey from Illinois to California and collecting petition signatures in support of a National Historic Trail designation for Route 66. To date, the petition collected more than 64,000 signers from 49 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, while over 80 organizations, businesses, and local governments from the 8 states bisected by Route 66 have pledged support for the designation.

Route 66 was found by the National Park Service (NPS) to be nationally significant in its 1995 *Route 66 Special Resource Study*, which determined that Route 66 met the eligibility requirements for a National Historic Trail. Numerous buildings along Route 66 are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and a 2012 Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) establishing the road’s national significance was recently approved by the Keeper of the National Register. Route 66 has been designated a

National Scenic Byway in four states, including one segment that has been designated an All-American Road—the highest designation offered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Route 66 is internationally recognized as representing America's love of the automobile and open road. As a Dustbowl migration route, a World War II strategic military route, and a vacation travel route, it has been celebrated in music, literature, television, movies, and popular lore. The National Trust has been supportive of Route 66 preservation efforts for many years, including it in our signature National Treasures program, participating in symposiums, providing strategic assistance, and including Route 66 on the 2018 list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

When Congress passed the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in 1999, a program administered by the National Park Service, Route 66 was described as a symbol of the American people's heritage of travel and their legacy of seeking a better life. Unfortunately, this program has phased out, making the passage of this legislation and historic trail designation vital to highlighting the significance of Route 66, the idiosyncratic culture of independent businesses, kitschy roadside architecture, and unique attractions associated with the route.

We applaud you for your deep commitment to recognizing the national significance of Route 66, and we look forward to working on securing passage of the legislation during the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam Bowman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pam Bowman  
Senior Director of Public Lands Policy  
National Trust for Historic Preservation



## NPCA Position on H.R. 2773, H.R. 2872, and H.R. 3396 before the U.S. House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife

November 17, 2021

Dear Representative,

Since 1919, National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. On behalf of our nearly 1.6 million members and supporters nationwide, I write to share our thoughts on H.R. 2793, H.R. 3326, and H.R. 4706 ahead of a markup held by the House Natural Resources Committee scheduled for November 17, 2021.

**H.R. 2793 - Highlands Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2021:** The bill authorizes a critical program that leverages federal and state funding to conserve areas in the Mid-Atlantic Highlands of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. The program will support efforts to allow the ecosystem and wildlife to adapt to changing temperatures and increased rainstorms while increasing access to open green space for the 23 million people that live in the greater NYC metropolitan area. NPCA **supports** the bill which has proven its effectiveness to protect the Appalachian National Scenic Trail corridor and advances important climate goals.

**H.R. 3326 - Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2021:** NPCA urges that the exemption of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan included in PLREDA be made permanent. The DRECP reflects a decade of painstaking negotiation and compromise among federal, state, and local agencies, along with tribes, industry, NGOs, and the public. The result provides ample opportunities for renewable energy development while protecting the California Desert's unique conservation values. Rather than offering a timeline for unilateral changes to the DRECP in PLREDA, Congress should direct DOI to adopt DRECP as a model for PLREDA implementation due to the former's carefully crafted, landscape-level balance of renewable energy development with conservation and recreation values.

**H.R. 4706 - Blackwell School National Historic Site Act:** NPCA **supports** this legislation, which would designate the Blackwell School site in Marfa, Texas as a National Historic Site. This site commemorates the pride and resiliency of the Mexican American heritage of the region, as well as uncovers the painful past of educational segregation in our country. The Blackwell School site represents the social constructs of American society along the southern US border during each decade of its operation, and despite the ubiquity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries of schools like Blackwell, it is one of only a few remaining structures. This facility remains in good condition,



with an active local coalition supporting its preservation with a desire to include this experience as part of the not yet fully told story of the significant role that Latinos have played in our nation's history, ensuring our national parks can truly tell the story of all Americans.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. Please contact Tucker Johnson, at [tjohnson@npca.org](mailto:tjohnson@npca.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christina Hazard  
Legislative Director  
National Parks Conservation Association



# Arizona's Historic Route 66 National Scenic Byway Program



May 30, 2017

To: The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership

## Support for the Route 66 National Trails Initiative

On behalf of the Arizona Historic Route 66 National Scenic Byway Program, a Route 66 community's grass-roots collaborative, I appreciate this opportunity to show support for the Historic Route 66 National Trails Initiative. We believe this all-important, non-patrician initiative is key to the successful preservation, protection, and promotion of America's most iconic route into the future. We appreciate you sharing our letter of support with the appropriate entities.

As you know, Historic Route 66, dotted with mom and pop businesses, neon signs, and eclectic roadside attractions tells the story of America's historical move west. Contrasted with the other highways of its day, the creation of this 2,448-mile "super highway" in 1926 did not follow a traditionally linear course. Instead its diagonal path linked hundreds of rural communities across eight states and became the principal east-west artery making it the Main Street of America. Like the country that the road traversed, history was made and imprints were left by the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, the war years, and the road trips of the fifties and sixties.

Recognizing the significance of Route 66 as an economic driver and historic treasure, in 1999, the U.S. Congress authorized the National Park Service to create the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. This program has guided the eight states through historic preservation projects, and reestablishing the Route as a one-of-a-kind travel experience. It has also opened lines of communication between communities as well as between states and other key component for future successes.

Gratefully Congress reauthorized the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in 2009, but this stand-alone program is once again due to end in 2019 and there is still much work to be done. Exploring a more secure future for Historic Route 66, it became clear early on that Route 66 would be a perfect addition to the National Historic Trails Program adding an American treasure to the collection, and opening new avenues for continued historic preservation and promotion of Route 66. The Arizona National Scenic Byway Program is committed to making this important initiative become a reality for the future of our communities and attractions.

Sharlene Fouser, Byway Coordinator  
Arizona's Historic Route 66 All-American Road

## Illinois Route 66 Association

October 1, 2016

The Route 66 Association of Illinois supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. This designation will provide much needed support to preserve the iconic features of Route 66 and maximize the benefits available to Heritage tourism.

In 1999 the National Park Service created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, and this has assisted with the domestic and international tourism destination.

Illinois has benefitted from 26 of these grants since 2001. These grants, totaling over \$248,000.00 were all matching grants that benefitted businesses and communities throughout the entire state.

The continuation of these economic benefits is in jeopardy. The Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is scheduled to sunset (end) in 2019. Securing the National Historic Trail designation will permanently ensure a federal focus on Route 66 that will continue the work of The Corridor Preservation program. A Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among the communities, non-profit organizations, and state agencies that help ensure visitors have the best experience possible when traveling Route 66 to discover America. The National Trail will provide a cohesive experience along the route, assisted by the individual state associations and byway programs.

The Route 66 Association of Illinois strongly supports this designation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathie Stevanovich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Cathie Stevanovich  
President, Route 66 Association of Illinois

**Date:** September 20, 2016

**To:** The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership,

**The Kansas Historic Route 66 Association** supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. This designation will provide much needed support to preserve the iconic features of Route 66 and maximize the benefits available through heritage tourism.

Route 66 has served as a true economic engine since the 1920s. First it brought significant commerce in serving the travelling public with restaurants, motels, gas stations, and merchandise. Unfortunately, it was soon replaced with the interstate system and the communities that are located along the 13.2 mile stretch in Kansas such as Galena, Riverton and Baxter Springs suffered economic loss as a result. However, in 1999 the National Park Service created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, reinventing the road as a domestic and international tourism destination.

This has resulted in:

- Tourism visits both foreign and domestic
- Sales tax revenue
- Grants for revitalization of the Phillips 66 Visitor Center, Rainbow Bridge and the Galena Viaduct
- Established museum or tourism center
- Opened new businesses like Cars on the Route, Angels on the Route and Café on the Route
- Festivals
- Bus tours, Motorcycle tours and Bicycle tours
- Protecting our historic resources, establishing Historical Districts and placing Icons on Historical registers

The continuation of these economic benefits may be in jeopardy, however. Despite its reauthorization by Congress in 2009, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is scheduled to sunset in 2019. Securing National Historic Trail designation will permanently ensure a federal focus on Route 66 that will continue the work of the Corridor Preservation Program. A Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among the communities, non-profit organizations, and state agencies that help ensure visitors have the best experience possible when traveling Route 66 to discover America.

National Historic Trail designation for Route 66 will be of significant benefit to our **13.2 miles of Route 66 in Kansas and the communities along that route**. We strongly support designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail.

Sincerely,



Renee Charles,  
President  
Kansas Historic Route 66 Association



**CITY OF GLENDORA** CITY HALL

(626) 914-8200

116 East Foothill Blvd., Glendora, California 91741  
www.ci.glendora.ca.us

November 15, 2021

Honorable Darin LaHood  
United States House of Representatives  
18<sup>th</sup> District of Illinois  
1424 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Grace Napolitano  
United States House of Representatives  
32<sup>nd</sup> District of California  
1610 Longworth  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR H.R. 3600 – ROUTE 66 NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT**

Dear Representatives LaHood and Napolitano,

The City of Glendora is pleased to support H.R. 3600, the Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act, which would amend the National Trails System Act to designate approximately 2,400 miles extending from Chicago, Illinois to Santa Monica, California, as the Route 66 National Historic Trail.

Route 66 has long been a widely recognized and critical transportation artery for the United States. The first all-paved highway under the United States Highway System, it connected the Midwest to California, providing a safe and reliable linkage for people and commerce. It helped sustain communities through which it passed, generating opportunities for new businesses that served commercial trucking and the traveling public with motels, service stations, diners and other amenities. Today, Route 66 continues to play an equally important role, encouraging tourism, economic development, and employment, contributing the quality of life of all cities along its way, including Glendora.

It is fitting that such a designation be bestowed on such an important historic asset and that it lay the foundation for future investment to ensure its legacy is preserved.

Sincerely,

Karen Davis  
Mayor

CC: Honorable Judy Chu, United States House of Representatives, 27<sup>th</sup> District of California, 2423 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515



New Mexico Route 66 Association | Est. 1989 a Non-Profit  
1415 Central Avenue NE | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106 | [rt66nm.org](http://rt66nm.org) | [info@rt66nm.org](mailto:info@rt66nm.org)  
National Scenic Byways Best Practices Recognition | 2004 New Mexico Heritage Preservation  
Award Winner | 2003 Preservation Project of The Year: Route 66 Magazine

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Date: April 28, 2017

To: The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership,

The New Mexico Route 66 Association strongly supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. Memorializing Route 66 as a National Historic Trail will provide much needed support to preserve and promote iconic features of Route 66 in New Mexico, as well as across the other seven states through which the Mother Road runs.

In 1999, the U.S. Congress authorized the National Park Service to create the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This Corridor Preservation Program has been a significant catalyst for reinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, helping to reinvent the road as a domestic and international tourism destination. However, with that program scheduled to sunset in 2019, the virtually unanimous congressional support for the internationally popular road will not be sustained. Although Congress reauthorized the ten-year Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in 2009, we are told that another reauthorization is unlikely. The National Historic Trails program, with assured permanent funding and connection with many other historic corridors will sustain federal focus and provide a far more secure and more broadly supportive haven.

We are totally dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and enjoyment of the historic corridor in New Mexico and are committed to helping insure that National Historic Trail designation will continue the work of the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. In the process, a Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among communities, non-profit organizations, and state organizations such as our New Mexico Route 66 Association that help preserve and promote Route 66.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Lea Beasley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Melissa Lea Beasley  
President - New Mexico Route 66 Association  
505.803.6966  
[president@nmrt66.org](mailto:president@nmrt66.org)  
[melissa@melissalea.com](mailto:melissa@melissalea.com)



## Oklahoma Route 66 Association

P.O. Box 446  
Chandler, OK 74834  
www.oklahomaroute66.com  
(405) 258-0080

October 3, 2016

### Route 66 Counties

Ottawa  
Delaware  
Craig  
Rogers  
Tulsa  
Creek  
Lincoln  
Oklahoma  
Canadian  
Caddo  
Blaine  
Custer  
Washita  
Beckham

To: The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association supports the designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. This designation will provide much needed support to preserve the iconic features of Route 66 and maximize the benefits available through heritage tourism.

Route 66 has served as a true economic engine since the 1920s. First it brought significant commerce in serving the travelling public with restaurants, motels, gas stations, and merchandise. Unfortunately, it was soon replaced with the interstate system and Oklahoma Route 66 communities suffered economic loss as a result. However, in 1999 the National Park Service created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to revitalize and promote this historic road. This program has been a significant catalyst for thereinvigorating the Route 66 Corridor, reinventing the road as a domestic and international tourism destination.

This has resulted in

- Overnight tourism visits
- Sales tax revenue
- Grants for revitalization of many places and signs
- Bus tours
- Protecting our historic resources
- Assisted city governments with revitalization projects

The continuation of these economic benefits may be in jeopardy.. Despite its reauthorization by Congress in 2009, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is scheduled to sunset in 2019. Securing National Historic Trail designation will permanently ensure a federal focus on Route 66 that will continue the work of the Corridor Preservation Program. A Route 66 National Historic Trail will promote collaboration among the communities, non-profit organizations, and state agencies that help ensure visitors have the best experience possible when traveling Route 66 to discover America. It also creates an updated version of the trails program with the inclusion of a more modern-day trail.

National Historic Trail designation for Route 66 will be of significant benefit to the Oklahoma Route 66 Association. We strongly support designation of Route 66 as a National Historic Trail.

Sincerely,

Brad Nickson  
President  
Oklahoma Route 66 Association