



This chapter fulfills #6 and addresses in part #4, #5, #11, #12 and #14 of the FHWA requirements* for a CMP which include:

- #4 – A strategy for maintaining and enhancing each of the byway's intrinsic qualities. This is also addressed in part in Chapters VII and VIII.
- #5 - A strategy for how existing development along the corridor might be enhanced and how to accommodate new development while preserving the byway's intrinsic qualities which is also addressed in Chapter VIII and Appendices D & E.
- #6 - A plan for on-going public participation by creating the Virginia Coal Heritage Advisory Committee.
- #11 - A plan to make sure that the number and placement of highway signs will not get in the way of scenery, but still be sufficient to help tourists find their way which is also addressed in part in Chapter VIII.
- #12 - Plans for how to market and publicize the byway which is further addressed in Chapters VIII and X.
- #14 - A description of how to explain and interpret your byway's significant resources to visitors. Interpretation can include visitor centers, leaflets, audio tours, information panels, and special events. This is also addressed in part in Chapters VIII and X.

CHAPTER IX: ACTION PLAN
Recommendations for developing a “Visitor-Ready” Byway
for the Virginia Coal Heritage Trail.

During the process of conducting the first time visitor driving tour of the entire route, a number of recommendations were made to make the route more driver-friendly. These recommendations were then shared with those within the communities at town meetings and through the internet.

Coal and railroad related sites were also identified and recommendations made as to which ones needed:

1. Signage
2. Interpretation
3. Preservation
4. Protection
5. Clean-up and/or removal

More recommendations were added, focusing this time on prioritizing which ones should be immediate action, short term goals (within the first year), midterm goals (within 2 to 5 years) and long term goals (within 5 to 10 years) and who should be the responsible parties to see that these goals would be reached.

On the following pages is a breakdown of these recommendations. Those specifically coal related are noted in “red”, railroad related sites in “brown”, road description in “blue” and the recommendations in “purple”. It is also recommended that signage be added on all bridges that cross designated scenic rivers.