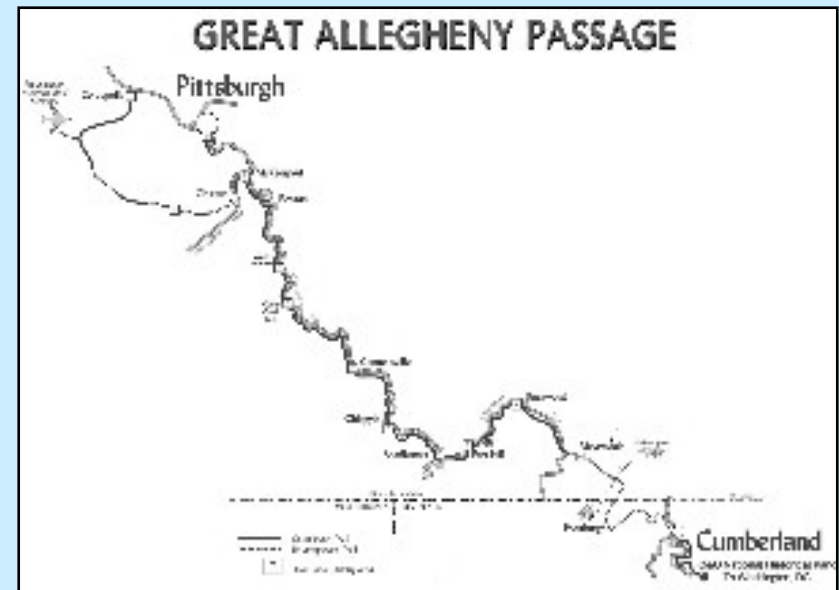


Understanding Transportation Enhancements

National Scenic Byways Conference
Baltimore MD – 22 May 2007



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



Who is FHWA?

- The **Federal Highway Administration** (FHWA) provides expertise, resources, and information to improve the nation's highway system and its intermodal connections.
- The **Federal-Aid Highway Program** provides financial assistance to the States to construct and improve the National Highway System, other roads, bridges, and trails.
- The **Federal Lands Highway Program** provides access to and within national forests and parks, Indian reservations, and other public lands by preparing plans, letting contracts, supervising construction, and inspecting bridges.
- FHWA conducts and manages a comprehensive research, development, and technology program.
- Funds primarily come from the Federal Highway Trust Fund.

The Federal-Aid Highway Program and Byways

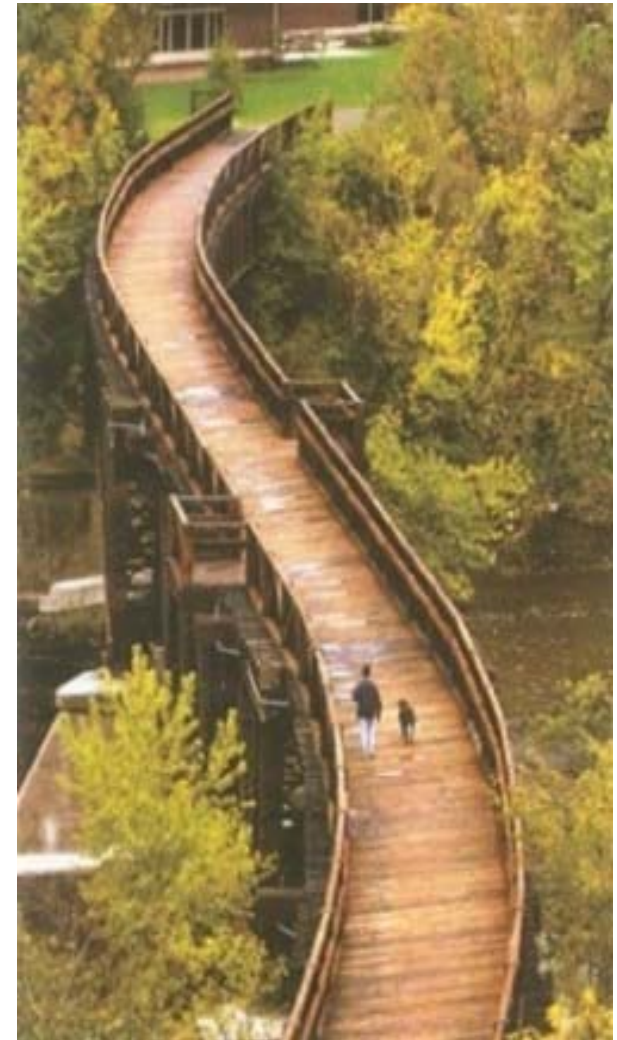
- The Federal-Aid Highway Program has much more available for Byways than just the National Scenic Byways Program.
- The regular FAHP can benefit Byways.→
- Some Byway activities are eligible for **Transportation Enhancement (TE)** funds.
- Some Byways amenities are eligible for **Recreational Trails Program (RTP)** funds.



I-4 Mitigation: Ybor City, Tampa FL

Transportation Enhancements

- 10% of STP (including Equity Bonus attributed to STP): \$800 million per year (2005-2009)
- 12 eligible categories for projects that relate to surface transportation.
- \$8.2 billion for more than 22,000 projects for FY 1992-2006.
- >\$1.2 billion for historic and archaeological projects.
- >\$1.3 billion for byway related projects



Soo Line "S" Bridge (WI) – 1910

Transportation Enhancement Activities

12 Eligible Categories

- 1) Pedestrian and bicycle facilities**
- 2) Pedestrian and bicycle safety and education**
- 3) Scenic or historic easements and sites**
- 4) Scenic or historic highway programs**
- 5) Landscaping and scenic beautification**
- 6) Historic preservation**
- 7) Historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities**
- 8) Rail-trail conversions**
- 9) Inventory, control, and removal of outdoor advertising**
- 10) Archaeological planning and research**
- 11) Mitigate highway water pollution and wildlife mortality**
- 12) Transportation museums**

TE Projects

must relate to surface transportation:

Some factors help establish this relationship:

- ✓ Proximity to a highway or a nonmotorized transportation corridor,
- ✓ Enhances the aesthetic, cultural, or historic aspects of the travel experience, and
- ✓ Serves a past or current transportation purpose.



Ben Schroeder Saddletree Factory, Madison, IN



Historic marker outside the home of Lyndon Baines Johnson

TE Projects

must relate to surface transportation:

Some factors, by themselves, are not good enough:

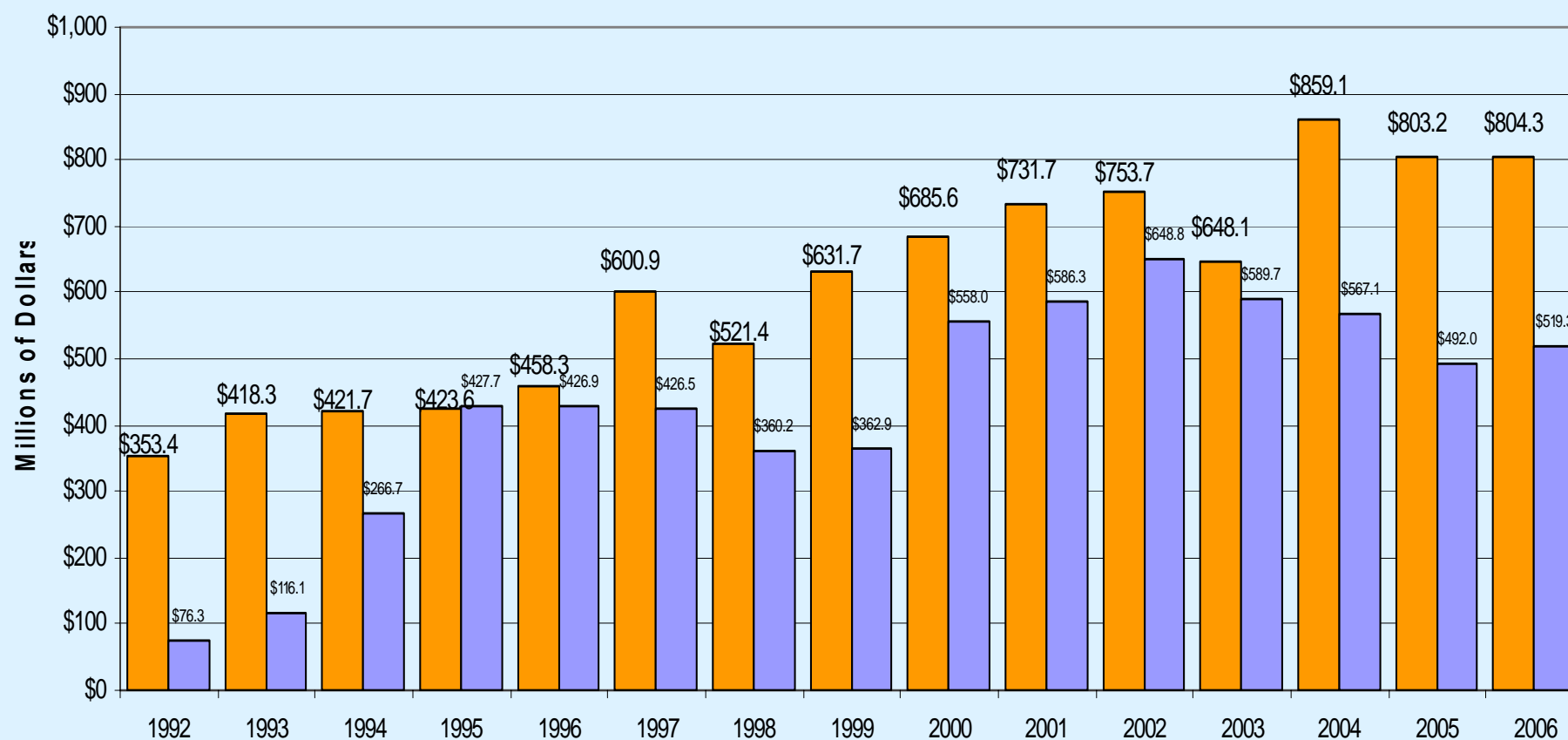
- Near the road, or can see it from the road.
- People used to go there before the highway was built or before people used cars or buses.
- People go there to access some tangentially transportation-related services or records or to conduct routine administrative business.

Overall TE Requirements

- Federally-funded, **State-administered** program.
- Each State has its own process to solicit and select projects for funding. Contact your State TE Manager.
- Reimbursable program: not an up-front grant!
- Some States have minimum or maximum grant sizes.
- In general, 80% Federal share (higher in western States). Some States may have additional restrictions.
- Project must be consistent with statewide and metropolitan transportation planning process.
- Project must meet Federal environmental requirements.
- States are encouraged to use qualified youth corps.

Transportation Enhancement Apportionments and Obligations FY 1992 – FY 2006

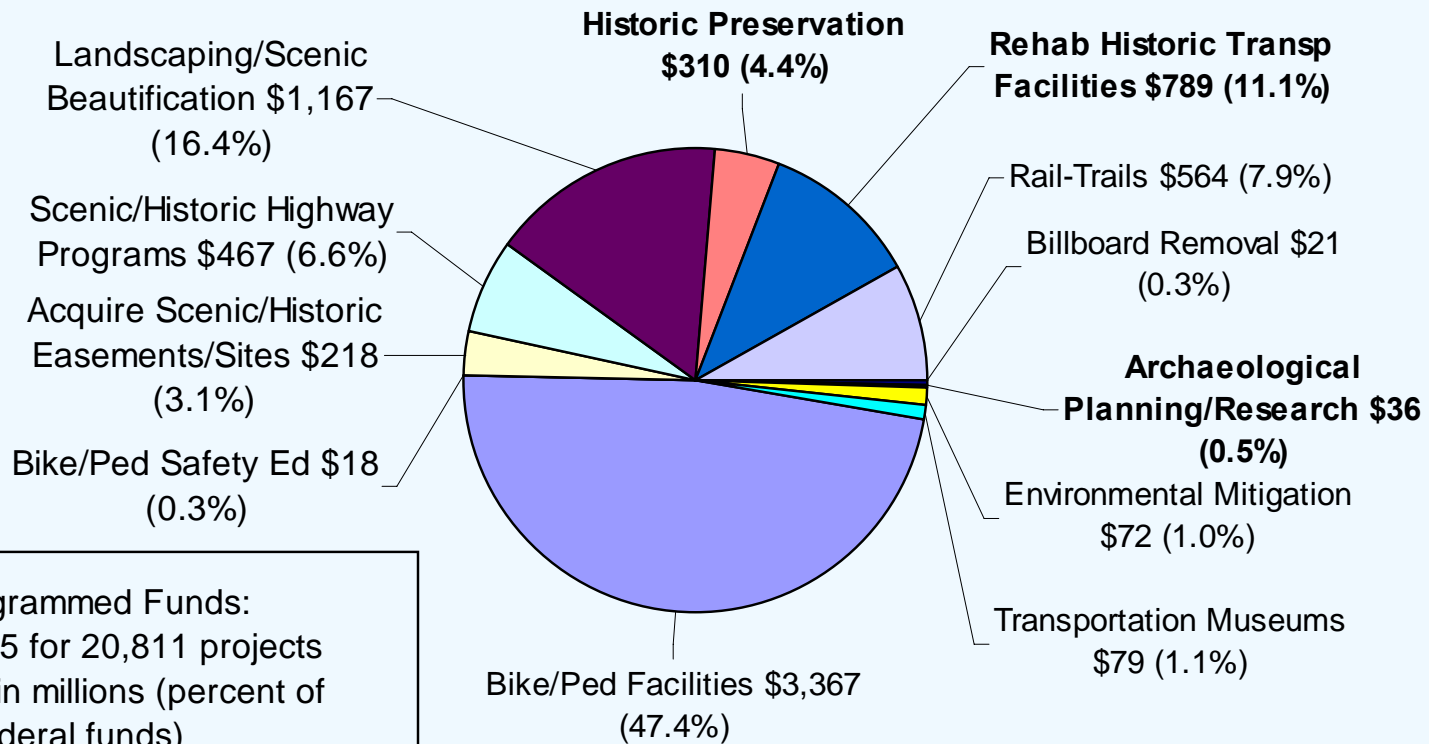
FY 2007–2009 Apportionments will be the same or slightly higher than FY 2005.



Programming Across TE Activities

Source: National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse

Distribution of Federal Funds by TE Activity FY 1992 to FY 2005



Total Programmed Funds:
\$7,108,878,365 for 20,811 projects
Federal funds in millions (percent of
all Federal funds)

Historic Preservation Considerations

- A historic preservation project must relate to surface transportation. This is Highway Trust Fund money: we need to protect the integrity of the program.
- A historic preservation project must result in historic preservation consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects.
- States may define "historic": most require a facility to be on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
- The project should primarily provide a public benefit rather than private benefit.

Preserving historic battlefields . . .



Virginia Civil War Trails

*...Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites;
Scenic or historic highway programs*

Serving visitors interested in history through . . .



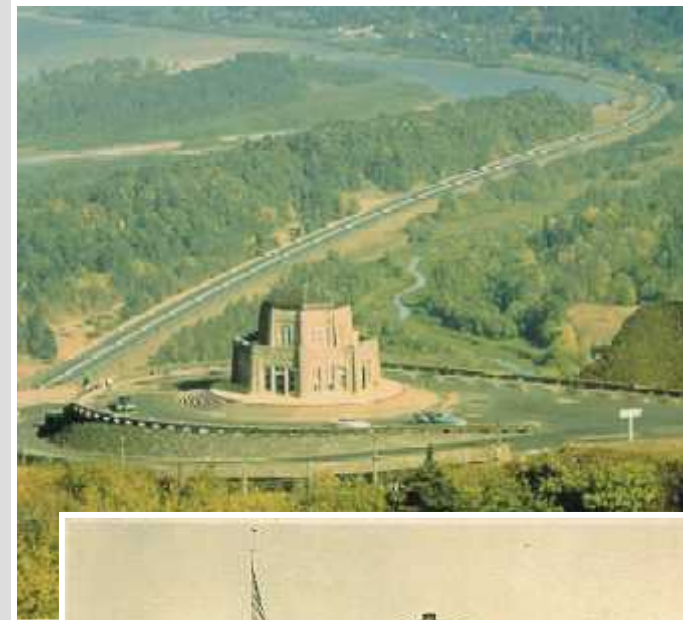
Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center,
Washburn ND



Oregon/California Trail Center, Montpelier ID

*Scenic or historic
highway programs
(including visitor centers)*

Using and reusing historic buildings through . . .



Texaco Station (IN) – 1931

Vista House at Crown Point (OR) – 1918

. . . Scenic or historic highway programs.

Reviving the rail age through . . .



La Posada Hotel, Winslow AZ



The General Morgan Inn, Greeneville TN

Historic preservation: hotels related to railroads.

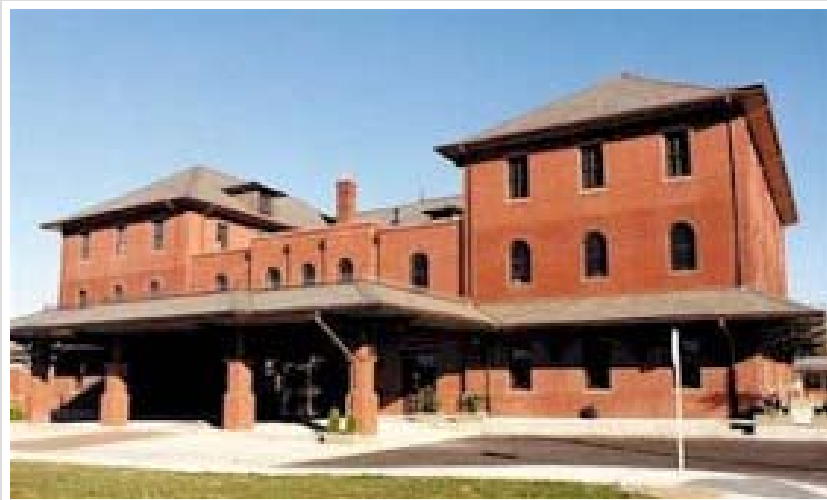
Restoring historic transportation buildings through . . .



Ferry Building (CA) – 1898



Lafayette Depot (IN) – 1902



Rocky Mount Train Station (NC) – 1903

*Preserving ferry terminals and
historic railroad stations*

Preserving historic transportation infrastructure through . . .



Richmond Canal Walk, Richmond VA



Hunterdon County Bridge, Clinton NJ



Rainbow Arch Bridge, Fort Morgan CO

...Historic bridges and canals.

Preserving historic railroad corridors through . . .



Historic Union Pacific Rail Trail State Park (UT)



Mineral Wells To Weatherford Rail-Trail (TX)



...Rail-trails.

Celebrating transportation history through . . .



Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, Washington PA



Lincoln Highway 200-Mile Roadside Museum



Route 66 Museum, Kingman AZ

...Transportation museums.

Recreational Trails Program

- Funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for **all** trail uses.
- Rises from \$60 m in FY 2005 to \$85 m in FY 2009: \$500 million for more than 10,000 projects since 1993.
- Funds distributed by formula to States: see www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/recfunds.htm.
- Represents a portion of the Federal motor fuel excise tax paid by OHV users.
- States solicit and select projects for funding.
- States are encouraged to use Youth Corps.
- We encourage partnerships with National Scenic and Historic Trails: www.nps.gov/nts/.
- National Trails Training Partnership: www.NTTP.net.

RTP Eligible Projects

- Maintain and restore existing trails (and bridges)
- Develop and rehabilitate trailside and trailhead facilities
- Purchase and lease trail construction and maintenance equipment
- Construct new trails (limits on Federal lands)
- Acquire easements or property for trails (willing seller only: **Condemnation is prohibited**)
- Trail assessments for accessibility and maintenance
- Trail safety and environmental protection education
- State administrative costs

How do I get funds for my project?

- Know your State's selection process. Contact your State Program Manager for TE or RTP.
- Develop a workable, realistic project.
- Projects that meet more than one TE or RTP category generally rank higher.
- Get public support. Projects with partnerships and collaborative efforts generally rank higher.
- Develop funding sources and donations.
- Involve youth corps: www.corpsnetwork.org.
- Develop a good design: consider the project setting, community benefits, accessibility.

How do I get funds for my project?

- **Consider potential problems:**
 - Environmental impacts: wetlands, endangered species, historic, cultural, and archaeological impacts, etc.
 - Permits and fees.
 - Public opposition: liability, safety, property rights, environmental impact, differing community values, etc.
- Complete the project application **completely** and accurately. But don't include excessive material.
- Only request funds for eligible activities. If you apply for ineligible items, the State may disregard the application.
- If approved, **get to work!**
- Submit an invoice if you want to get paid! This is a reimbursement program, not an up-front grant.

For more information:

- FHWA Transportation Enhancements website:
www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/te
- National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse: www.enhancements.org

Thank you to the National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse, operated under a cooperative agreement with the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, for the programming chart and the project examples.

- FHWA Recreational Trails Program website:
www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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