



Background

The National Park Service Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program was established in 2001 through an Act of Congress (Public Law 106-45) to assist local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, nonprofits and individuals in establishing priorities for the preservation of historic Route 66. The program provides grants, technical assistance, and clearinghouse services to assist with historic preservation, research, oral history, interpretation, and educational outreach. Through collaboration and partnerships, the program helps to stimulate business, economic growth, and community revitalization across 36 congressional districts and eight states through which the route passes. FY2008 represents the eighth year of program operations. The program will legislatively terminate in 2009. However, on March 30, 2009, President Obama signed into law the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Reauthorization Act of 2008, extending the program ten more years.

Budget

The program's enabling legislation authorized up to \$10 million in federal appropriations to carry out program activities through 2009. Actual appropriations to date total \$2.48 million.

\$293,000 was authorized for program expenses in FY2008, to include grant awards, two full-time staff salaries, travel, special projects, and other costs.

Partnerships

The program actively pursues partnerships to accomplish its goals. In FY2008, program staff held 30 community and individual meetings, presentations, and workshops for the purpose of building partnerships and raising awareness about historic preservation on Route 66. This included Scenic Byway and Main Street program community workshops and meetings with business owners, local leaders, Route 66 associations, preservation organizations, educational institutions, state historic preservation offices, departments of transportation, tribal agencies, environmental agencies, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, World Monuments Fund and others.

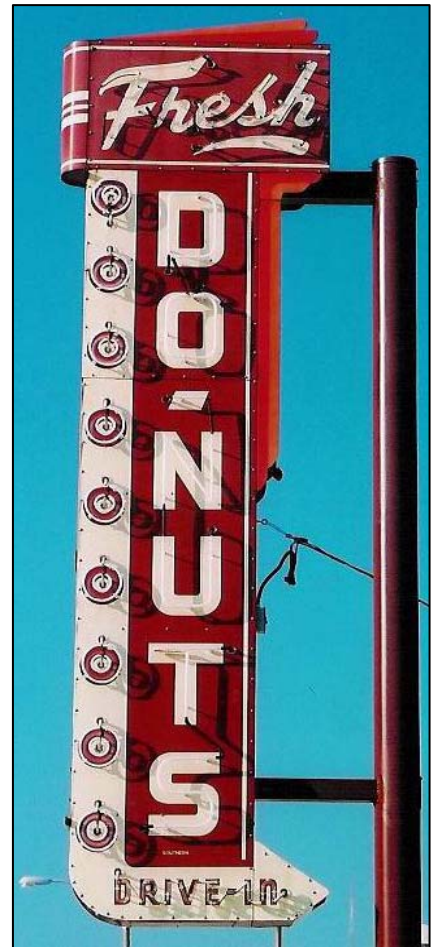
Clearinghouse Functions

The program serves as a point of contact and network for Route 66 preservation information. The information is focused on the unique needs of historic highways and Route 66. Clearinghouse activities include:

- Management of program website
- Management of Route 66 library and preservation-related materials
- Addressing general and technical information requests
- Production of annual newsletter, brochures, special reports, and the "Directory of Financial and Technical Resources"
- Development of an inventory database
- Development of Route 66 National Register of Historic Places Travel Itinerary

Technical Assistance

Program staff provides limited technical assistance. In FY2008, staff made numerous site visits and addressed hundreds of phone and email inquiries. Technical assistance includes cursory building inspections, treatment advice, project monitoring, community preservation planning consultation, research requests, and corridor management plan review.




Grants awarded in FY2008 include the restoration of the Highway Café, Winslow, Arizona (top); the Donut Drive-In sign, St. Louis, Missouri (middle); The Mill café, Lincoln, Illinois; and others.



Top: NPS worked with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona to fund an emergency conditions assessments report for the Twin Arrows Trading Post outside of Flagstaff, Arizona.

Bottom: NPS partnered with the University of New Mexico and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) program to record La Bajada using HAER standards, including creation of a landscape map, measured drawings, and archival-quality black-and-white photographs. These will be archived at the Library of Congress.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Cost-Share Grant Assistance

The program provides cost-share grant assistance for eligible historic preservation projects. Grant assistance is also provided for research, oral history, interpretation, and educational projects. Grants are offered through an annual, competitive grant cycle. Since the program's inception in 2001, \$3.8 million in grant requests have been submitted. Eighty-six projects have been awarded \$1.3 million.

In FY2008, 13 eligible applications requesting \$203,055 were submitted. Nine projects were selected for a total award of \$92,875, with an additional \$142,925 contributed through cost-share match.

Special Projects

The program undertakes special projects at its discretion, based on demonstrated need and available resources. Special projects completed in FY2008 included:

- Organized a University of New Mexico HAER field session to record La Bajada landscape near Santa Fe
- Co-organized the *Preserving the Historic Road* conference, Sept. 11-14, 2008, Albuquerque
- Partnered with the World Monuments Fund and American Express through their Sustainable Tourism Initiative, and Rutgers University to develop an assessment of the economic impacts of tourism on Route 66
- Organized the third Route 66 Corridor Federal Advisory Council meeting, Nov. 1-2, 2007, Pasadena
- Provided emergency outreach for the development of preservation plans for the Rock Café, Oklahoma and the Twin Arrows Trading Post, Arizona
- Compiled and finalized information for 50 sites to be included in the National Register of Historic Places Route 66 Travel Itinerary
- Finalized cooperative agreement with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office to develop an inventory and assessment of Illinois Route 66 road segments
- Entered in an agreement with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office to create a National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form for Route 66 in Missouri
- Continued to partner with ten archival institutions to organize the Route 66 Archive and Research Collaboration (Route 66 ARC)
- Continued development of GIS base map of Route 66 road alignments and associated features
- Conducted extensive consultation with the Hopi Tribe on the preservation of the Twin Arrows Trading Post, Arizona, and Navajo Nation on the nomination of Navajo-related Route 66 sites to National Register

Federal Advisory Council

A Federal Advisory Council convened in November, 2007 to advise the Secretary of Interior on matters relating to the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. The council made recommendations on program activities and priorities, which can be reviewed at <http://www.nps.gov/history/rt66/news/FACAMinutes03.htm>

The Future

The program continues to see momentum growing at grassroots and governmental levels toward a greater awareness of the significance of Route 66 and the need to preserve it. Recent most-endangered places listings for Route 66 through the World Monuments Fund, National Trust for Historic Preservation and state preservation organizations reinforces the growing awareness and interest in the historic highway. As the program enters its next ten years, we look forward to continued work with these and other partners to preserve the best of Route 66 and to stimulate economic growth along this living highway.