



Sunrise Trail Coalition
PO Box 92
Hancock, ME 04640
www.sunrisetrail.org

RE: Support and funding for FHA *FY 2023-24* National Scenic Byway Program Grant Application ***Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery & Recreation Hub***

Commissioner Bruce A. Van Note
State of Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

26 Nov 2024

Dear Commissioner Van Note,

We request your support for the Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery & Recreation Hub. In addition to vehicular traffic on US Route 1, the hub will support active transportation on the East Coast Greenway, US Bicycle Route 1, Bold Coast Scenic Bikeway, and the Down East Sunrise Trail, DEST. US Rt 1 is our first national road and east coast's active transportation conduit. The hub will be an active transportation respite and information place for people enroute to Washington County and the Schoodic Peninsula from as far away as Florida. It will improve the visitor experience and promote the economies of our region.

We support active and alternative transportation in communities along the Down East Sunrise Trail and collaborate with Sunrise County Economic Council and six communities in Washington County to improve bicycle and pedestrian access to the trail. We plan to do the same in Hancock County for Gouldsboro, Sullivan, Franklin, Hancock, and Ellsworth. In addition to promoting trails in DownEast Maine we encourage abutting towns to include Complete Streets, trails, and bike paths in their comprehensive planning and budgeting. The interruption of lines of communication and supply chains posed by increasing torrential rains, rising tides, and flooding make active and offroad vehicle transportation alternatives more important to all of us.

We support the request to establish a Discovery and Recreation Hub along US Highway One in Sullivan and will work with them to promote active transportation and trail information. We will provide \$5,000 for bicycle racks and installation at the facility.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery and Recreation Hub will help visitors, residents and the economy of DownEast Maine. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Alvion R. Kimball
President, Sunrise Trail Coalition