Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway Corridor Management Plan Meeting
Linn County Area

April 25, 2015
Marion Public Library

Meeting Notes and Community Member Input

What could the Lincoln Highway mean to your community in the future? What ideas do you have?

- Interpretive panels, tying in Eagle Scout projects, like the Lincoln Highway Association panels, including at the new Central Fire Station, which has an electronic kiosk inside
- More bike-friendly without taking out trees or widening road. Original plans including lighted bike and walking paths
- South of Highway 100 - kiosk at Squaw Creek to explain the Lincoln Highway. Enhance finding the sign from the road
- Highway 13 and Lincoln Highway - brick and signage
- County right-of-way - need to fill out an application to install signage, or ask the DOT if their jurisdiction
- RAGBRAI along the Lincoln Highway, or with a Lincoln Highway theme
- More motor tours, including international
- A gas station/rest stop/restroom between Cedar Rapids and Tama
- Historical Society/Preservation wants to work with Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway to create and exhibit about the Lincoln Highway

Intrinsic Qualities Identified

Historic:
- Bridge on Bloomington Road - iron truss - needs to be saved. On National Register of Historic Places
- 6th and 8th Avenues crossed river - had bridges, and 7th Avenue bridge after WWII
- Grant Wood connections
- Abbe Creek School
- Light rail - Mt. Vernon
- Seedling Mile - Iowa’s first paved section of Lincoln Highway, between Mt. Vernon and Cedar Rapids
- Marion - Interstate Fairgrounds
- Junction of railroads
- Lincolnshire - curved road, Snake Hill. Historically often needed to back up the hill or needed a fuel pump to get up the hill
- Iowa has more original Lincoln Highway than any other state?
- Walford Road, Johnson Avenue, Mt. Vernon Road has original markers
- Mt. Vernon brick street
- Foundations of old gas stations, including Happy Valley Station
- Old cabin site, southeast of Ballard on Mt. Vernon Road
- In the past, families along the Lincoln Highway would go out to the seedling mile and drive back and forth for entertainment
- Convoys
- Grave pile
Natural:
- Palisades-Kepler State Park
- Squaw Creek Park south of Marion
- Cedar River
- Thomas Park
- Eagles in area
- Indian Creek Nature Center
- County has a strong roadside vegetation program

Cultural:
- National Czech and Slovak Museum
- Colleges in Mt. Vernon and Cedar Rapids

Scenic:
- View from the Bloomington Road bridge - 120 geese migrate there, art classes and photographers use. Linn Co. replacement to have concrete sides
- View of Mt. Vernon from a distance along Lincoln Highway
- Change of seasons, colors
- Toward Bertram by railroad, a boggy low area

Archaeological:
- Arrowhead Road area - Indian village there
- Area historically had experienced friendly relations between Indian and settler groups

Recreational:
- Farmers' Markets
- Bike trails, walking trails, etc.
- Agritourism
- Bike rides on gravel roads
- Solar system sculpture
- Mt. Trashmore