

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATOR MILLS

Re: In support of WNY Southtown's Scenic Byway Extension to Cattaraugus County

WHEREAS, the New York State Scenic Byway program was created in 1992 by the State Legislature to encourage both economic development and resource conservation; and

WHEREAS, scenic byways are designated in recognition of their cultural or historical significance, recreational or archaeological qualities, or because of natural and scenic beauty along the route; and

WHEREAS, the designation of any road or network of roads as a Scenic Byway has the added benefit of allowing access to federal funding for a range of beneficial projects that are consistent with local community plans and with the objectives of adopted corridor management plans; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation is mandated by the federal government to regulate signs along all highways in New York State that are part of the federally supported Primary Highway System, whether or not they are designated as Scenic Byways, and;

WHEREAS, Primary Highways include selected State, county, and other local government roads that are typically the major travel routes within New York State; and

WHEREAS, designation as a federal primary highway allows eligibility for increased funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of signs along State, county and other local roads within the Primary Highway System includes the prohibition of new off-premise signs; and

WHEREAS, local governments are responsible for not issuing local permits on Primary Highway System segments of said Scenic Byway route and should consider the impact of issuing permits for off-premise signs for county and local roads not on the primary systems to the goals of the byway, and;

WHEREAS, Scenic Byway communities have opportunities to consider and implement alternative means to direct visitors and residents to find sites, shops, lodging and attractions as they travel along the byway routes, including legal-off-premise signage through the NYSDOT's Tourism Orientated Directional Signage (TODS); and

WHEREAS, the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway was approved in 2008 along existing roadways, in the "Southtowns" of Erie County, including roads in the Towns of

Orchard Park, Aurora, Colden, Concord, and Boston and the incorporated Villages of Orchard Park, East Aurora, and Springville; for inclusion on the list of New York State Scenic Byways; and

WHEREAS, an expansion of the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway Is desired, including roads in Erie County, the Towns of Ashford, Ellicottville, and Great Valley and the incorporated Village of Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County, New York.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body supports the corridor management plan for the Scenic Byway and acknowledges the federal requirement that no local permits are to be issued for any new off-premise signs along the Primary Highway System sections of said route; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature encourages the Governor to work with the Legislature and the Department of Transportation to add this new section of Scenic Byway to the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway in the list of New York State Scenic Byways; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Western New York Delegation for the State Legislature, the Governor's Office, the office of Joan McDonald the Commissioner of the New York Department of Transportation, the Cattaraugus County Administrator and Legislative Clerk John R. Searles and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.

Financial Impact: None