

VISION AND INITIAL GOALS

Corridor Vision



In twenty years, the Corridor Advocacy Group sees US 441 from the North Rim of Paynes Prairie to the Alachua/Marion County line as a significant community asset that grants citizens access to a cross section of North Florida rich in natural and cultural resources. The Scenic 441 Corridor will help preserve the natural and cultural integrity of this unique North Florida road by linking the road and the people who use it through advocacy, education, scenic resource protection and roadway and corridor enhancements. The intrinsic beauty of this road will anchor the development of adjacent areas for heritage and nature tourism. Expanded bike lanes will encourage alternative forms of transportation and increase the corridor's ability to host cycling events. As one of the best preserved remnants of "Old Florida," rich in natural beauty and steeped in tradition, the Old Florida Heritage Highway offers a unique opportunity to support the contextually appropriate economic development that is already occurring along many parts of the roadway. The designation of US 441 as a Scenic Highway will help Floridians address threats to the intrinsic beauty of the road while at the same time enhancing the highway's capability of becoming a perpetual asset of the State of Florida.

Initial Corridor Goals

Pursue the extension of the corridor into the township of McIntosh and the Horse Farm Country of northern Marion County.

Consider an Interpretative Center for the corridor at Baber Park at the northern limit of the Corridor.

Consider the inclusion of 441 tributary roadways under local or state program requirements so as to develop a system of scenic loops anchored by US 441.

Develop a system of uniform interpretational signage and encourage contextually appropriate commercial signage within the corridor.

Improve intergovernmental cooperation between the local governments and public agencies as it affects the corridor.

Encourage landowner and merchant participation in corridor

activities.

Enhance bicycle and pedestrian usage of the corridor while reducing accident potential associated with these uses.

Improve roadside access to publicly owned corridor resources.

Ensure consideration of the scenic highway goals in state and local roadway and corridor development plans.

Restore and enhance medians, and particularly the palm-lined medians that currently grace portions of the roadway.

Ensure that any right of way enhancements account for the needs of wildlife along the corridor, including the use of only non-invasive native vegetation within right of way.

Improve the aesthetic quality of the roadway as gateway entrances to Micanopy and Gainesville.

Promote the scenic quality of the roadway as a tool to encourage contextually appropriate economic development such as heritage and nature tourism.

Seek state and federal funds for implementation projects based on the approved corridor management plan.

SCHEDULE

Completion of the designation phase is scheduled as follows:

- I. January 2000
 - A. Refine Corridor Vision
- I. February 2000
 - A. Refine/Develop Goals and Objectives
 - B. Refine/Expand Community Participation Program
 - C. Begin CMP research
- I. March 2000
 - A. Prepare the Background Analysis
 - B. Address the Designation Criteria
 - C. Refine the Corridor Story
- I. April/May 2000
 - A. Development of Protection Techniques
 - B. Develop Funding and Promotion Techniques
 - C. Relationship of the CMP to the Comprehensive Plans
 - D. Develop the Action Plan

1. Corridor Improvements/Enhancements
2. Promotion/Communication/Participation
3. Administration/Coordination

I. June 2000

- A. Complete and Submit the Designation Application

*Subject to modification based on dates of eligibility determination.