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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership Publishes Fourth Quarter Report

The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership Board of Directors has posted its Fourth Quarter 2023 activity report on the organization's website, <u>www.route66roadahead.org</u> (accessible by clicking on the "News" or "Resources" tabs). The report covers activities from October 1 through December 31, 2023.

Most significant are the reports from the State Associations Advocacy Group, the Research and Education Working Group, and the Financial Sustainment Task Force.

The Route 66 Road Ahead State Associations Advocacy Working Group is discussing an informational piece that celebrates the upcoming Centennial and which could be used to provide cross-country information for travelers. The Road Ahead offered to assist by helping submit the idea to the Federal Route 66 Centennial Commission for consideration as one of its officially recommended projects.

The Road Ahead's Research and Education Working Group, that helped design and implement the 2023 NEH Summer Workshop, *Racialized Spaces on Route 66*, proposed a new workshop for the summer of 2025. An emphasis on the history of women on Route 66 is being considered.

The Road Ahead submitted seven proposals to the Route 66 Centennial Commission for consideration as official Centennial activities. The proposals are: The Route 66 Research Center, AAA Route 66 RoadFest, Route 66 Centennial National Kick-off Event, Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program, Route 66 Orchestral Suite, Route 66 Black Experiences Grant Program, and the designation of Route 66 as an Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

For details on these activities and others, you can read the complete fourth quarter report posted online at: https://route66roadahead.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023-4th-QTR-Update-Report-2.pdf

The Road Ahead Board of Directors will meet again on February 8, 2024.

Established in 2016, 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.

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