



Kim Reynolds
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Adam Gregg
LT. GOVERNOR

May 22, 2020

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear National Scenic Byways Program:

It's with great enthusiasm that I offer my recommendation of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission to the Great River Road National Scenic Byway designation.

Since 1938 the ten-state national Mississippi River Parkway Commission has worked to preserve, promote and enhance the Great River Road National Scenic Byway benefiting communities and travelers along the Mississippi River. The Great River Road meets All-American Road designation criteria, possessing many and varied intrinsic resources that are of national significance. As the official access to the Mississippi River through ten states since the time pleasure driving began, The Great River is an iconic destination and reason for travel unto itself for many, whether for a few hours or a few months. I applaud that all ten Great River Road states are seeking All-American Road designation from the Federal Highway Administration.

The Great River Road has importance for all communities along the river-from small and rural to large and metropolitan- as an artery of stewardship, storytelling, tourism and commerce along the Mississippi River benefiting visitors and residents alike in our state. In the northwestern corner of Iowa, the Mississippi journeys a picturesque landscape formed of high rocky bluffs and narrow limestone gorges as the Great River Road spans 326 Iowa miles as it passes through ten counties, numerous towns and urban centers.

I encourage you to consider the Mississippi River Parkway Commission to the Great River Road National Scenic Byway designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Reynolds".

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa