

# PD-16: Scenic, Natural, or Recreational Qualities

1-3 points

SCORECARDS:

Paving

Rural Basic

Rural Extended

Urban Basic

Urban Extended

**Goal:** Preserve, protect, and/or enhance routes designated with significant scenic, natural, and/or recreational qualities in order to enhance the public enjoyment of facilities.



## Sustainability Linkage

Preserving scenic, natural, or recreational qualities supports the social principle by providing the public with an opportunity for increasing their appreciation and respect of the natural environment through facilities such as visitor centers, recreational features, and/or scenic viewpoints, and through promoting community use of facilities.

## Background and Scoring Requirements

### Scoring Requirements

In order to achieve points for this criterion, both of the following prerequisites must apply:

#### Prerequisite PD-16.1P

##### **0 points. Location along America's Byway® or Equivalent**

Any portion of the project is along one of America's Byways® (National Scenic Byway or All-American Road – [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org)), a State Scenic Byway, an Indian Tribe Scenic Byway, or other route that was designated or officially recognized as such because of its significant scenic, natural, and/or recreational qualities. This includes bridges spanning scenic and recreational waterways.

**AND**

#### Prerequisite PD-16.2P

##### **0 points. Maintain Access**

Existing access to scenic, natural, or recreational qualities has not been removed as a part of this project unless it is specifically removed to protect the scenic, natural, and/or recreational qualities themselves.

#### Requirement PD-16.1

##### **1-3 points. Avoid or Minimize Impacts to Scenic, Natural, or Recreational Qualities or Enhance Features**

Points shall be achieved per Table PD-16.1.A on the next page. Points are **not** cumulative; rather the highest point value earned should be used.

**TABLE PD-16.1.A. POINTS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR SCENIC, NATURAL, OR RECREATIONAL QUALITIES**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Method</b>
PD-16.1a	1	<b>Minimize Impacts.</b> Show that an effort has been made to minimize “adverse effects” to the features from Prerequisite PD-16.1P.
PD-16.1b	1	<b>Provide Access.</b> Provide at least one access from the project to a designated area for vehicles to exit the traffic stream, stop, and experience scenic, natural, or recreational features along the roadway. These areas may be scenic viewpoints or overlooks, welcome centers, tourist activities, or information centers or recreation areas. They must be identified with signage conforming to 23 CFR 655 (the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, current revision) Part 2 – Signs.
PD-16.1c	2	<b>Avoid Impacts.</b> Show that measures have been taken to specifically avoid impacts to the features from Prerequisite PD-16.1P.
PD-16.1d	3	<b>Enhance Features.</b> Protect, preserve, or enhance scenic, natural, and/or recreational qualities along the roadway. This may include improvements to existing access points, signage, views, or to the scenic, natural, and/or recreational qualities themselves. Also included would be protecting these qualities by the removal of an existing access point if it has been determined that the access threatens them.

### Scoring Sources

The project is considered to have met this criterion if the requirements above can be reasonably substantiated through the existence of the following documentation sources (or equal where not available):

1. Documentation of national, State, or Indian tribe designation if a byway designation is used to satisfy this criterion or other documentation showing scenic, natural, or recreational values of a project.
2. Contract documents showing roadside access point or other protection, preservation, or enhancements.
3. Description of activities to minimize impacts to features.
4. Description of activities to avoid or improvements to enhance features.