



THE ROAD AHEAD PARTNERSHIP

September 6, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

66,000 Signature Goal Within Reach

The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership and the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced this week, that as of August 31, 2018, they had received 61,417 signatures in support of designating Historic Route 66 a National Historic Trail. The National Trust launched a month-long campaign in July to build awareness for the bill in Congress that would make Route 66 the twentieth U.S. National Historic Trail. In honor of the Road's birthday on November 11, they set a goal of 66,000 signatures in time to celebrate the Route's 92nd year.

The Road Ahead and the National Trust are grateful for all those who have already signed the petition and request their help in encouraging others to offer their support. The petition is waiting to be signed online at www.preserveroute66.org. While there, visitors can also brush up on the road trip itinerary, sneak a peek at some of the photos taken and stories written, and meet the National Trust road trip staff.



Photo by David Kafer. Used by permission of National Trust for Historic Preservation. All rights reserved.

Amy Webb, senior field director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, stated "By promoting this authentic experience, we can help preserve a beloved icon and at the same time, revive local economies in rural communities."

The National Trust gathered over 58,000 signatures from Route 66 supporters all over the world during the July road trip. Since that time, they have gained about 3,000 more. That leaves just under 5,000 names to reach the goal.

The U.S. House of Representatives has already taken important steps to designate Route 66 a National Historic Trail, but legislation remains to be passed by the U.S. Senate and signed by the president. This permanent federal designation will place Route 66 among other nationally significant land or water routes that reflect America's history. This vital preservation opportunity can bring national recognition

and economic development to historic sites along the historic highway.

Established with the support of the National Park Service and the World Monuments Fund, The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership's mission is to revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national and international icon through partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research and education, and economic development.