



<b>HISTORIC PARKWAYS POLICY</b>			Policy # <b>Division/Bureau Initials-Year- Policy #, e.g. A&amp;F-2006-07</b>
Effective Date: <i>Immediately upon approval</i>			Last Revised: 3/5/07
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Stewardship Council:			Date:
Approval			Signature:
Internal Review:			
Secretary, EOE	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	
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Deputy Commissioner(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	
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Division Director(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	
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Department/Bureau Chief(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	
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General Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	
External Affairs Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Date:	

**POLICY:**

DCR recognizes and protects the cultural significance and unique character of historic parkways in the urban and state parks systems which provide vital transportation links and recreational experiences within a historic and natural landscape. Working toward a balance of resource protection, safety, and recreation, DCR will plan, design and undertake maintenance, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of its historic parkways in accordance with the DCR Historic Parkway Preservation Treatment Guidelines (DCR 2006).

**APPLICABILITY:**

This policy applies to planning, design and maintenance activities for all DCR owned and/or controlled parkways, whether funded and managed by DCR or by a private entity or another state agency. The planning process outlined in the Guidelines is designed to ensure that transparent decision-making and public participation are a critical component of major modifications, rehabilitation, restoration or reconstruction projects that have the potential to alter the character of a historic parkway. The comprehensive assessment and design process, described in detail in Chapter 2 of the



Guidelines, should be undertaken for projects that may result in one or more of the following:

- Alterations to the way a parkway currently functions (speed, capacity or safety),
- Introduction of new elements such as signage systems, traffic control measures, grade separation, incompatible landscape features, lighting systems or signals,
- Change in the balance among users (bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles)
- Removal, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a significant historic feature such as a bridge, lighting or landscape features.
- Restore parkway function or historic character lost to previous alterations.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS:** The description of and general implementation guidelines for this policy follow below.

**APPENDICES:** Following this cover sheet as an attachment are the Historic Parkway Guidelines.

**PROCEDURES:** The following implementation strategy will ensure that all activities on historic parkways in the DCR system are carried out in accordance with the Historic Parkway Preservation Treatment Guidelines (referred to as “the Guidelines”) and to provide the many stakeholders the opportunity to be informed and provide input on those activities. The strategy includes agency rollout, integration of the Guidelines into existing DCR systems, participation by the public and annual reporting to the DCR Stewardship Council.

1. The Commissioner shall designate a staff person to coordinate agency implementation of this policy.
2. The agency shall initiate a program of professional development to provide training on the Guidelines and other relevant subject areas to help DCR planning, engineering, project management and operations staff perform key functional tasks related to planning, design and maintenance of its historic parkways.
3. Public participation is essential to DCR’s implementation of the Guidelines. The public participation strategy for a historic parkway project shall include a broad range of stakeholders and shall encourage the public’s involvement early in the parkway planning process. The public participation plan shall be customized based on the specific project undertaking and shall focus on the following benchmarks:
  - Project Visioning
  - Presentation of Project Alternatives
  - Presentation of Preferred Design
  - Pre-construction

In instances where the agency is unable to meet the intent of a treatment guideline for a specific parkway element, DCR's public participation plan shall incorporate an appropriate amount of outreach to ensure adequate public review and comment on the deviation from the treatment guideline.

4. DCR will integrate the parkway maintenance Guidelines into the Facility Administration Maintenance Information System (FAMIS) work order system to ensure that baseline goals and level of service are consistent throughout the parkway system.

5. DCR will conduct annual system-wide spring reconnaissance inspections and evaluations of historic parkways (1) to identify and schedule immediate/emergency maintenance repairs after the winter season, (2) to schedule annual planned maintenance activities for the Spring and Summer season, and (3) to identify capital equipment needs and major capital improvements. DCR will incorporate the data collected during spring reconnaissance into FAMIS and other DCR systems. The spring reconnaissance inspection will provide a framework for establishing annual priorities, setting project categories, developing timetables for implementation and identifying project funding mechanisms.

6. Each September DCR will hold one or more public forums to report and solicit input on capital and operational activities. Input received at public forums will be evaluated and considered by the Commissioner for inclusion in an annual parkway improvement plan, which will be posted for public review. This plan will guide DCR's annual operating and capital budget planning relative to parkway improvements and maintenance.

7. Upon review and approval of the Commissioner, DCR will present the annual parkway improvement plan at the November Stewardship Council meeting for review and concurrence.

8. Application of the Guidelines does not preclude compliance with relevant federal, state and local laws, regulations..

9. The Guidelines may be revised from time to time. Substantive changes will be posted on the DCR website for a minimum of 21 days so that the public will be afforded the opportunity to comment.