

10524. RESOLUTION 12-14 - SUPPORTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE NEW JERSEY BAYSHORE HERITAGE BYWAY ROUTE TO INCLUDE THE TOWNBANK/FERRY SPUR BETWEEN SEASHORE ROAD AND TO BEACH DRIVE NEAR THE CAPE MAY FERRY TERMINAL

WHEREAS, The Delaware River and Bay Authority (“the Authority”), operates the Cape May – Lewes Ferry and is responsible for the Sandman Boulevard approach road to the Cape May ferry terminal; and

WHEREAS, the Cape May – Lewes Ferry, a vital transportation link connecting historic Lewes, Delaware and Victorian Cape May, New Jersey, is also closely tied to the tourism industry in southern New Jersey and Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the Bayshore Heritage Byway Advisory Group has worked closely with New Jersey Department of Transportation to determine ways to showcase the importance of the western shore of Salem, Cumberland and Cape May counties and their natural, historic, cultural, and scenic intrinsic qualities to the general public; and

WHEREAS, through increased general awareness of the area’s unique historic, natural, and cultural assets, the Bayshore Heritage Byway can provide benefits by welcoming visitors to explore and share in the significant natural and historic qualities along this byway; and

WHEREAS, the scenic byway can further benefit the community by fostering economic development consistent with the region’s rural character, providing access to federal resources and improving established roadways that constitute the byway alignment; and

WHEREAS, designation of the byway involves a coordinated effort among the municipalities, counties and agencies through which it passes; and

WHEREAS, the Authority supports the revision to the Bayshore Heritage Byway Route as follows:

The section of the Byway from Bayshore Road (County Road 603) and Route 47 to Seashore Road and Breakwater Road will be deleted, and replaced by the following:

At Route 47 and Bayshore Road, the route will turn west on Bayshore Road, remaining on this road as it turns south and leaves Middle Township and enters Lower Township. The route will continue south and bear to the left and Fishing Creek Road, turning east onto Breakwater Road at Fishing Creek Road. The route will follow Breakwater Road to Seashore Road where it will turn south and resume the original plan.

It is also requested that a spur to the Byway be created between Seashore Road at Sandman Blvd and Lincoln Blvd at Beach Drive to be known as the Cape May – Lewes Ferry Spur.

WHEREAS, Lower Township officials requested the Authority's support for this change to the route; and

WHEREAS, the Authority understands that its support does not affect the bi state agency's ability to make structural improvements to the Sandman Blvd. approach road, to erect directional signage related to the Cape May – Lewes Ferry or other matters pertaining to the operation of the Cape May – Lewes Ferry; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is submitting this revision to the route to the South Jersey Bayshore Coalition during the preparation of a Corridor Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, once formally designated, the administration of the Byway requires a continuing commitment on the part of all participants involved; and

WHEREAS, the Authority supports the concept of a Scenic Byway and requests to have representation on the Bayshore Heritage Byway advisory committee, which is responsible for its implementation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the Delaware River and Bay Authority intends to actively participate in the Bayshore Heritage Byway management plan and will cooperate with all other municipalities and counties involved in ongoing planning efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority supports the designation, recognition and retention of the Bayshore Heritage Byway, with the passage of this Resolution, adopted today, April 17, 2012.

A motion to approve Resolution 12-14 was made by Commissioner Favre, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, and approved by a roll call vote of 10-0.

Resolution 12-14 -- Executive Summary

- Resolution:** Supports an Amendment to the New Jersey Bayshore Heritage Byway Route to include the Townbank/Ferry Spur between Seashore Road and to Beach Drive near the Cape May Ferry Terminal
- Committee:** Projects Committee
- Committee Date:** April 17, 2012
- Board Date:** April 17, 2012
- Purpose of Resolution:** Authorizes the Executive Director, Chairman and Vice Chairman to actively participate in the Bayshore Heritage Byway management plan, cooperate with all other municipalities and counties involved in ongoing planning efforts and support the designation, recognition and retention of the Bayshore Heritage Byway.