

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS

PROGRAM.—HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION

A. Statutory or administrative authority for the program

Three major programs were authorized by the Highway Beautification Act of October 22, 1965, as follows:

1. Title I: Control of outdoor advertising, which provides that just compensation shall be paid upon removal of certain signs, displays, and devices. Seventy-five percent of the cost of this program is to be paid from Federal funds.

2. Title II: Control of junkyards, which provides for Federal participation of 75 percent for screening costs in connection with junkyards, and that just compensation be paid to the owner for the relocation, removal, or disposal of certain junkyards.

3. Title III: Landscaping and scenic enhancement, provides for the use of highway trust fund moneys to landscape the highway right-of-way; and an amount equivalent to 3 percent of the funds apportioned to a State for Federal-aid highways shall be allocated to that State out of the funds appropriated to be used for the cost of landscaping and roadside development, including acquisition and development of publicly owned and controlled rest and recreation areas and sanitary and other facilities reasonably necessary to accommodate the traveling public. Matching State funds are not required.

Title IV of the act authorized appropriation of funds for administrative expenses to carry out the outdoor advertising, junkyards, and landscaping and scenic enhancement provisions of the act.

B. Output

Seventeen States have signed agreements to control outdoor advertising along interstate and Federal-aid primary system highways. Negotiations are presently underway with 31 additional States.

Twenty States have signed agreements to control junkyards adjacent to interstate and Federal-aid primary system highways. Negotiations are presently in progress with the remaining States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Since October 1965, authorization has been granted for the screening of 1,395 junkyards and for the removal of 114 others.

Since October 1965, authorization has been granted for the acquisition of 5,406 scenic easements adjacent to Federal-aid highways, the construction or improvement of 509 roadside rest and recreation areas, as well as 753 projects to landscape selected areas along hundreds of miles of Federal-aid highways.

C. Official having direct operating responsibility over the program

F. C. Turner, Director, Bureau of Public Roads.