



APPENDIX L
Request for Extending Byway Route

Formal requests were made to extend the proposed byway route to include:

1. The coal town communities of Stonega and Derby on the Norton Loop through Wise County. Both historic districts have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 2004.
2. The communities of Coeburn and Tom's Creek on the St. Paul Loop through Wise County.
3. A revised section through Buchanan County which includes Keen Mountain Coal Camp but retains the original route through Buchanan as a state scenic byway.

On the following pages are resolutions and letters of support from the Tazewell County, Buchanan County, Wise County, the Town of Appalachia, and the Town of Coeburn respectfully requesting route changes as recommended in the corridor management plan. See Chapter III for more on this.



APPENDIX L – RESOLUTIONS & LETTERS

For Additions in Byway Route

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE COAL HERITAGE TRAIL INTO THE COALFIELDS OF VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, there are more than 3,400 miles of roads designated as Virginia Byways, but to help attract visitors and support economic development through tourism, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), encourage local governments to nominate roads that meet the program criteria for Virginia Byway designation.

WHEREAS, since 1992, the National Scenic Byways Program has provided funding for almost 1500 state and nationally designated byway projects in 48 states.

WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

WHEREAS, The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, the Coal Heritage Trail, a National Scenic Byway, is now in place in the state of West Virginia, and has extended into the coalfields of Southwest Virginia based on designation guidelines.

WHEREAS, the official Coal Miners' Memorial of Virginia and the Railroad Section House located in Richlands, Virginia are crucial components to the coal heritage of Tazewell County, Virginia and are not currently included in the designated route of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail:

WHEREAS, the proposed revision of the Tazewell County highway segment of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail is as follows:

- 1. Virginia Route 102 in Tazewell County and Mercer County, West Virginia, 10.83 miles, from Pocahontas to Bluefield;*
- 2. U.S. Routes 19 and 460 in Tazewell County, 17.43 miles, from Bluefield to Tazewell;*
- 3. U.S. Routes 19 and 460 in Tazewell County, 13.66 miles, from Tazewell to Claypool Hill;*
- 4. U.S. Route 460 in Tazewell County, 2.31 miles, from Claypool Hill to Cedar Bluff;*
- 5. U.S. Route 460 in Tazewell County, 1.50 miles, from Cedar Bluff to Virginia Route 67 at Richlands;*
- 6. Route 67 South in Town of Richlands on Railroad Avenue, 0.4 miles to signal light, continue straight 0.1 mile to Front Street*



RESOLUTION

RE: In support of the Coal Heritage Trail into the Coalfields of Virginia

WHEREAS, there are more than 3,400 miles of roads designated as Virginia Byways, but to help attract visitors and support economic development through tourism, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), encourage local governments to nominate roads that meet the program criteria for Virginia Byway designation.

WHEREAS, since 1992, the National Scenic Byways Program has provided funding for almost 1500 state and nationally designated byway projects in 48 states.

WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

WHEREAS, The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, the Coal Heritage Trail, a National Scenic Byway, is now in place in the state of West Virginia, and has extended into the coalfields of Southwest Virginia based on designation guidelines.

WHEREAS, the proposed "Keen Mountain Company Store Interpretive Center and Museum" at the Keen Mountain Coal Camp, the most intact coal camp and still has the company store in excellent condition, yet is not included in the designated route of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail.

WHEREAS, by altering the route as proposed, the Keen Mountain Coal Camp will now become part of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail providing an opportunity for visitors to learn what life was like living in a coal camp in Southwest Virginia by actually visiting one.

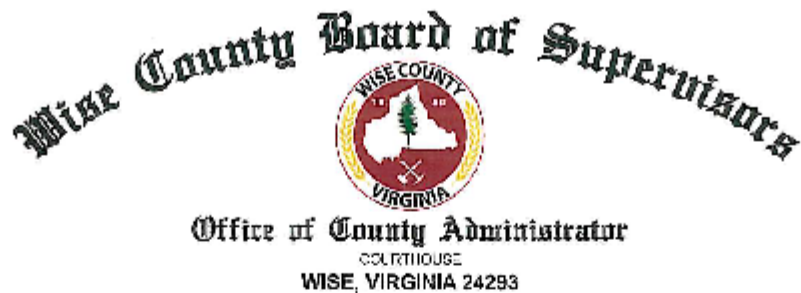
WHEREAS, including Route 609, Harman Junction and crossing over the railroad track pasting the community of Maxie, Virginia and then the Harman community there is an abandoned coal loading station and an active mine on this road.

WHEREAS, the proposed revision of the Buchanan County highway segment of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail is as follows:

1. Virginia Route 616 in Buchanan County, .9 miles from Virginia Route where it turns into Virginia Route 636;
2. Virginia Route 636 in Buchanan County, 4.1 miles from Virginia Route 616 to Virginia Route 638;
3. Virginia Route 638 in Buchanan County, 7.4 miles from Virginia Route 636 to Virginia Route 680;
4. Virginia Route 680 in Buchanan County, 4.8 miles from Virginia Route 638 to US 460W;



APPENDIX L – RESOLUTIONS & LETTERS **For Additions in Byway Route**



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE VIRGINIA COAL HERITAGE TRAIL INTO THE COALFIELDS OF WISE COUNTY

WHEREAS, there are more than 3,400 miles of roads designated as Virginia Byways, but to help attract visitors and support economic development through tourism, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), encourage local governments to nominate roads that meet the program criteria for Virginia Byway designation.

WHEREAS, since 1992, the National Scenic Byways Program has provided funding for almost 1500 state and nationally designed byway projects in 48 states.

WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

WHEREAS, The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, The Coal Heritage Trail, a National Scenic Byway, is now in place in the state of West Virginia, and has extended into the coalfields of Southwest Virginia based on designation guidelines.

WHEREAS, there has been adopted previously a resolution establishing the St. Paul Loop of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail that extends from US Route 58 in Castlewood—Russell County on various routes through Scott County, Lee County, Wise County and the City of Norton and back to St. Paul, and containing 87.4 miles.

WHEREAS, a formal request has been made by the Wise County Tourism Committee to the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Authority to extend the proposed byway route to include the communities of Coeburn and Tom's Creek through Wise County.

WHEREAS, the proposed extension of the St. Paul Loop of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail is identified as follows:

1. Instead of continuing east on Hwy 58A to St. Paul, take Exit 1 onto VA72N/Downtown/VA158E for 0.3 miles, turn left on VA813/2nd Street SW for 0.4 miles, then turn slight right onto Front Street E/VA158 for .3 miles to arrive at the Coeburn Train Depot, which has been totally renovated and serves as a community center.



R2011-14

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VIRGINIA COAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE ROUTE 600 TO THE VIRGINIA COAL HERITAGE TRAIL

WHEREAS the Town of Appalachia desires to promote tourism and recreational activities for visitors, citizens within the Town and the populace in the surrounding service area because of the community benefit it provides and the positive economic impact it has on the community; and

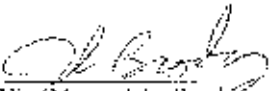
WHEREAS The Town Council of the Town of Appalachia recognizes the historical importance and significance of Route 600 (Callahan Avenue) not only as a trail used by the early settlers and native Americans but also as a main artery for commerce between the sister states of Virginia and Kentucky, and

WHEREAS The Town Council of the Town of Appalachia wishes to capture and maintain the history and nostalgia of our mountain coal heritage in days of yore by promoting and exposing the early coal camps and designated Historical Districts of Stonega and Derby to visitors and the young people of our area, and

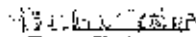
WHEREAS The Town Council of the Town of Appalachia recognizes that the best way to accomplish these goals is to have Route 600 added as a part of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail so that all might travel, enjoy and follow the trail of black diamonds that led to the opening and development of our Mountain Empire.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Town Council of the Town of Appalachia formally requests that Route 600 also known as Callahan Avenue be added to the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail a detailed description of which has been previously provided to the Committee.

Adopted: 20th of October, 2011.


Vice Mayor, John Brooks

ATTEST:


Town Clerk



APPENDIX L – RESOLUTIONS & LETTERS

For Additions in Byway Route



RESOLUTION 11-004 IN SUPPORT OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE ST. PAUL LOOP OF THE VIRGINIA COAL HERITAGE TRAIL TO INCLUDE POINTS OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE IN AND AROUND COEBURN, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS there are more than 3,400 miles of roads designated as Virginia Byways, but to help attract visitors and support economic development through tourism, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), encourage local governments to nominate roads that meet the program criteria for Virginia Byway designation.

WHEREAS since 1992, the National Scenic Byways Program has provided funding for almost 1500 state and nationally designated byway projects in 48 states.

WHEREAS the United States Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as All-American Roads or National Scenic Byways based on one or more archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

WHEREAS The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

WHEREAS the Coal Heritage Trail, a National Scenic Byway, is now in place in the state of West Virginia, and has extended into the coalfields of Southwest Virginia based on designation guidelines.

WHEREAS Tom's Creek, a historic mining community, and the historic train depot in downtown Coeburn, Virginia are important in the history of coal in Wise County, Virginia and are not currently included in the designated route of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail;

WHEREAS the proposed revision of the St. Paul Loop segment of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail is as follows:

1. *Instead of continuing east on Hwy 58A to St. Paul, take Exit 1 onto VA72N/Downtown/VA158E for 0.3 miles, turn left on VA813/2nd Street SW for 0.4 miles, then turn slight right onto Front Street EVA158 for .3 miles to arrive at the Coeburn Train Depot, which has been totally renovated and serves as a community center.*



Letter from Wise County Tourism Committee requesting the extension of the Byway to include the communities of Stonega and Derby, two coal camps listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

December 13, 2010

Ms. Timin Tate, Chairman
 Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee
 P.O. Box 926
 Lebanon, Virginia 24266

The Wise County Tourism Committee requests that the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee consider placing Stonega Coal Camp and Derby Coal Camp onto its National Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Route.

Currently the Coal Heritage Trail passes by these historic places. I feel this would be an injustice to all tourists that are interested in our coal heritage to miss out on such "diamonds in the rough"; Stonega Historical District and Derby Historical District are both listed in the National Registry of Historical Places both effective on January 16, 2004. We have not just one, but two Historical Districts no farther than 6 miles off Route 23 the current Virginia Coal Heritage Trail. Each district has it's own personality rich in history and I trust the Virginia Coal heritage Trail Advisory Committee will consider adding this small but very significant route to the trail.

Below you will find directions to Stonega from Appalachia and then to Derby.

Appalachia to Stonega

Start out going north on Callahan Ave. toward W. Main Street/US33 BR/Trail of the Lonesome Pine.	2.7 miles
Callahan Avenue becomes Stonega Road.	1.4 miles
Turn right to stay on Stonega Road.	.03 miles
WELCOME TO STONEGA	.01 miles
TOTAL MILES: 4.1	

Stonega to Derby

Start out going west on Stonega Road toward Cross Creek Road.	.03 miles
Turn left to stay on Stonega Road.	1.4 miles
Stonega Road becomes Callahan Avenue	1.1 miles
Turn Right onto Derby Road.	2.0 miles
WELCOME TO DERBY	.01 miles
TOTAL MILES: 8.5	

Derby to Appalachia

Start going East on Derby Road toward Treetop Road.	2.0 miles
Turn right onto Callahan Avenue.	1.6 miles
WELCOME TO APPALACHIA	3.7 miles
TOTAL MILES: 12.16	

Sincerely,

Elaine K. Swiney, Chairman
 Wise County Tourism Committee



APPENDIX L – RESOLUTIONS & LETTERS
For Additions in Byway Route

Letter from the Town of Appalachia also requesting the extension of the Byway to include Route 600 which takes the traveler to the historic coal communities of Stonega and Derby, both of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



"Appalachia: born from coal; survives through spirit"

TOWN OF APPALACHIA

www.townofappalachia.va.us
P. O. BOX 112 508 West Main Street
Appalachia, VA 24216
PH: 276-565-3930 FAX: 276-565-3908

Council Members
Mayor Jay Stobus
Vice-Mayor John Brooks
Bark Ann Boyal
Eddie Gollaway
John Tall

Fred Lunsford
Town Manager

Michelle Hyllton
Town Clerk/Treasurer

December 15, 2010

Ms. Linda Tate, Chairman
Virginia Coal heritage Trail Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 926
Lebanon, Va. 24266

Re: Suggested Route Inclusions to the Virginia Coal heritage Trail

Dear Ms. Tate,

I am writing to you as a representative of the Town of Appalachia (Town Manager) and of Wise County (County Supervisor) regarding the captioned. Please consider this as a formal recommendation to extend the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail route to include Route 600 (Callahan Avenue) that takes in both coal communities of Derby and Stonega.

I have seen the letter to you written by the Wise County Tourism Committee, Elaine K. Swiney, Chairperson that, with great detail, defines the route. So as not to be redundant, please consider the following as additional reasons to include Route 600.

It had long been known and documented that Callahan Ave. leading from Appalachia to Kentucky was a route used early on by the local Indian tribes to travel between now Virginia and Kentucky. As the area began to be populated by early settlers, the route continued to be traveled by families moving between the two states. When coal was discovered to be in these mountains, the areas of Stonega and Derby thrived into bustling communities. Each community had its own hospital, school, church and community store. The coal companies built row houses for employees that still exist today. As you have been made aware, the community of Derby has been designated a Historical District. The original church in Stonega still stands today as a symbol of the past. Coal is still being mined today from the areas around each community. Several times a year, I am asked by folks who are passing through to drive them up Callahan so that they can witness first hand what a "coal camp" looks like. We here in the mountains are very proud of our heritage and would like nothing better than to share it with others.

Consideration of this request will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,


Fred Lunsford, Town Manager



Letter from the Town Manager of Coeburn requesting on behalf of the Coeburn Town Council and the Coeburn Economic Development Authority that the communities of Coeburn and Tom's Creek be added to the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail as an extension on the St. Paul Loop.



TOWN OF COEBURN

"The Home of Friendly People"

Loretta M. Mays, *Town Manager*
Christy L. McCoy, *Clerk/Treasurer*

Town Council

Larry Salyer, *Mayor*
G. Lynn Wells, *Vice Mayor*
Carole Boone
Charles Collins
Jesse R. Powers

December 7, 2010

Ms. Linda Tate, *Chairman*
Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 926
Lebanon, VA 24266

Dear Ms. Tate:

On behalf of the Coeburn Town Council and the Coeburn Economic Development Authority, I would like to request that the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee allow the following revised portions of the St. Paul Loop in Coeburn to be included as the National Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Route, as follows:

Instead of continuing east on Hwy 58A to St. Paul, take Exit 1 onto VA72N/Downtown/VA158E for 0.3 miles, turn left on VA813/2n3 Street SW for 0.4 miles, then turn slight right onto Front Street EVA158 for .3 miles to arrive at the Coeburn Train Depot, which has been totally renovated and serves as a community center.

Instead of continuing east on Hwy 58A to St. Paul, take Exit 1 onto VA72N/Downtown/VA158E for 0.3 miles, turn left on VA813/2n3 Street SW for 0.4 miles, then turn left onto Laurel Avenue/VA 72 for 1.6 miles, then slight turn to the right onto Tom's Creek Road for 4.3 miles to arrive at the site of an operational coal tippie where many coke ovens used to be in existence. An old railroad building still stands and is being used for storage by the coal company that operates the tippie. Tom's Creek is widely known as a historic mining community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance and cooperating regarding this request for revision.

Sincerely,

Loretta M. Mays
Town Manager

403 Second St. N.E. • P. O. Box 370 • Coeburn, Virginia 24230
Phone (276) 395-3323 • Fax (276) 395-3648
info@townofcoeburn.com • www.townofcoeburn.com



APPENDIX L – RESOLUTIONS & LETTERS **For Additions in Byway Route**

Letters from the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors and Buchanan County Tourism requesting the route through Buchanan County be revised yet retain the original route as a state scenic byway.

BUCHANAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<p>James Carroll, Buchanan, Chairman North Grundy District William F. Harris, Vice-Chairman Harrison District Terry Lee Hall Knox District Bertin Vairs Garden District Carl Frankie Landwehr Rockbeck District Steve O'Quinn Prairie District Gary Roger Rife South Grundy District</p>		<p>William J. Caudill County Administrator Michael G. McGlothlin, Esq. County Attorney Lawrence L. Mease, III, Esq. Deputy County Attorney</p>
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November 2, 2010

Ms. Linda Tate, Chairman
Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 926
Lebanon, Virginia 24266

Dear Ms. Tate:


A regular meeting of the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday the 1st day of November 2010. Upon motion of G. Roger Rife seconded by Terry Hall and with a roll call vote of six (6) yeas, zero (0) nays and one (1) absent, this board did hereby approve to request the surrounding counties that are included in the 325 mile route of the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail to allow Buchanan County to keep the current route as a Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Scenic Route and approve a revised portion of the trail to be included as the National Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Route, as follows:

Instead of continuing west on VA 638 to Whitewood, right on VA 628 to State Creek, left on VA 639, left on VA 83, left on 64 and back to VA 638. The recommendation would be from VA 638, turn left onto Courtyard Creek Road for 4.8 miles, turn right onto U.S. 460/Riverside Drive for 2.2 miles, turn left onto Keen Mountain Camp Road and the proposed "Keen Mountain Camp Company Store Interpretive Center & Museum" for the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Byway.

Instead of continuing east on VA 52, left on VA 642, left on VA 630 which takes one back to U.S. 460. The recommendation would be that the Byway continue west on U.S. 460 for 6 miles turning left onto Bull Creek Road / VA 609 at Hauman Junction, cross over railroad tracks and continue 4.3 miles on VA 609 past the community of Maxie (on left) and then the Hauman community, turn right onto Breaks Park Road/VA 80 for 6 miles which brings one to the entrance to Breaks Interstate Park on the right.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation regarding the above. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


W. J. Caudill, County Administrator

Administrative Office P. O. Drawer 950, GRUNDY, VIRGINIA 24614
Telephone (276) 935-6509
Fax: (276) 935-4179

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BUCHANAN COUNTY TOURISM



November 5, 2010

Ms. Linda Tate, Chairman
Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 926
Lebanon, Virginia 24266

Dear Ms. Tate:

The Buchanan County Tourism Committee would like to request that the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Advisory Committee allow Buchanan County to keep the current route as a Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Scenic Route and approve the following revised portion of the trail to be included as the National Virginia Coal Heritage Trail State Byway Route, as follows:

Instead of continuing west on VA 638 to Whitewood, right on VA 628 to Slate Creek, left on VA 639, left on VA 83, left on 641 and back to VA 638. The recommendation would be from VA 638, turn left onto Contrary Creek Road for 4.8 miles, turn right onto U.S. 460/Riverside Drive for 2.2 miles, turn left onto Keen Mountain Camp Road and the proposed "Keen Mountain Camp Company Store Interpretive Center & Museum" for the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail Byway.

Instead of continuing east on VA 83, left on VA 642, left on VA 650 which takes one back to U.S. 460. The recommendation would be that the Byway continue west on U.S. 460 for 6 miles turning left onto Bull Creek Road / VA 609 at Harman Junction, cross over railroad tracks and continue 4.3 miles on VA 609 past the community of Maxie (on left) and then the Harman community, turn right onto Breaks Park Road/VA 80 for .6 miles which brings one to the entrance to Breaks Interstate Park on the right.

If approved by the committee, we would like our legislators to present this revised portion of the trail for approval during the 2011 Legislative Session in Richmond, Virginia. Thank you for your assistance regarding this proposal. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Phillip Vandyke, Chairman
Buchanan County Tourism Committee

Administrative Office P. O. Drawer 950, GRUNDY, VIRGINIA 24614
Telephone (276) 938-6508
Fax: (276) 938-4479

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