



O ur Vision

The Glenn Highway Scenic Byway Partnership Board seeks to tell the Byway's story and broaden the traveler's experience through Byway improvements that make the highway safer, more comfortable, and accessible to all who wish to experience the grandeur it holds.

Excerpt, Partnership Board Vision Statement



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Vision Statement AND GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The heart of any plan is the vision statement for what that plan would like to accomplish, the goals stating specifically how to accomplish the vision, and the objectives that are action statements or invoke an action to achieve the goals. Without these three key pieces, a plan is no more than a compilation of ideas. The Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives set the course and tone for action that will govern the outcomes of the planning process and improvements made along the Byway.

Discussion of Process

As previously stated, the first attempt at developing goals, objectives, and a vision statement was based on the written comments received at the first Partnership Board meeting. Their next meeting was devoted to further developing our Draft Partnership Plan outline, and wordsmithing the preliminary goals, objectives, and vision statement. The following is a result of their work.

FIRST STEPS TOWARD DEVELOPING THE "PARTNERSHIP PLAN"

Vision Statement

The Glenn Highway Scenic Byway is a world-class drive for visitors and residents of Alaska. It embodies the Alaskan experience from its scenic vistas overlooking the Matanuska Glacier and River to its rich geological, historical, and cultural heritage. The Byway further enhances communities and places of interest along the corridor, increases tourism, and adds to the local culture and economic base. The Glenn Highway Scenic Byway Partnership Board seeks to tell the Byway's story and broaden the traveler's experience through Byway improvements that make the highway safer, more comfortable, and accessible to all who wish to experience the grandeur it holds.

Vision Statement and Goals and Objectives



Photo courtesy of LDN

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Photo courtesy of Bill Evans

The view from the Hicks Creek area of the Glenn Byway



Photo courtesy of LDN

A maze of trails at Matanuska Glacier

Goals and Objectives for the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway

Provide opportunities to learn about the history and the cultural heritage of the Byway.

- Work with area historical societies to provide historic points of interest markers along the Byway.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, visitors centers and local tribal governments to promote the historic elements within the corridor including:
 1. Chickaloon and Eklutna Native Settlements
 2. Sutton and Chickaloon Coal Fields
 3. Alaska Railroad History
 4. Military Presence and Importance
 5. Palmer Colonization and Settlement
 6. Hatcher Pass Gold Mining History
- Look for grant opportunities to continue Native research on traditional place names and locations to be shared with travelers along the Byway.
- Work with Alaska Native heritage representatives to develop culturally-educational interpretive sites along the Byway.
- Develop a self-guided tour brochure of the historical and cultural significance of the Byway and its surrounding locations.

Enhance scenic views along the corridor.

- Clear select areas of brush and trees to enhance views of surroundings.
- Identify additional areas for scenic pull-offs.
- Incorporate scenic improvements and interpretive waysides into Byway improvement projects.
- Enhance and promote wildlife viewing from the corridor.
- Where available, identify scenic alternates or loop drives that can be taken along the Byway.

Provide opportunities to learn about the significant geologic events and processes that have shaped the land around the corridor.

- Develop interpretive sites (like the Matanuska Glacier Wayside) that describe the geology of the area.
- Develop self-guided geological tour brochure.



- Work with land management agencies to enhance roadways to gain access into areas for geological interpretation.

Enhance the year-round Alaskan experience on the Byway.

- Provide more frequent rest areas with facilities.
- Look for opportunities to expand year-round visitor services along the Byway.
- Provide the traveler with additional information through improved signage and advanced notice (1 mile previous) of upcoming attractions along the Byway.
- Improve access to significant scenic, historic, cultural, recreational and developed natural sites along the Byway.
- Develop a self-guided brochure about year-round recreational opportunities along the corridor.

Enhance safety along the corridor.

- Stabilize or barricade areas of known rock fall hazards.
- Investigate high accident locations and determine whether improvements can be made to decrease accidents.
- Realign areas with sub-standard curves.
- Improve cycling and walking environment along the corridor.

Observe private property boundaries and limit access to the public.

- Clearly post and mark trails that are accessed from the Glenn Highway.
- Work with local property owners to ensure private property is clearly posted around areas of summer and winter recreation.

Chickaloon Village
ATHABASCAN INTERPRETIVE
OPPORTUNITIES



Citizens of the Chickaloon Village and their government are working to document and preserve their Athabascan language, history, cultural knowledge, and way of life. Building from this effort, Chickaloon Village members who participated in developing this Corridor Partnership Plan, have expressed an interest in working with DOT and the Byway Program to develop interpretive resources for travelers on the Glenn Highway.

Currently the Chickaloon Village's Ya Ne Dah Ah School has a curriculum focused on Athabascan history, language, the regional flora and fauna, culture and stories. Some of this material can be further developed by the Chickaloon Village for interpretive signage.

Additionally some Chickaloon Village members have expressed some interest in developing a small interpretive facility where local products, such as birch syrup, art, and handiwork could be marketed. Chickaloon Village owns approximately 69,000 acres of land, some of which fronts on the Glenn Highway, which potentially could be used by the Village for this purpose.

Source: Chickaloon Village, Nay'dini'aa Na' History Unit, Student Reading Part Three: Chickaloon Village Today.

