

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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Kansas Scenic Byways Receive Grants

The Kansas Scenic Byways program and the state's two national scenic byways will receive a total of \$396,000 in grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to improve and promote the state's scenic byways. The grants are part of the FHWA's National Scenic Byways Program, which recognizes and provides funding for roads designated either locally or nationally as having outstanding scenic, historic, cultural, natural, recreational and archaeological qualities.

The Kansas Scenic Byways program will receive \$160,000 to begin implementing a new marketing plan (under development) that will include digital media, website makeover and overall marketing for Kansas Scenic Byways.

The Flint Hills National Scenic Byway will receive \$76,000 to add a paved parking area for visitors to the Pioneer Bluffs Prairie Information and Education Center located just north of Matfield Green. The Flint Hills Scenic Byway stretches 47.2 miles across the Flint Hills of Kansas on K-177 between Council Grove and Cassoday. The byway skirts the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

The Wetlands and Wildlife National Scenic Byway, headquartered in Great Bend, will receive \$160,000 to create an interpretive project entitled "Revealing the Road to the Byway Traveler." The 76-mile long Byway showcases Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge.

Since 1992, the National Scenic Byways Program has awarded almost \$388 million in funding for more than 2,832 state, tribal and nationally designated byway projects in 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

The Kansas Scenic Byways program is funded by the FHWA and sponsored by the Kansas Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Kansas Department of Commerce and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

To learn more about all nine Kansas Scenic Byways, visit the website at ksbyways.org or call the Kansas Department of Transportation at 785-296-3585. The Kansas Wetlands and Wildlife Scenic Byway website is located at kansaswetlandsandwildlifescenicbyway.com

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