2016

Old Mill Stream Corridor Management Plan (CMP)

Ohio Department of Transportation

Updated ***April 2017***

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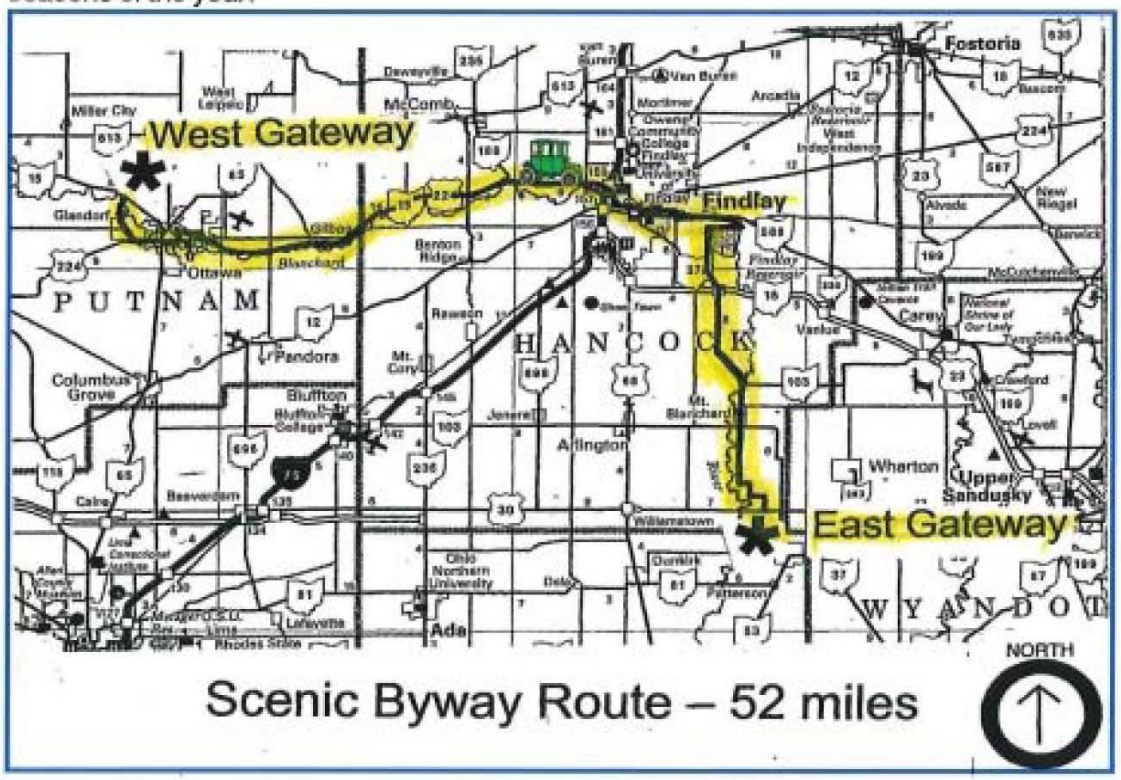
I. INTRODUCTION AND MAP

A. Byway Introduction

The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway follows the Blanchard River along US 224 and State Route 37 in Putnam and Hancock counties. The byway takes its name from the 1910 hit song, "Down by the Old Mill Stream." The tune was written by Hancock County Native Tell Taylor while he sat on the banks of the Blanchard. The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway offers its visitors a pastoral trip through the countryside, featuring parks, farms and historic settings. Sawmills, gristmills and waterpower shaped a region for Native Americans and settlers, carving a country out of the Ohio wilderness bounded by rivers and the Great Black Swamp. The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway stretches 52 miles over Hancock and Putnam counties, linking the Lincoln Highway National Historic Byway to small villages, parks and landmarks.

B. Byway Route Map

seasons of the year!



1

II. BYWAY STRATEGIC PLAN: VISION, MISSION, GOALS AND ACTIONS

A. Vision and Mission

Vision:

The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway is more than just a road, it is an experience with Ohio's heritage and opportunities for travel as a connection for people; it's a Sunday drive, every day, all seasons of the year.

Mission:

The mission of the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway is to "provide access to the Blanchard River and the recreation activities, scenic pleasures, and cultural and historical attractions found along the way."

B. Accomplishments since last CMP

The original Corridor Management Plan in 2006 identified management action plans and a timetable. An evaluation of those action plans uncovered several accomplishments:

1. The Hancock-Putnam County Scenic Byway Committee was organized.
2. A formal opening ceremony designating the byway was conducted.
3. Ohio Byway directional signs were installed along the route.
4. A promotional pamphlet was designed, developed, and distributed.
5. A webpage was added to www.hancockparks.com.
6. The covered bridge was constructed on Marion Township Road 241.
7. Improvements occurred at Litzenberg Memorial Woods on U.S. Route 224.

Additionally, bus tours were conducted, a byway category was added to the Hancock Park District's annual Photography Contest in 2013, and the Blanchard River Nature Preserve located on CR 17 south of Mt. Blanchard was acquired in April 2013. This new natural area strengthens the primary and secondary intrinsic qualities and resources identified by the Hancock-Putnam County Scenic Byway Committee.

C. Goals, Objectives, and Action Plans

The following goals, objectives, and strategies are meant to be ongoing to achieve the byway's mission and to honor its vision and core values:

Goal I: Revamp the byway organization and get more committed members.

Objective	**Person/group responsible**	**Timeline**	**Action Plan**	**Funding**
To operate with a sustainable committee structure so that the Corridor Management Plan's action plan	HPCSBC	Ongoing	• To retain a minimum of five members with at least one member from each county. • To recommend and name a successor prior to a member leaving the committee.	N/A

can be implemented.			• The strategy involves maintaining a manageable and highly committed core group of committee members.	
Revamp and establish a new committee that follows closely to the CMP.	HPCSBC	Ongoing	• New Committee members will be recruited, representing various stakeholders with facilities, services and programs along the Byway (i.e. AAA, Chamber of Commerce, city I village representatives, Historical Museums, University of Findlay, auto dealers). • The HPCSBC will select a chair, and meet twice a year to monitor, initiate projects and direct volunteer efforts of Action Plans. Funding and legal status will be first steps of organization. • Subcommittees will be charged with topics such as projects, marketing and promotions as needed. Special events planned will be listed on area calendars. • Reports will be issued for HPCSBC accountability to area news media, ODOT, business sponsors.	N/A

Goal II: To enhance visitor experience in a multitude of areas.

Objective	**Person/group responsible**	**Timeline**	**Action Plan**	**Funding**
To enhance and/or maintain access to recreation activities along the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway that has a direct link to	HPCSBC	Ongoing	• To plan, develop, and conduct a variety of recreation activities in parks and at other locations with access to the Blanchard River and to keep this objective in mind during all applicable strategic and	TBD

the Blanchard River.			comprehensive planning efforts. • The strategy is to recognize the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway as a resource that supports many other community efforts, such as tourism and the local economy, quality of life, and recreation.	

Goal III: To promote the byway and raise awareness through marketing efforts.

Objective	Person/group responsible	Timeline	Action Plan	Funding
To promote and interpret the connection between the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway and the Blanchard River and the recreation activities and cultural and historical attractions that it supports.	HPCSBC	Ongoing	• To develop a marketing plan. • To revise the promotional pamphlet and map, including the development of an electronic version of the map only so that it can be used in a variety of promotional material. An electronic version of current map does not exist. • The strategy is to keep the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway in the forefront through information, education, and promotion.	TBD

Goal IV: Regularly engage in public participation to promote the byway.

Objective	Person/group responsible	Timeline	Action Plan	Funding
To keep the general public informed about the relationship between the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway and the many parks and other attractions along the route.	HPCSBC	Ongoing	• To distribute promotional material as part of an overall marketing campaign that provides information about the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway. • The strategy is to help people associate the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway with quality of life elements	TBD

			that occur along its route and develop a support network by calling on organizations that have a stake in the success of the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway to promote travel along the corridor and participation in structured and unstructured recreation activities.	

III. BYWAY ORGANIZATION: STRUCTURE, COMMITTEES, VOLUNTEERS, AND PARTNERS

A. Structure:

The current structure of the committee is undergoing personnel change and looking to restructure and acquire more people to the committee, as it is roughly 2-3 people currently.

B. Description of Current and Future Byway Committee Representatives, Partners and Stakeholders

The committee has essentially disbanded due to several members leaving the committee followed by a few years of inactivity. Steps will be taken to reorganize the committee. (2017).

C. Primary and Secondary Byway Leader Contact Information

Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Gary Pruitt Hancock Park District Email: gpruitt@hancockparks.com Phone: 419-425-7275	Ann Coburn Griffis Hancock Park District Email: acoburngriffths@hancockparks.com Phone: 419-425-7275

D. Level of Participation in State/Regional Byway Meetings and Trainings

None to report.

E. Byway Leadership Succession Plan

The Succession Plan is based on the following two principles:

1. The Hancock Park District will continue to serve as the lead agency to maintain an ongoing foundation for the byway committee to operate. The job descriptions for the Hancock Park District's Director and Marketing Manager include byway responsibilities as one of several essential duties of the positions. As a result, involvement by the Director and Marketing Manager as primary and secondary contacts within the organization is solidified so that staff turnover will not affect lead agency involvement.

2. Other members of the committee offer valuable skills that aid in the success of the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway. The byway committee should name a successor prior to a member leaving the committee. Early notification if possible is preferred. This action will help ensure that the committee stays strong and active and that it provides an opportunity to recruit a member with specific skills depending on the needs of the committee and action plans being implemented.

IV. BYWAY CORRIDOR CONDITIONS: ROADWAYS, SAFETY, INTRINSIC RESOURCES, AND ACCESSIBILITY

A. Road Conditions and Signage

The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway is in Hancock County and Putnam County. It extends 52 miles between Glandorf and Mt. Blanchard. Its value as a byway is a result of its proximity to and relationship with the Blanchard River and the many park and recreation destinations along the way. Unfortunately, the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway could have been much more scenic had various sections in the original proposal been approved. Some of the most scenic sections of roadway along the Blanchard River are bypassed in favor of State Route 37 and U.S. Route 224. Regardless, the current byway is unique with a good portion of the scenic byway leading motorists along the Blanchard River and to a variety of scenic views and destinations. Road conditions along the byway remain good.

i. Existing official ODOT byway signs.

See appendix.

ii. Local byway signs.

None.

iii. Interpretive signs.

See appendix.

iv. Future sign needs.

Based on an evaluation of signs in June 2013 and July 2014, three signs appear to be missing or not placed when the byway was designated. There should be a sign on East Main Cross Street (eastbound) in Findlay with an arrow to the right. It was eliminated as a result of a traffic accident (East Main Cross Street and Bright Road). There should be a sign on Third Street (westbound) in Ottawa with an arrow to the left (Third Street and Hickory). There should be a sign on S.R. 694 (northbound) in Glandorf with an arrow straight ahead (S.R. 694 and Main Street).

There are two informational signs, including one at the outdoor visitor center at the Hancock Park District Administrative Offices and one just down the road at Waterfalls Area.

B. List of Primary and Secondary Intrinsic Qualities/Resources

Primary Intrinsic Quality	Secondary Intrinsic Quality	Site & Location (GPS when available)	Description
Natural	Scenic	Blanchard River Nature Preserve (40.847220, -83.557002)	With a strong emphasis on environmental preservation, visitation is limited to hiking, birdwatching, and photography along a quiet walkway to the river's edge and canoeing and kayaking via a primitive river access site.
Recreational	Natural	Island Park (40.901019, -83.558651)	Island Park has a swimming pool, picnic shelters, playground, baseball and

			softball fields, soccer fields, tennis court, and a bit of history, including a monument to John Chapman, also known as Johnny Appleseed.
Recreational	Scenic	Findlay Reservoirs (41.012994, -83.565631)	Six public access sites with parking lots and steps or ramps afford good access to miles of shoreline and reservoirs for walking, jogging, boating, fishing, and enjoying beautiful sunsets.
Recreational	Natural	Riverbend Recreation Area (41.031727, -83.559139)	Riverbend Recreation Area offers diverse facilities and a wide range of outdoor recreation activities amid a natural backdrop bordered by the Blanchard River.
Cultural		Brinkman's Country Corner (41.037416, -83.614142)	Fresh produce, fresh meats, delicious deli, and fresh baked goods make for a nice break when traveling the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway.
Scenic		Eastpoint Area (41.038044, -83.613032)	Eastpoint Area provides convenient access to the Blanchard River Water Trail for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking and it affords excellent picnicking opportunities along the riverbank.
Recreational		Hancock Park District Administrative Offices (41.041693, -83.623218)	Information about parks, programs, and services is available. The tranquil setting is ideal for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts.
Natural	Scenic	Waterfalls Area (41.043582, -83.629589)	Waterfalls Area is located across from Riverside Park Waterfront. It provides a soothing respite among the waterfall and majestic Sycamore trees.
Natural	Scenic	Riverside Park Waterfront (41.042991, -83.631233)	The waterfront is a passive place where park visitors have intimate contact with the water's edge, the chance to witness Mother Nature's ever-changing face, and an excuse to simply getaway.
Historic		Great Karg Well Historical Site (41.043487, -83.655110)	The Great Karg Well Historical Site features an historical monument honoring the Great Karg Well, which came into existence with a tremendous roar on January 20, 1886.
Natural	Scenic	Liberty Landing (41.056363, -83.693687)	Liberty Landing marks the beginning of a popular 9.3-mile float trip on the Blanchard River Water Trail.
Natural	Scenic	Litzenberg Memorial Woods (41.058384, -83763739)	Litzenberg Memorial Woods is characterized by rolling countryside,

			wooded ravines, and a grand expanse of wetlands, prairie, and sky.
Cultural	Scenic	Village Park and Bull Monument (41.021940, -83.922661)	An extremely large bull monument stands along U.S. 224 to welcome visitors to the quiet little village of Gilboa.
Historic	Cultural	Blanchard River Bridge (41.016170, -83.922194)	The bridge over the Blanchard River is on the list of Historical Places. It's a nice spot for holding hands in a quiet country setting.
Cultural		Hillside Winery (41.016894, -83.922304)	Amenities include indoor stone fireplace, gift shop and serving area, indoor seating, outdoor seating, and outdoor patio with pergola.
Recreational	Scenic	Gilboa Quarry (41.015949, -83.933485)	Gilboa Quarry is a premier site for diving and dive training. It offers large training platforms and many sunken treasures. Non-divers may enjoy snorkeling. Camping and lodging are available.
Natural	Scenic	Waterworks Park (41.021015, -84.036250)	Waterworks Park is named after the waterworks building, which was constructed in the early 1900s and is regarded as a fine example of early twentieth-century development.
Historic	Cultural	Ottawa's Third St (41.020340, -84.041901)	Ottawa's Third Street is a one-mile long brick street lined with historical Victorian and modern-day residential homes with shade trees to provide a scenic view.
Historic	Cultural	Hotel DuMont/Schnipke Inn (41.019451, -84.049329)	Hotel DuMont was constructed in the early 1900s. It had steam heat, indoor plumbing, and lighting supplied by electricity when it opened. Today, the Schnipke Inn operates as a restaurant at the same location. Exhibits are dedicated to the history of the building.
Recreational		Glandorf Park (41.032910, -84.079206)	Glandorf Community Park symbolizes community pride and unity with its history of park development. It offers an impressive display of recreational facilities.

C. Changes in Intrinsic Qualities/Resources since last CMP

Changes made to the approach of the intrinsic resources are described above.

D. Accessibility to Intrinsic Quality/Resources: Pull-Offs, Parking, Rest Areas, Visitor Amenities, etc.

All interpretation, Pull-Offs, and visitor amenities along with associated parking, public restrooms and amenities are to be accessible per the Americans with Disability Act. This includes accessibility for persons with mobility, hearing, sight, and cognitive impairments. The 2010 US Census revealed that at least 56.7 million or 20 percent of the US population have some level of disability, about 20 million of which are mobility impaired Americans. Therefore, for the story of the byway to be told to all, new programs and improvements need to be accessible while existing sites should have transition plans in place by those who own and maintain them.

The byway organization will have a hand improving accessibility by raising awareness about the need to remove barriers to access and by installing all interpretive signs or other improvements according to the United States Civil Rights ADA laws. For free information and guidance, please contact the Great Lakes ADA Center at 800-949-4232 (V/TTY).

V. VISITOR EXPERIENCE: INTERPRETATION, STORIES, AND PRESERVATION

A. Interpretation since Designation

The primary intrinsic quality along the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway is natural resources. Travelers along the byway can view farmsteads and forests along various locations. Vistas of the valley full of seasonal color against far off sunsets are enriched by spring and summer wildflowers and autumn foliage. Travelers will discover rolling ridges of old glacial Lake Erie now full of oak, hickory, and maple woods with diverse wildlife mixing with open fields of the watershed, many of which are preserved in numerous parks along the way.

B. Byway Story

Sawmills, gristmills, and waterpower shaped a region for Native Americans and settlers, carving a country out of the Ohio wilderness bounded by rivers and the Great Black Swamp. The 1910's ballad, *"Down by the Old Mill Stream"* by local songwriter Tell Taylor is a signature of the times, giving its name to the scenic byway.

Since 1998, designation of a scenic byway in the Blanchard River Valley along the pathway of the pioneers has been a cooperative effort of a public-private partnership. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recognized the scenery and heritage of Ohio's last frontier with a prior designation of U.S. 224 as a state scenic highway. In 2004, ODOT assistance helped to create a bi-county steering committee supported by local agencies, government officials, business and civic leaders, and inspired volunteers.

The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway covers 52 miles through Hancock and Putnam counties with a natural link to the Blanchard River named for the French trader, trapper, and early settler, Jean Jacques Blanchard. Life prospered from the river, villages grew, and transportation moved people and goods to build the economy. The Blanchard River remains a valuable resource today for water, recreation, and wildlife.

The scenic byway and side trips afford a variety of experiences, sights, and sounds with direct and indirect access to other Ohio Scenic Byways, such as the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor to the north, the Miami & Erie Canal Scenic Byway to the west, and the Lincoln Highway National Historic Byway to the south. The Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway presents many opportunities to simply have fun amidst a backdrop of natural beauty, recreation, and cultural and historical attractions.

C. Future Interpretation

The Byway Corridor Story will be told based on the results of a comprehensive Marketing Plan. The idea is to include (and go beyond) the usual sources, such as website and brochures and incorporate experience-based narrative. For example:

"Make your afternoon destination the historic bridge overlooking the Blanchard River in Gilboa. It is a nice spot for holding hands in a quiet country setting. Enjoy."

"Dinner and an evening walk along Main Street in Findlay. Perhaps ice cream on a warm summer night. Buy something to remind yourself of a cool night out."

"Blue sky, sunshine, and a vigorous walk high above it all. Get away to the Findlay reservoirs. Stretch out. Reward yourself afterwards with a trip to town."

D. Plans for Improving Visitor Experience

Plans for improving the visitor experience involve park and road improvements over time. For example, in 2019 the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway through Riverbend Recreation Area benefited from the paving of Township Road 208. Other improvements in the park are ongoing to replace, upgrade, and modernize park facilities.

Since the primary intrinsic qualities include natural resources and the secondary intrinsic qualities include recreation, facility improvements directly impact the quality of the visitor experience while traveling the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway.

E. Preservation

The primary and secondary intrinsic resources include natural resources and recreation respectively. Many of these resources are governed by various organizations and strategic plans in to enhance and maintain their value. For example, the Hancock Regional Planning Commission administers a comprehensive land use plan that recognizes parks, recreation, and open space as community assets.

The Blanchard River Watershed Partnership serves as a seven-county consortium with a mission to "encourage water quality improvements to our geologically unique, northwestern Ohio watershed, through sustainable land use, collaboration, conservation and enhancement of natural and man-made resources", and the Hancock Park District owns and/or manages many parks and natural areas along the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway and administers a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Programs, Parks, and Recreational Facilities with a strong focus on the Blanchard River Greenway, River Parks, and Nature Based Outdoor Recreation.

Townships and villages retain their vitality through proper zoning of business, residential, and agricultural districts and environmental protection. The Hancock-Putnam County Scenic Byway Committee maintains contact information for townships, villages, cities, counties, engineers, and the Ohio Department of Transportation, all of whom control outdoor advertising and other signage and administer overall zoning and development issues along the Byway and elsewhere.

VI. MARKETING: PROMOTION, FEATURED ATTRACTIONS AND FUTURE PLANS

A. Current and Future Planned Marketing Activities

1. Revise, print, and distribute an Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway promotional brochure.
2. Maintain a link to byway information on the Hancock Park District web site.
3. Develop a comprehensive marketing plan to enhance promotional efforts.

B. Recommended Products or Attachments for Media and Public Relations

i. Short description of byway for use in publications.

With over 20 parks, excellent access to the Blanchard River, and nature as the backdrop, the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway is unique in its ability to provide a plethora of natural beauty, recreational activities and special events, and rich historical and cultural attractions within such a short distance.

ii. Seasonal digital photographs (at least 300 dpi).

See appendix.

iii. Brief description of the top 5-10 unique/authentic attractions on the byway.

#	Name	Description	GIS
1	Ottawa's Third Street	Ottawa's Third Street (Putnam County) is a one-mile long brick street lined with historical Victorian and modern-day residential homes with shade trees to provide a scenic view. The brick street was added around the turn of the century in the early 1900's.	GIS: 41.020323, -84.042898
2	Hillside Winery	Hillside Winery is locally owned and operated. The winery is open to the public from Thursday-Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Wine is sold by the glass. Bottles can be purchased to go. Other beverages and light refreshments are also available to guests. Wines are produced at the site from their locally grown three acres of grapes located along Riley Creek.	GIS: 41.016893, -83.922295
3	Blanchard Landing	Blanchard Landing is a popular starting or stopping point for canoeists and kayakers. As a wayside destination, it offers relative isolation and solitude. Visitors can escape for a while and enjoy fishing, picnicking, and the sounds of silence. Facilities include picnicking areas, parking, and an undeveloped river access site.	GIS: 41.045663, -83.789183
4	Litzenberg Memorial Woods	Litzenberg Memorial Woods is characterized by rolling countryside, wooded ravines, and a grand expanse of wetlands, prairie, and sky. It blends the rich agricultural heritage with conservation and wildlife, education and history, hiking and exploration, picnicking and play, and social gatherings and special events to create a unique destination. Facilities include historic 1847 McKinnis house, woodshop, washhouse, paddock, Activity Barn, picnic shelter, playground, multi-use trail, nature trails, restrooms, Heritage Trail Center with hiking trails and bridle trails, and parking.	GIS: 41.058634, -83.763638

5	Riverside Park Waterfront	Riverside Park Waterfront (Hancock County) is a historic and popular destination for walking and picnicking within an environment intermingled with the sounds of urban life and nature and remains the crown jewel among parks located along the Blanchard River Greenway. Facilities include Waterfalls Pavilion, Zonta Landing (canoe, kayak, and pedal boat rental on weekends and holidays from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day), Band Shell with summer concerts, observation area, picnicking areas, Blanchard River Greenway Trail, drinking fountain, restrooms, and parking.	GIS: 41.043222, -83.632021
6	River Parks	Waterfalls Area provides a soothing respite among the waterfall and majestic Sycamore trees, while accommodating picnicking, walking along the Blanchard River Greenway Trail, and launching, landing, and portaging canoes and kayaks. Facilities include picnicking area, river access, Blanchard River Greenway Trail, and parking. Hancock Park District Administrative Offices is a park-like environment created by the meadow management demonstration area, adjacent open field, and forested riverbank where wildlife sightings are commonplace. The area serves as a destination for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts. Facilities include visitor center and parking. Eastpoint Area affords the opportunity for fishing, canoeing and kayaking, and picnicking. It also serves as a wayside destination for resting, relaxing, and napping among nature's conversation. Facilities include picnicking areas, boat launch, and parking.	GIS: 41.041818, -83.631663
7	Riverbend Recreation Area	Riverbend Recreation Area (Hancock County) is a year-round recreation area offering diverse facilities and a wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences. What was once described as the "big bend" of the Blanchard River with a patchwork of floodplain, forest, and farmland is now a popular park and recreation destination. Facilities include Brugeman Lodge, Lakefront Activity Center, shelters (7), primitive campground (tents only), maintenance facility, historic 1895 wrought iron bridge, Giertz Lake with two fishing piers, 18-hole disc golf course, K-9 Field of Dreams Dog Park, Raccoon Run Winter Sports Center (cross country ski and snowshoe rental), Robert G. Payne Arboretum, horseshoe pits (2), playgrounds (3), sand volleyball courts, multi-use loop trail, nature trails, tractor-drawn hayrides, bridle trails, restrooms, and parking. Findlay reservoirs, located on Township Road 208 near Riverbend Recreation Area cover 1,000 acres and serve as a multi-use outdoor recreation area, including a 4-mile stone walking trail, boating, and fishing. Riverbend Recreation Area, Findlay Reservoirs, and three nearby conservation areas create an impressive outdoor recreation complex along the banks of the Blanchard River.	GIS: 41.032046, -83.558894

8	Island Park	Island Park includes a monument in honor of John Chapman, known as Johnny Appleseed. Chapman purchased property in 1834 in Mt. Blanchard where he had an apple tree nursery. The seedlings were sold to the settlers to provide apple cider, jelly, and other apple products. A local cider mill – Fahl's Mill – recorded 75,000 gallons of cider being pressed and boasted first place in the cider competition at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. Facilities include baseball and softball fields, basketball courts, multi-use trails, picnic shelters, playground, swimming pool, tennis court, restrooms, and parking.	GIS: 40.901001, -83.558614
9	Blanchard River Nature Preserve	Blanchard River Nature Preserve is an undeveloped natural area. It includes 7,200 linear feet of Blanchard River channel, over 50 acres of wooded riparian floodplain, and riparian oxbow wetlands and vernal pools that provide excellent, high-quality aquatic and terrestrial habitat. The property also contains a small river alvar, which is a rare natural feature. Blanchard River Nature Preserve is a special place unlike any other in the Hancock park system. Facilities include an undeveloped parking area, quiet earthen walkway, and undeveloped boat launch.	GIS: 40.847391, -83.557037

iv. Provide website/URL (if available) and local website/URL that manages byway.

www.hancockparks.com

v. Marketing contact information:

Tifani Boltz, Marketing Manager, Hancock Park District

419-425-7275

tboltz@hancockparks.com

Hancock Park District, 1425 East Main Cross Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: COMMUNITY PARTNERS, PUBLIC FORUMS, AND CRITICAL ISSUES

A. Ongoing Communication and Cooperation with Community Partners

There have not been many opportunities for public participation since public meetings occurred on March 10, 2004, March 23, 2004, and March 30, 2004 regarding the initial designation of the Old Mill Stream Scenic Byway and occasional bus trips (the most recent being in 2009) that were offered to the general public. In the future, public participation will be limited to advocacy by partners and stakeholders to help promote the byway's existence and related benefits and attractions, engagement in the byway experience by tourists and travelers generally, and creating a consciousness that the byway is in fact the route being taken to access the many points of interests and activities (e.g. parks and downtowns) so that the quality of experience becomes not only associated with the point of interest but also with the byway itself.

B. Public Meeting and Public Participation Opportunities

None to report.

C. Steps Taken to Update Byway Mission and Vision

None to report.

C. Narrative on Critical Issues and How They Will Be Addressed

None to report.

VIII. APPENDIX

A. ***Ohio Byway sign inventory (Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet, GIS information formatted as latitude, longitude as per ODOT guidelines)***

Byway signs:

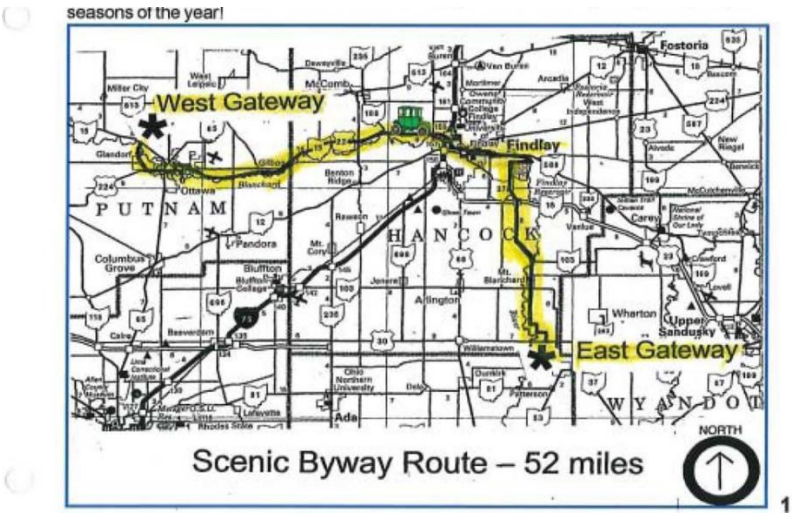
#	Byway	Latitude	Longitude	Direction	Condition
1	OMS	40.920178	-83.554861	S	Good
2	OMS	40.920588	-83.554785	N	Good
3	OMS	40.983999	-83.574678	S	Good
4	OMS	40.988953	-83.577491	N	Good
5	OMS	40.999892	-83.587195	N	Good
6	OMS	41.036101	-83.565666	E	Good
7	OMS	41.036693	-83.612276	W	Good
8	OMS	41.039818	-83.659120	W	Good
9	OMS	41.058783	-83.677034	N	Good
10	OMS	41.062360	-83.754705	W	Good
11	OMS	41.062299	-83.753572	E	Good
12	OMS	41.051395	-83.789110	E	Good
13	OMS	41.051393	-83.789946	W	Good
14	OMS	41.029289	-83.879095	W	Good
15	OMS	41.028192	-83.880600	E	Good
16	OMS	41.019293	-84.032487	E	Good
17	OMS	41.019286	-84.035944	W	Good
18	OMS	41.019193	-84.045779	S&E	Good
19	OMS	41.019175	-84.050273	W	Good
20	OMS	41.018972	-84.071273	W	Good
21	OMS	41.019088	-84.073089	S	Good
22	OMS	41.029391	-84.079532	S	Good

Interpretive signs:

Name	Latitude	Longitude
Site of Fort Findlay	41.0411070	-83.6503680
Hancock County Courthouse	41.0389260	-83.6504780
Mt. Blanchard	40.9018970	-83.5578360
Findlay College	41.0539780	-83.6503670
The Ohio Oil Company-Marathon Oil Co.	41.0392750	-83.6520690
Riverside Park/Old Mill Stream	41.0425350	-83.6319470
Old Miss Stream Fairgrounds/Oesterlen Well Site	41.0345990	-83.6313270
Indian Creek/McKinnis-Litzenberg Farmstead	41.0593560	-83.7642120

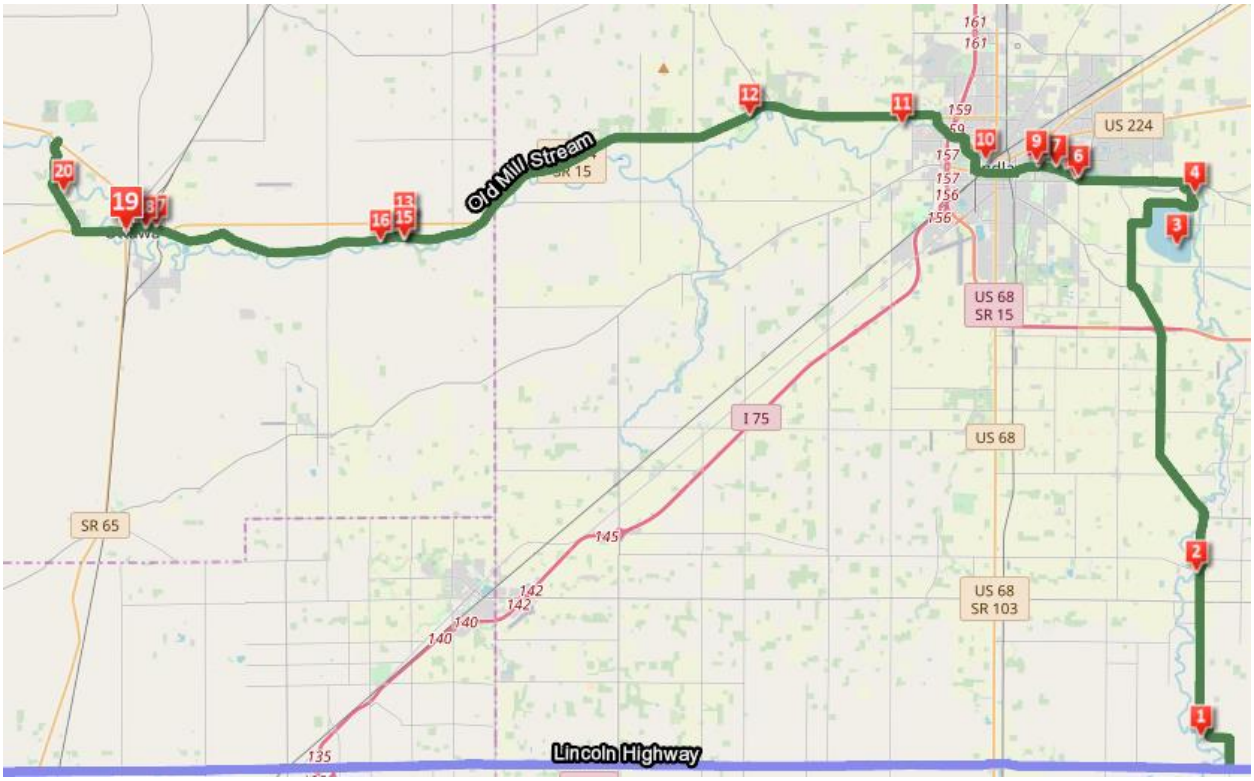
The Underground Railroad of Hancock County	41.0387010	-83.6500600
The Glass Industry of Findlay	41.0393560	-83.6421980
Mason Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church	41.0315910	-83.6550070
Native Americans in Ottawa	41.0190550	-84.0492350
Frances Rappaport Horwich	41.0211050	-84.0368570

B. ***Most Current Byway Map***



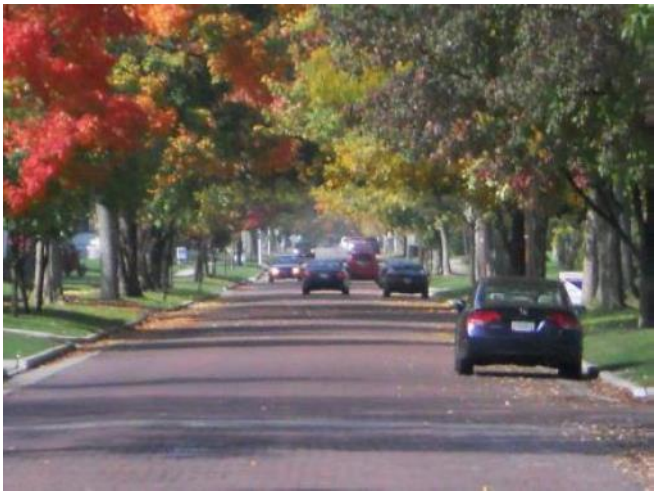
1

C. ***Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations***



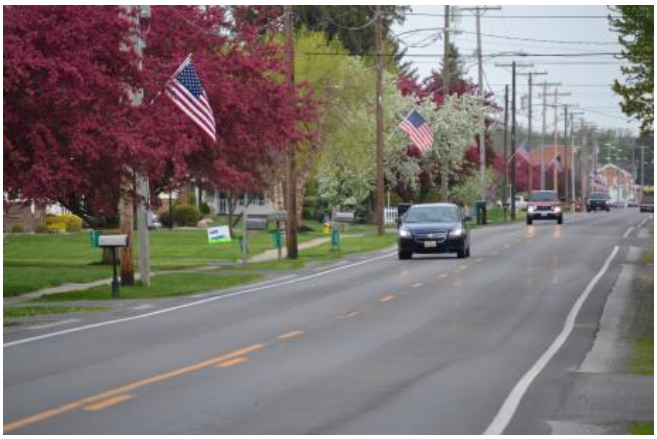
D. ***Byway Photographs- Include several images of your byway, at least one from each season.***

"Summer on the Byway"
Township Road 241 in Hancock County
Covered Bridge over the Blanchard River



"Autumn on the Byway"
Historic Third Street in Ottawa
Mile long brick street from the early 1900's

"Winter on the Byway"
East Main Cross Street in Findlay
Near Waterfalls Area



"Spring on the Byway"
State Route 694 in Glandorf
Flowering Trees and a Patriotic Display

E. ***Marketing Materials- If applicable***