



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

February 21, 2008

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### Byway Seeks Community Input

(Peoria) - Community meetings will be held along the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway to share interpretive findings and recommendations, as well as hear feedback, for the Interpretive Master Plan for the natural intrinsic qualities of this nationally recognized byway. Fermata, Inc., a Houston-based firm specializing in nature and experiential tourism, has been contracted by the Byway organization to assist with the interpretive planning process for the route.

Each meeting will include a presentation of the interpretive recommendations for the gateway communities and affiliated nature waypoint sites throughout the byway region. Options for sharing each community's individual stories with visitors will be discussed.

The seven gateway communities are Ottawa, Princeton, Peoria, East Peoria, Pekin, Canton and Havana. The approximately 100 nature waypoint sites are located throughout the Byway region from LaSalle County to Mason County.

Contact Byway Director Anaise Berry ([aberry@edc.h-.org](mailto:aberry@edc.h-.org)) at 309-495-5909 for more information.

#### Local Meetings

##### Wednesday 2/27

- 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Pekin and East Peoria** Gateway Community presentations at Pekin City Hall – 111 S. Capitol Street, Pekin
- Noon – 1:30 p.m. **Havana and Canton** Gateway Community presentations Dickson Mounds Museum – 10956 N. Dickson Mounds Road, Lewistown
- 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. **Ottawa** Gateway Community presentation at Ottawa City Hall – 301 W. Madison Street, Ottawa

##### Thursday 2/28

- 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Peoria** Gateway Community presentation at Peoria NEXT Innovation Center – 801 W. Main Street, Peoria
- 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. **Princeton** Gateway Community presentation at Princeton Public Library – 698 E. Peru Street, Princeton

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A program of the Economic Development Council for Central Illinois