



TOWN OF GREENBURGH

OFFICE OF THE TOWN BOARD

177 Hillside Avenue, Greenburgh, NY 10607

Tel: 914.989.1540 Fax: 914.989.1541

TOWN BOARD

Paul Feiner, Supervisor

Joy Haber, Council

Ellen Hendrickx, Council

Gina Jackson, Council

Francis Sheehan, Council

July 9, 2025

Mr. Peter Dunleavy

Chair, New York State Byways Advisory Board

50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232

Dear New York State Byways Advisory Board:

The Town of Greenburgh gives its enthusiastic support to the Villages of Tarrytown, Irvington, Dobbs Ferry and Hastings-on-Hudson, NY for the designation of the *Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway* which maps its pathway through their respective municipalities. We applaud each village for their signed resolutions to participate in the New York Corridor Management Plan.

The proposed 550-mile Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Byway begins at the New Jersey border in the Southern Region, travels north to Albany in the Capital Region, then turns west on NY Route 5S connecting through Utica, Syracuse, to Auburn in the Finger Lakes Region. The Corridor continues to Geneva, north through Rochester and Lockport, south to Buffalo, and terminating in Niagara Falls.

Harriet Tubman's international prominence offers a significant opportunity for New York to further inform visitors about her important role in American history. By connecting distinguished "Travel with Tubman" sites (recognized by the National Park Service) with other New York heritage sites associated with Harriet Tubman, the proposed byway gives voice to numerous freedom seekers and residents involved in the Underground Railroad.

As heritage tourism is one of the fastest-growing segments of the travel industry, this proposed byway affords visitors a designated route to travel and experience our rich cultural heritage. With common goals and projects joining municipalities of all sizes, byways afford economic growth and branding opportunities. Linking distinct cultural landscapes, Main Streets, small towns, urban neighborhoods, and recreational paths, the byway encourages heritage visitors to linger longer and spend more along the route.

This proposed corridor parallels other state and nationally designated byways, including the Revolutionary War Byway and Lakes to Locks Passage. Upon designation as a New York

byway, it is hoped that this corridor can in the future be linked with neighboring states to create a multi-state designated All-American Road. The achievement of All American Road status would showcase our state's Underground Railroad heritage as an example of human fortitude, resilience, and cooperation.

The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Corridor provides a distinctive and positive strategy for protecting, preserving, and promoting the unique resources along the route, and the Town supports the implementation of the corridor vision and goals.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Paul Feiner

Councilwoman Joy Haber

Councilwoman Ellen Hendrickx

Councilwoman Gina Jackson

Councilman Francis Sheehan

RESOLUTION FOR HARRIET TUBMAN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NEW YORK SCENIC BYWAY NOMINATION AND CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they utilized during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to working cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic, recreational, and economic well-being of the 544-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by encouraging public participation, confirming the vision and goals, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies, has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved visitor experience that interprets and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Greenburgh supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the historic scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Greenburgh confirms that they will not approve any requests for new off-premise outdoor advertising signs along the designated Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway route; and

IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Greenburgh will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway programs, economic development, marketing, and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation to realize the Scenic Byway goals.