

GOULDSBORO TOWN OFFICE

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

Dear Commissioner Van Note,

I am writing to express the Town of Gouldsboro's support for the Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery & Recreation Hub. The Hub will be instrumental in furthering the promotion of and access to both the Schoodic National Scenic Byway and Downeast Maine. It will provide multiple benefits to the region while greatly enhancing the visitor experience as they arrive in the Schoodic area. Its location at the head of the Byway creates a gateway center that will not only attract people within the state and around the country, but also encourage them to extend their visits and explore all that the Byway and the Downeast Acadia Region has to offer.

Gouldsboro, along with the other communities in the Schoodic Region, have been working together under the facilitation of Hancock County Planning Commission (HCPC) to enhance public services for residents and visitors. This project aligns with the Byway's Corridor Management Plan, and the entire Schoodic Region is in the process of updating their respective comprehensive plans, and in region-wide meetings these towns have each expressed buy-in and support for this project. Gouldsboro has been supportive of the Byway since it was first established, and recognizes its important role in Downeast Maine.

Residents of the town of Gouldsboro recognize the importance of tourism on our town and on our neighbors. We want visitors to the area to better experience what the Schoodic Region and Hancock County have to offer. The proposed project features such as a pavilion, improved parking, wayfinding and interpretive signage, enhanced safety measures, other outdoor recreation improvements, and an addition to the Byway's award-winning KIDS QUEST project will have positive ripple effects throughout the county and beyond. Gouldsboro is committed to continuing to help in developing the Schoodic National Scenic Byway Discovery & Recreation Hub. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully,



Joshua McIntyre
Town Manager