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U.S. Sen. Harkin: More than \$770,000 in highway funding coming to Eastern and Northwest Iowa

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Awards will improve tourism conditions for 364 miles on Iowa's highways

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) announced today that the Department of Transportation is awarding \$771,680 for improvements on the Iowa Great River Road Scenic Byway and Iowa Glacial Trail Scenic Byway along the Mississippi River and in northwest Iowa. Senator Harkin is a senior member of the Senate panel that funds transportation initiatives.

“This funding will help boost tourism and bring economic prosperity to some of Iowa’s most beautiful thoroughfares,” said Harkin. “Investments like this one are essential to bringing more travelers to our state.”

An award of \$450,000 will be used to create a Visitor Orientation Center, including a River Overlook, along Iowa’s Great River Road, and the construction of a free stop at the National Mississippi River Museum and Great Rivers Center in Dubuque. It aims to provide more interactive opportunities for visitors to enjoy their time along the river while also maintaining travel facilities such as a comfortable resting stop. Other funding includes a \$260,000 award to update the Great River Road’s Corridor Management Plan to organize these plans. This project extends the entire length of the 328 mile Iowa Great River Road, tracing the Mississippi River.

An additional award of \$61,680 will be used to develop the Corridor Management Plan for the Glacial Trail Scenic Byway in northwest Iowa. This plan will identify natural features to draw visitors to the area. It also will include plans for improving safety and tourist amenities along 36 miles of highway and county roads stretching through O’Brien, Clay, Cherokee and Buena Vista Counties.

Funding was made available through the Federal Highway Administration’s National Scenic Byways Program which recognizes, preserves and enhances America's scenic roads and highways throughout the United States.



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