

Chapter 1

Overview of Designation Process

Step 1 – Nomination Application

The successful completion, review and evaluation of a Step 1 – Nomination Application results in the designation of a road by Delaware's Secretary of Transportation as a State Scenic and Historic Highway. The application can be submitted by anyone interested in seeking designation for a route as a Delaware Scenic and Historic Highway. The review process for the nomination focuses on an evaluation of the identified intrinsic qualities of the highway and on the input from a public involvement process carried out as part of preparing the Nomination Application.

Impact of state designation as a Scenic and Historic Highway

Two principal impacts result from the designation of a route as a Delaware Scenic and Historic Highway. First, the sponsor for the route is eligible to apply through DeIDOT to the Federal Highway Administration for grant funds to assist with the completion of a Corridor Plan for the Scenic and Historic Highway and/or may use the state designation status to assist in seeking funding from other sources to assist with the Corridor Plan.

Second, the designation affects permits for new off site/off premises signs (outdoor advertising signs that are placed on one property, but advertise goods or services available on another property) on any roads controlled by the Highway Beautification Act of 1965. New off premise outdoor advertising signs are not permitted along state Scenic and Historic Highways. This rule does not affect existing outdoor advertising signs.

Step 2 – Corridor Plan Application

The successful completion, review and evaluation of a Step 2 – Corridor Plan Application results in approval of the Corridor Plan by Delaware's Secretary of Transportation, and then signing (with specially designed signs) of the Delaware Scenic and Historic Highway, identifying it on state maps and promoting it through the Delaware Tourism Office.

A Corridor Plan is a written document in which the highway sponsor describes the goals, strategies, and responsibilities for conserving and enhancing a scenic and historic highway's most valuable qualities. It is developed collaboratively with all those who have an interest in the future of the area included in the Scenic and Historic Highway corridor. It includes both a long-term Vision for what the Scenic and Historic Highway may become over time and also a short-term Action Plan that covers the initial two years of implementation of the Corridor Plan.

Impact of approval of the Corridor Plan for a Delaware Scenic and Historic Highway

The impact of approval of the Corridor Plan for a Delaware Scenic and Historic Highway is stated above. DeIDOT will provide signs for the route to indicate its designated status and will identify the route on state maps. The Delaware Tourism Office will promote the Scenic and Historic Highway in accord with the promotion and marketing plans included in the Corridor Plan.

SCENIC AND HISTORIC HIGHWAYS DESIGNATION PROCESS

