



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Acadia National Park

P.O. Box 177

Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

December 13, 2024

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

RE: Local funding for the Federal Highway Administration FY 2023 & FY 2024 National Scenic Byway Program grant application project titled: Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery & Recreation Hub

Dear Commissioner Van Note:

We are writing in strong support of the Schoodic National Scenic Byway's grant application to create the Discovery & Recreation Hub at the Sorrento-Sullivan Recreation Center on U.S. Route 1. The National Park Service has been a key partner and advocate of the scenic byway since its inception in 2000, and six of its 29 miles are located in Acadia National Park.

The Discovery & Recreation Hub will serve as an important welcome and orientation center at the southern entry point of the Schoodic National Scenic Byway. The facility will support tourism to Downeast Maine by offering a range of amenities to travelers, including a regional transit stop, bike repair station, and accessible restrooms. It will also build on the hugely successful Kids Quest program, which provides fun and engaging educational experiences to young travelers along the byway.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway complements the mission of Acadia National Park by preserving the scenic landscape and offering exceptional experiences to visitors. This project will play an important role in amplifying those experiences.

Thank you for considering the grant application.

Sincerely,

John T. Kelly
Management Assistant