



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

Seneca Lake Scenic Byway Signed Into Law

THOMAS F. O'MARA August 2, 2012

| ISSUE: **RECREATION AND TOURISM**



Albany, N.Y., August 2—New York State Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb (R,I,C-Canandaigua) and State Senators Tom O'Mara (R-C, Big Flats) and Mike Nozzolio (R-C, Seneca Falls) announced today that legislation they sponsored to designate the Seneca Lake Scenic Byway between Schuyler and Seneca counties as a New York State Scenic Byway, has been signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo.

The Senate approved the legislation ((S.5818/A.8468, Chapter 310 of the Laws of 2012) in late March. It was given final legislative approval in early June by the Assembly, where it was also cosponsored by Assemblymen Phil Palmesano (R-C, Corning) and Chris Friend (R-Big Flats).

The designation, which has been sought by community leaders along the 18-mile corridor that follows portions of State Route 414, will strengthen regional tourism and provide numerous other benefits, supporters say.

Leader Kolb said: "The only thing better than the Finger Lakes in the winter and spring, is the Finger Lakes in the summer and fall. We are fortunate to live in a region that is terrific for all seasons. One of our community's greatest assets, besides its people, is the impressive scenic splendor and regional charm which makes it a must-visit tourist attraction. Whether it's the Finger Lakes award winning wines and wineries, or the many local opportunities for fine dining and entertainment, our region literally has it all. This Scenic Byway designation reflects these attributes and will help us better promote our region as the premier destination for tourism, culture and commerce."

Senator O'Mara said: "This is a state roadway offering some of the most impressive scenic beauty anywhere in New York State. It will be enhanced as a tourist attraction by this designation. We applaud this local vision and long-standing commitment to the byway, and we appreciate Governor Cuomo's recognition of its importance to our region."

Senator Nozzolio said: "Including the Seneca Lake Scenic Byway in the New York State Scenic Byway system will bring a number of job development, scenic, recreational, historical, and cultural benefits to many of our local communities. This measure is important to strengthening local tourism, which is a foundation of our region's economy. It was a pleasure working with Senator O'Mara and Governor Cuomo to obtain this important

designation.”

Assemblyman Palmesano said: “I’ve been proud to support the designation of the Seneca Lake Scenic Byway. It’s the product of a lot of hard work and perseverance by many local residents and leaders, and it’s a real victory for regional tourism.”

Assemblyman Friend said: “This designation will put in place another powerful tool to help showcase outstanding regional attractions and boost local tourism in important and meaningful ways. The Seneca Lake Scenic Byway will be a great addition to tourism in New York State.”

Following a nomination by the Seneca Lake Scenic Byway Steering Committee, the designation was recommended by the New York Scenic Scenic Byways Advisory Board in December 2010.

The 18-mile corridor follows portions of New York State Route 414 between the town of Hector in Schuyler County and the Seneca County town of Lodi.