

PALISADES INTERSTATE PARKWAY AND HENRY HUDSON DRIVE

Draft Corridor Management Plan

FOR COMMITTEE MEETING DISCUSSION

Preliminary Actions/Recommendations – Draft 10-28-09

GOAL – RECOGNIZE that two significant roadways; the Palisades Interstate Parkway and the Hudson Drive are identified as The Palisades Interstate Parkway Scenic Byway in New Jersey.

- Provide better connectivity between the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive by using signage.
- Create an infrastructure inventory and improvement plan documenting the capital needs and goals for the park, including drawings and specifications for structure and area rehabilitation.
- Create a Scenic Driving Map for visitor's to use while experiencing the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive.
- Provide Gateway Features to create a sense of arrival for visitor's entering the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson drive.
- Direct visitors who are traveling the Palisades Interstate Parkway to existing visitor attractions and services through wayfinding signage which are compliant with the MUTCD.

GOAL – MAINTAIN and enhance the safety of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive in a manner that respects and complements their historic design and natural settings.

- Maintain an adequate buffer between the roadway and the tree line as a recovery area for vehicles.
- Improve storm drainage on Henry Hudson Drive by restoring the use of the stone gutters through roadway milling.
- Improve baseline data for safety evaluation, such as installing milepost markers to track incident locations and conducting traffic counts.

GOAL – DISTINGUISH the Palisades Interstate Parkway as a road within a park, a member of a network of regional parkways and distinct and different from the metropolitan highway system.

- Apply for designation of the Palisades Interstate Parkway in both New York and New Jersey as an All American Road under the National Scenic Byways Program.
- Document the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive for the Library of Congress as part of the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER).

GOAL – RESTORE as near to original and as safe, practical and feasible and possible, the Palisades Interstate Parkway's and Henry Hudson drive's historic design elements.

- Provide needed maintenance and stabilization of historic parkway facilities along the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive including drawings and specifications for the preservation of parapet barrier, retaining walls, stone gutter, drainage structures, bridges, aqueducts and storm drains along Henry Hudson Drive.
- Restore the original "Demonstration Mile", from Palisades Avenue northerly 1.2 miles in Englewood cliffs which includes the Rockefeller Lookout to illustrate to the public the value of restoring the historic details.
- Restore the three Parkway Scenic Lookouts: Rockefeller, Alpine and State Line.
- Create a "Maintenance Manual" to be used by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission for contractors when doing work on the parkway in both NJ and NY State.
- Create a "Design Manual" to provide cohesive design elements along the entire length of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive.

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GOAL – ENHANCE the scenic setting and natural environment of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive.

- Prune existing vegetation, maintain view sheds, remove invasive plant material.
- Maintain and manage the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive to the same quality as a National Park.

GOAL – EDUCATE the traveling public to the history of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive; the history of scenic driving and access to sites of natural beauty and the people, ideas and movements leading to the parkway.

- Provide interpretive signage at the lookouts, and restore and update service and site amenities at the lookouts.
- Rehabilitate the Visitor Center at Fort Lee Historic Park to incorporate information about the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive.
- Create a brochure of historic sites that tells the story behind each historic landmark.

GOAL – COORDINATE and cooperate with New York State to ensure a seamless visitor experience when traveling the Palisades Interstate Parkway.

- Provide a seamless scenic driving experience from the George Washington Bridge to the Bear Mountain Bridge by using the same design elements along the entire length of the Palisades Interstate Parkway.
- Provide cohesive maintenance along the entire length of the Palisades Interstate Parkway.
 - New York State section of the Palisades Interstate Parkway is maintained by NYSDOT.
 - New Jersey Section of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive are maintained by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.
- Conduct a marketing campaign to raise awareness of the Palisades Interstate Parkway Scenic Byway and present a unified message; establish mechanisms for tracking effectiveness.
- Improve coordination of visitor information provided by NJ and NY.
- Establish an on-going Palisades Scenic Byway Advisory Group representing both NJ and NY.

GOAL – CONNECT the adjacent municipalities to the Palisades Interstate Parkway and the Hudson River shoreline.

- Establish easy access to Palisades Interstate Parkway and Henry Hudson Drive for neighboring communities by providing improved trail access.
- Improve visitor accommodation of Henry Hudson Drive for automobiles and the safe interaction between pedestrians, bicycles and automobiles.
- Provide better signage along Henry Hudson Drive and the Palisades Interstate Parkway to direct visitors to waterfront access.
- Educate the adjacent communities on happenings with the Palisades Interstate Park.
- Recognize and publicize connections to nearby attractions and trails, such as the Henry Hudson Walkway.