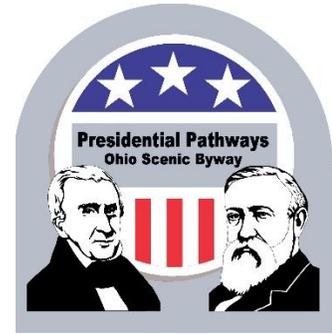




CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN

2015



PRESIDENTIAL PATHWAYS

CMP 2015

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Vision: To promote, protect and interpret the historic sites and scenic beauty of the Presidential Pathways.

Mission: Promote heritage tourism in the area through collaboration with byway partners.

Description: Presidential Pathways is a 60 mile drivable route extending from Hueston Woods State Park, north of Oxford, OH, south to the Ohio River in North Bend, OH. It honors the lives of two US Presidents: William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison. See where they lived, fought and campaigned for President. Visit local museums to see how they lived and how they contributed to the lives of Ohioans and Americans. Do what the Presidents did! Walk a wooded trail, fish or canoe a river, ride a horse, eat fresh produce at a farmer's market. This scenic byway was designated by the Ohio Department of Transportation in 2006.

Accomplishments and changes since designation in 2006:

- A section on the Presidential Pathways was included in the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byways Driving Guide.
http://issuu.com/ruralphil/docs/wcsb_pp_byway_5.8.12
 - This guide went online in 2012 and was published in hard copy in late 2013. All 7 sections of the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway Guide can be found at <http://issuu.com/ruralphil>
- Three Children's Discovery Guides were created and published in 2012 for the two sister byways:
 - Our Presidential Past was distributed free to all elementary school libraries in Butler Co.
 - Discover Nature on the Scenic Byway
 - Canals, Roads and Rails
 - Each booklet includes sites from both scenic byways. They are written to be used in the 4th and 5th grades, meeting Ohio and Indiana educational guidelines for those grades.
 - These booklets have been sold to raise funds for the WCBA and been given as premiums to donors. All are currently out of print.
- Brochures were created and distributed around the region but are currently out of print.
- A website was created but lapsed.
- Harrison's Tomb (Site 3) has added a kiosk with 6 interpretive panels about the lives and works of William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison.
 - The Harrison-Symmes Historical Foundation has cleared the area behind the tomb and planted trees (labeled) with a circular walk.
 - They have improved the parking area to hold about 10 cars
 - They receive about 2500-3000 visitors who sign the register every year.
- Our former plan was to create an amphitheater where the Cincinnati & Whitewater Canal opens into a bowl of land. This has not happened.
- The Harrison-Symmes Historical Foundation has moved into larger quarters and expanded its focus to include more recent aspects of the history of Cleves and North Bend.
- The Cleves Presbyterian Church (Both Harrison Presidents were members) was added to the driving guide.
- The Harrison Village Historical Society moved out of the Phoenix House. They are now housed in the Gov. Othniel Looker Historic Home.
- Main Street, USA, in Harrison, OH, (the local version of a tourism bureau), closed due to lack of financial support.
- The John Hunt Morgan Trail, tracing Morgan's Raid out of Kentucky, has gained recognition in Ohio and crosses the Presidential Pathway in Harrison OH, West Harrison, IN, on Harrison's Main Street. The Morgan Trail stretches east across Ohio to the West Virginia border. Signs are in place.

- The Whitewater Shaker Village has added a rest room so that they can better utilize the Meetinghouse. Further restoration efforts are ongoing.
- The Ohio Historic Marker at the Morgan Township House has created interest in the area's history. The Township House has add exhibits of local history. It has about 10 parking spots now. They work in tandem with the Community Center across the road.
- The Reily Twp Historical Museum has hired a part time person to catalog their collections.
- The Indian Creek Pioneer Church now has a restroom and better parking and is being rented out for special events, thus bringing more people to this MetroParks of Butler County.
- The Oxford Visitors & Convention Bureau has moved to larger facilities and has a new director.
- The Oxford Community Arts Center has gone through two phases of restoration. The first made the building ADA accessible with improved ramps, and an elevator. Phase I also included improvements in heating and air conditioning. Phase II replaced all first floor windows, rebuilt the front porch and repaired and repainted the entryway. In addition, two first floor rooms were renovated: one for a small art gallery with monthly exhibits of local works; the second is an art library and conference room.
- A New Historical Marker in honor of Caroline Scott Harrison has been approved and stands in front of the Oxford Community Arts Center.
- Two of the Miami University Museums are no longer with us. The Anthropology Museum was closed during budget cutting at the university. The Limper Geology Museum has moved to larger quarters at Ceasar's Creek State Park near Waynesville, OH.
- The Hefner Zoology Museum has dropped Zoology in favor of Natural History in its name. It now has a children's program in the museum including animal puppets and more, and a shell room to study mollusks.
- The Oxford Township Hall was moved to the Doty Pioneer Farm and now serves as an office and conference room for the Oxford Museum Association.
- Regionally, many of the small museums along the PPSB are now part of either the Butler Co Museum Association or the Museums and Historic Sites of Greater Cincinnati, working together to help preserve and protect the history of our region.

See the Sites List spreadsheet for more information about upgrades.

Action Plans and Goals:

In the first year, the PPSB will be established as a task force to work on byway sustainability issues and work, such as: interpretation needs, signage needs, funding, & marketing. Fundraising and grantwriting ideas will be sought. The task force will meet quarterly.

In the second year, we will create a sustainable marketing plan for the Byway. The plan will use a multi-media approach to disseminate information, including Print, Social Media, Online and others as needed.

- 2 grant proposals for heritage tourism and the humanities will be applied for to update and reprint current materials.

In year three, we will develop educational outreach programs, hosting one each year to share history along the byway with our partners and the public. The first one is already in the works with Caroline Scott Harrison Day in October 2015.

In year four, we will identify possible locations for 3 new state historical markers.

In year five, we will improve collaborations with area organizations with shared social media and event marketing. And we will co-host one shared event during that year.

Section 2:

Byway Organization: Up until last year, Bonita Porter worked with the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway. It was hoped that co-operation and simultaneous development of the Byway region created by these two byways could enliven interest in both. This board met once per month and held an annual meeting/dinner to which people from both sides of the OH/IN border were invited. However, Ohio participation was difficult to entice across the border. The Ohio participation floundered with that system.

The task force will be comprised of:

- 2 Butler County History Collaborative (Oxford/Reily Representative + Morgan Township Representative)
- 1 Tourism Representative
- 1 GreatParks of Hamilton County Representative
- 1 MetroParks of Butler County
- 1 Museum and Historic Sites of Greater Cincinnati. (prefer western region rep)
- 1 Harrison or Cleves/North Bend City Rep (Chamber or History)

Currently, that task force is comprised of Valerie Elliot of the Smith Library of Regional History, Sam Perry of the Oxford Historic Preservation Commission, Jessica Greene of the Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, and Bonita Porter, Convenor. We are currently working to find the additional people to represent these groups. Additional interested persons are welcome. Currently, that includes Kathleen Fox & Marjorie Bowers (Caroline Harrison Memorial Marker). Someone to address road issues will also be sought.

This first year of the new CMP, the PPSB will be organized as a task force, meeting quarterly. The task force will be made up of representatives from area historic organizations, parks, city government and tourism agencies in southwestern Ohio. We will continue to partner with the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway on mutual projects, while utilizing the talent and knowledge of our Ohio partners.

Primary Contact: Jessica Greene, jessicagreene@enjoyoxford.org, 513-523-8687

Secondary Contact: Bonita Porter, bonita.porter@gmail.com, 513-523-3012

Both have attended at least one byway training.

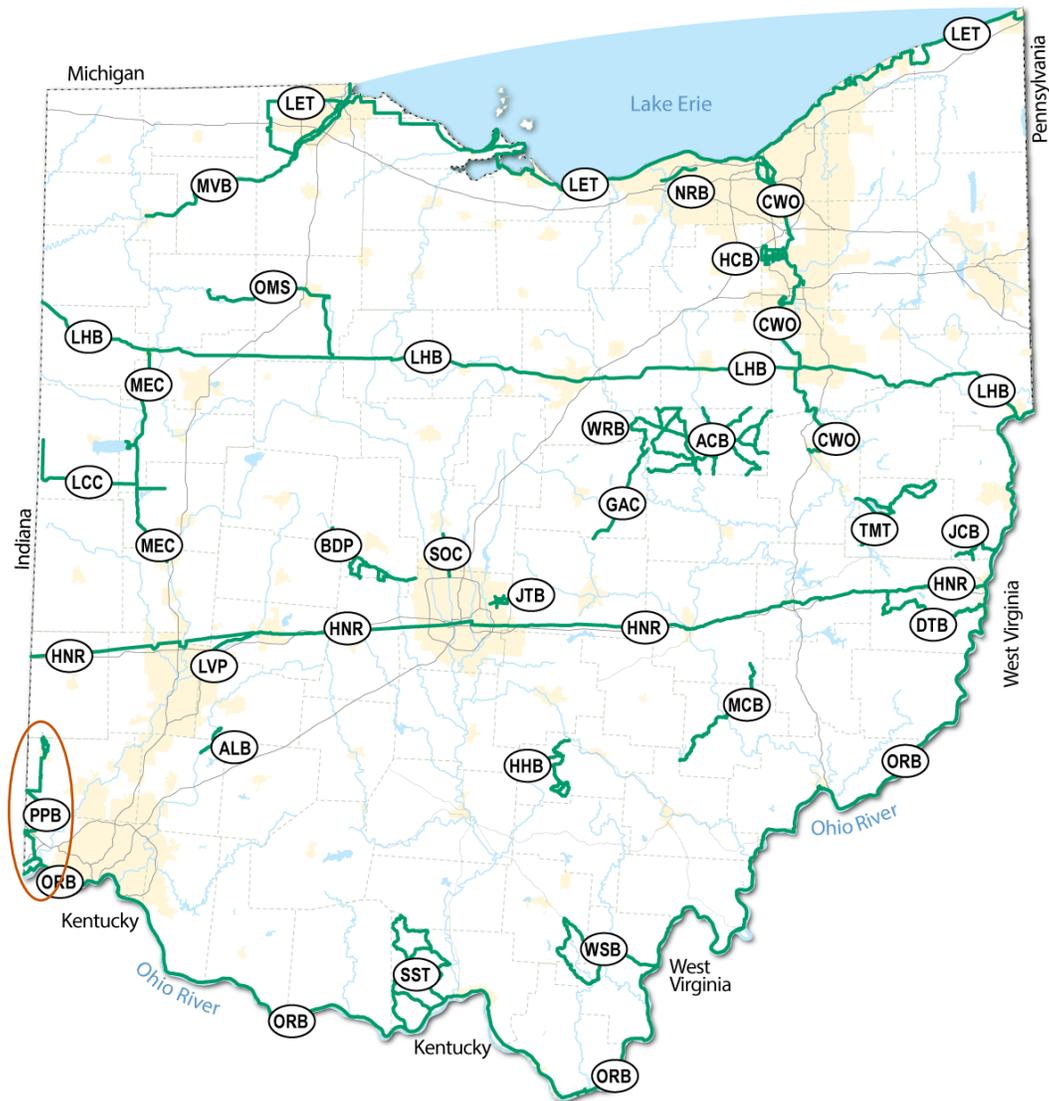
If the byway does all it hopes to do, including partnerships, marketing and educational programs, it will have to develop a funding plan based on those activities. A preliminary marketing goal is currently over \$6000/year. Grant proposals to the Ohio Humanities and local foundations are planned.

Section 3: Update and document current corridor conditions

- a) Roads were in excellent condition.
 - a. Hueston Woods South Loop had a few dangerous potholes.

*See PPSB Sites List spreadsheet (next page) for b. locations, c. changes and d. amenities

Ohio Scenic Byway Map



The Presidential Pathways Scenic Byway begins at Elizabethtown, near the intersection of US 50 and Lawrenceburg Rd where the American Discovery Trail crosses Lawrenceburg Rd.

It ends in Hueston Woods State Park (Southern Loop) between US 732 and Brown Rd.

The Oxford Visitors & Convention Bureau is at 14 S. Park Place in Oxford.

It connects with the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway in Harrison, OH, at the intersection of State Rd and Campbell Rd.

It connects with the Ohio River Scenic Byway at US 50 and Main St, Cleves, OH.

See additional maps in the Appendix.

Section 4: Visitor's Experience

1. Interpretation—describe current and future planned interpretive activities
 - i) The basic byway corridor story has not changed since designation in 2006. See marketing section
 - ii) Our byway story tells of William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison, their First Ladies and the events in which they participated. It is also filled with Parks that permit visitors to ride horses, walk trails, fish and canoe much like our early forebearers.
 - iii) Eventually, we hope to engage many forms of media, however we must plan that in the next year or so.
- b) Preservation—preservation comes when people take interest in sites and develop an understanding of its purpose. The Presidential Pathways will increase visits to the site through collaboration, group advertisement, and collective action.
- c) Sign inventory—Location, condition of:
 - i) Existing ODOT byway signs. Most signs are fine—Except:
 - (1) We need a sign on South Loop Road in Hueston Woods State Park directing people to turn south on Brown Road.
 - (2) We need a sign directing people coming south on Brown Road from Hueston Woods to turn Left onto High Street to return to ST Rt 732.
 - (3) We need a sign across from Cliff Rd on Brower Rd to direct people to turn left as after passing Harrison's Tomb in North Bend.
 - (4) We need a sign on State Road (St Rt 264) in Harrison directing people to turn right onto US 50.
 - (5) We need the sign on Harrison Rd directing people to turn left onto New Haven Rd should be moved to allow people to change lanes in time .
 - ii) Local byway signs—we currently have none.
 - iii) Interpretive signs.
 - (1) The new interpretive sign in front of the Harrison-Symmes Museum is great!
 - (2) The interpretive panels at the tomb are also lovely and informative.
 - (3) Ohio Historical Markers and Ohio History Connection signs are also appreciated.
 - (a) Caroline Scott Harrison/Oxford Female Institute (new)
 - (b) Congress Run Cemetery
 - (c) Harrison's Tomb
 - (d) Cincinnati Whitewater Canal Tunnel
 - (e) White Water Shaker Village
 - (f) John Hunt Morgan's Heritage Trail signs
 - (g) The Benjamin Harrison Alma Mater Ohio Historical site sign at Miami University got lost during a renovation and cannot be located.

- iv) Future sign needs: We would like to add Presidential Pathways Logo signs to our designated sites in the future, and perhaps use the PPSB logo signs in place of the Ohio Scenic Byway signs.
- d) Additional stories to develop for the PPSB/WCBA region (see tours section appended):
 - i) Tastes of the Byway: Farmers Markets, wineries, and specialty restaurants.
 - ii) Public Arts Tour: Murals, sculpture, museums and galleries. (See the Nature & Arts Map)
 - iii) Adventures Tour: Canoeing, biking, hiking, archery, horseback riding and more.
 - iv) The Civil War Tour: Morgans' Raid, the Copperheads, Generals and the escape from slavery. (See the history map)
 - v) Pioneers and settlers: creating a new life in a new land. Log cabins, canals and covered bridges, conflicting languages and ideas.
- e) **Hotels and unique Bed & Breakfasts** along the Presidential Pathways Scenic Byway

Harrison, Ohio

Comfort Inn

391 Comfort Dr.
Harrison, OH 45030
(513) 367-9666
(513) 367-4247 (fax)
(877) 424-6423 (toll-free)

Holiday Inn Express

10906 New Haven Rd
Harrison, OH 45030
(877) 865-6581

Quality Inn

10900 New Haven Rd.
Harrison, OH 45030
(513) 367-5200
(513) 367-5801 (fax)
(877) 424-6423 (toll-free)

Shandon, OH B&B

Plas Cadnant

P.O. Box 9
Shandon, Ohio, USA 45063 [map](#)

Tel: (513) 738-4180

Oxford Hotels

Baymont Inn & Suites, (513) 523-2722

5190 College Corner Pike - Oxford, OH 45056

www.baymontinns.com

Best Western / Sycamore Inn, (513) 523-0000 / (800) 523-4678

6 E. Sycamore Street - Oxford, OH 45056

The Butler Inn, (513) 523-6306

5235 College Corner Pike - Oxford, OH 45056

The Elms Hotel - A Holiday Inn Hotel, (513) 524-2002

75 South Main Street - Oxford, OH 45056

www.theelmsholidayinn.com

Hampton Inn, (513) 524-0114 / (800) HAMPTON

5056 College Corner Pike - Oxford, OH 45056

www.hampton-inn.com

Hueston Woods Resort and Conference Center, (513) 664-3500 / (800)

282-7275

5201 Lodge Road - College Corner, OH 45003

www.huestonwoodsresort.com

Marcum Conference Center & The Miami Inn, (513) 529-6911 / 529-2104

100 N. Patterson Avenue - Oxford, OH 45056

www.muohio.edu/marcum/

Bed & Breakfasts

Maplevale Farm Bed & Breakfast, (513) 523-8909 / (877) 506-2753

3891 Oxford-Millville Road - Oxford, OH 45056

www.maplevale.com

5. Marketing & Promotion

a) Some marketing ideas have been suggested, but are awaiting funding. These ideas include:

- Creating a new website
- Updating and printing the PPSB brochure
- Updating the driving guide with additional information about the Harrisons and getting it online and possibly printed
- Purchasing PPSB logo signs to identify sites along the byway
- Adding a decal or smaller sign to affix to the ODOT byway sign to direct travelers
- Posting special themed itineraries for people with special interests (Civil War history, Adventures, Tastes of the Byway, etc. These will be created in conjunction with the WCBA.

This year, we will be applying for grants for heritage tourism development (Ohio Humanities and other local sources). Some of these ideas will be included in those grant proposals.

b) PPSB Logo



- c) 30-50 word description of the byway for us in publications.
 - a. **Walk in the footsteps of Presidents! How did they live? What did they contribute to the future of Ohio and the nation? Do what Presidents have done on the Presidential Pathway.**

- d) 300 word description (used to identify the PPSB byway story)

The story of Presidential Pathways Scenic Byway can be told in the hundred years between 1792, when William Henry Harrison entered the Northwest Territory near North Bend, OH, and 1892, the year Benjamin Harrison left the White House. That century saw the removal of the Miami and Shawnee People; the settlement of the Northwest Territory to govern the territory; the admission of Ohio as a state and the rise of industry, canals, and railroads. This was also the era of the War of 1812, the Civil War and the beginnings of civil rights legislation.

Many think that William Henry Harrison (9th President of the United States) is unimportant because he only lived 30 days after being inaugurated. But in this region, Harrison donated large tracts of land for a canal and other civic uses. He helped set the basis for our state and the laws that govern it.

Benjamin Harrison, inspired by his grandfather, later served in the White House as our 23rd President. Benjamin Harrison followed his grandfather in devotion to public service. However, he distinguished himself with his understanding of the need for all peoples to share in the beneficence of this new nation, “conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men were created equal.”

These two men, and their pioneering wives, set a standard for civil service at its very best, influencing the future to the present day and beyond. Come see what they inspired, and what it means to follow in their footsteps.

The route from Shawnee Lookout Park to Hueston Woods State Park is approximately 60 miles. Entry points are at the two parks. Brochures will be kept at Harrison’s Tomb in North Bend, and the Visitors and Convention Bureau in Oxford.

e) Brief site descriptions:

- i. Harrison’s Tomb: US 50, North Bend, OH. The monolith is an actual tomb. Visitors can see the caskets of William Henry Harrison and his wife. Open Daily. On the front edifice are carved the many government positions held by William Henry Harrison. It overlooks the Ohio River and most barges toot their horns in honor of this US President. The view over the River to the Kentucky farmland is unmatched. A labeled nature path behind the tomb and interpretive panels near the parking lot help the traveler understand this President. Open to the public 5 am to 5 pm,

- weekdays, weather permitting. The Harrison-Symmes Museum on State St, Cleves, augments this information. <http://hsmfmuseum.org/>
- ii. Shawnee Lookout Park: 2008 Lawrenceburg Rd. North Bend, OH. Shawnee Lookout is the site of the Harrison homestead. It is well known for its historical Springhouse School and Log Cabin and Native American archaeological earthworks. The park's nature trails, including the 1.3-mile Blue Jacket, 2.0-mile Little Turtle and the 1.4-mile Miami Fort trail, offer spectacular views of the Ohio River and Great Miami River valleys. The park also features picnic areas, a playground and boat access to the Great Miami River. <http://greatparks.org/parks/shawnee-lookout>
 - iii. Miami Whitewater Forest: boating, fishing, hiking, playgrounds, golf, disc golf and horseback riding in a hillside forest that rises to the skies. The White Water Shaker Village sits on the northern side of this park. <http://greatparks.org/parks/miami-whitewater-forest>
 - iv. Oxford Community Arts Center: 10 S. College St, Oxford, OH. This 1850's building was built as the Oxford Female Institute, the first institution of higher learning west of the Allegheny Mountains. Caroline Scott Harrison was one of the first graduates of OFI. Now the Oxford Community Arts Center, it honors the OFI's first degrees awarded by offering classes in Music, art, dance and theater. It includes a ballroom, gallery, a small theater and soon will have a Caroline Scott Harrison Memorial Wall. <http://oxarts.org/>
 - v. The Doty Farmstead: 6924 Brown Rd., Oxford, OH, just inside of Hueston Woods State Park. It was constructed in the 1840s as part of the Campbellite religious community. It features a cantilevered barn used to house a museum of farm implements from the 1800's. It is open to the public every weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day from 10 to 4 pm. Arts & Crafts Fair second weekend in June. <http://oxfordmuseumassociation.com/>
 - vi. Miami University Art Museum: 801 S. Patterson Ave. Oxford, OH. Open 6 days per week. Art exhibits change regularly, including professional and student artists from around the world. <http://miamioh.edu/cca/art-museum/>
 - vii. McGuffey Museum: 410 E. Spring Street, Oxford, OH. The McGuffey Museum and Miami University offer a variety of collections and interpretations of William Holmes McGuffey, the McGuffey Readers, the history of Miami University, and the history of southwest Ohio. Open Thursday through Saturday, 1-5 pm. <http://miamioh.edu/cca/mcguffey-museum>
 - viii. Hueston Woods State Park: SR 732 north of Oxford. Enjoy the trails, the Nature Center, archery range, golf course, swimming and boating. The Lodge and its restaurant finish off the day in style. <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/huestonwoods>

- f) The PPSB is currently using ODOTs PPSB website at this time.
<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/OhioByways/Pages/PresidentialPathways.aspx>
<http://www.whitewatercanalscenicbyway.org/> and
http://issuu.com/ruralphil/docs/wcsb_pp_byway_5.8.12 This website is currently the connection for our OCVB and BCVB.
- g) Marketing Contact: Oxford Visitors and Convention Bureau, 513-523-8687,
<http://www.enjoyoxford.org/>

See Photos in Appendix

6. Public Participation (People's Involvement and Responsibility)

- a. Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway (Indiana Scenic Byway): Until recently the PPSB has been represented by Bonita Porter, as a member of the WCBA board. She assisted with the development of the WCBA Driving Guide (which included a section on the PPSB), created the Children's Discovery Guides including sites from both scenic byways. She also designed and executed the new WCBA website (whitewatercanalscenicbyway.org). It was hoped that the two byways could operate as a single 501c3. However, many foundations and state organizations do not operate across state boundaries. The PPSB floundered.
- b. The WCBA holds monthly meetings and annual meetings open to the public.
- c. In January, 2015, the representative organizations which created the PPSB were called together again. There have been three meetings so far in which the founding documents were reviewed and updated. New goals were chosen. We are organizing as a task force to make sure byway needs continue to be addressed. Great Parks in Hamilton County are coming in as partners and will help us find other local partners. The Butler County Museum Association and Historic Sites and Museums of Greater Cincinnati are also being approached.
- d. How critical issues will be addressed is still in discussion. We are continuing coordination with the WCBA as they transition to new officers.

7. Mapping. See Maps file in Appendix.
 - a. ODOT Scenic Byway Map
 - b. PPSB GIS map.
 - c. PPSB/WCBA regional map
 - d. Butler Co. byway map
 - e. Hamilton Co. byway map
 - f. Description of the PPSB turn-by-turn, site-to-site
 - g. Park Maps of Hueston Woods State Park, Shawnee Lookout Park, Miami Whitewater Forest and Mitchell Memorial Park.

Additional promotional pieces

- The PPSB Driving Guide

Promotional material for the Children'