



New Scenic America banner

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Viewpoint: Has Jacksonville become [used to ugly?](#)...

Editorial: Miami [defaces its skyline](#) at its own peril...

Asheville, NC [set to ban](#) digital billboards...

Alabama highway [looking to get](#) National Scenic Byways status...

Design review board [has ideas](#) to improve look of solar farm...

Officials [debate digital billboards](#) in Delaware's beach region...

Route 28 Central Catskills Scenic Byway [plans progress](#)...

~ Take Action ~

Missouri residents: Two bills in the state legislature would allow for increased billboard blight all across the state. [Click here](#) to learn more and take action to oppose them!

~ Tell a Friend ~

Know someone who might be interested in scenic issues? Why not [encourage them](#) to sign up?

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Arizona Gov's veto protects Court ruling on electronic signs

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer used her first veto of the year [to reject a bill](#) that would have legalized electronic billboards along state and federal roads, just months after an [Arizona Court of Appeals ruling](#) deemed them unlawful.

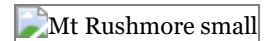
[In her veto](#), Gov. Brewer cited the state's unique position as a national leader in astronomy due to its famed dark night skies.

"The astronomy industry has invested \$1.2 billion in Arizona, represents more than 3,300 jobs and has an estimated economic impact of \$250 million each year," she said. "I simply refuse to place all of this in jeopardy."

[Click here](#) to read Scenic America & Scenic Arizona's press release on the Governor's veto.

After wild ride, Rapid City's digital billboard ban still standing

Rapid City, S.D.'s citizen-initiated ban on new digital billboards is still standing after the state's governor [vetoed a bill](#) aimed at nullifying the law.



The ban, [passed by two-thirds](#) of Rapid City voters last June, was the target of a bill backed by Daktronics, the country's largest manufacturer of digital signs. The company is based in the eastern S.D. city of Brookings. The bill sought to prevent communities from banning digital signs.

After an amendment to the bill that would have preserved Rapid City's ban [was passed](#) and then stripped in committee, the bill passed both houses on a vote that reflected Daktronics' influence on eastern legislators.

Then, to the surprise of some, Gov. Dennis Daugaard [vetoed the bill](#) and the bill's supporters could not muster enough votes for an override. "The people of Rapid City should be pleased that they're able to control their own destiny in terms of the use or not of digital billboards," Daugaard said.

One challenge still remains to Rapid City's initiative: Lamar Outdoor

You can support our unique and vital mission by making a [tax-deductible donation](#) today.

In case you missed it:

The Atlantic: *The Rise of 'Visual Pollution'*

The Atlantic Magazine [recently interviewed](#) Gwenaëlle Gobé, the director of the groundbreaking documentary [This Space Available](#) about the origins of the film.

Gobé says she didn't start out intending to make a feature length film, but she found:

"Everywhere around the world, in every city, someone is standing up locally to excessive outdoor media, either in the courtroom or in the streets. The passion of the people we met throughout our journey around the world, are our inspiration and our thread to telling the story."

To learn more about the film and find out when it will be showing in your area [click here](#).

Advertising is [suing the city](#) and asking the courts to overturn the ban. In the meantime, congratulations go out to [Scenic Rapid City](#) and everyone who worked so hard to protect the wishes of citizens!

Inaction by Congress means future of Byways Program uncertain

The future of the [National Scenic Byways Program](#) remains unclear as Congressional inaction on a new transportation bill has resulted in the [ninth short-term reauthorization](#) of the current transportation law, SAFETEA-LU, since it expired on September 30, 2009.

The National Scenic Byways Program would be completely eliminated under the [5-year bill](#) that was voted out of the House Transportation Committee.

The Senate's [two-year bill](#), passed 74-22, keeps the program and, thanks to a [provision](#) offered by Senator Olympia Snowe (R-Me.), retains flexibility for states to use funds under the new Transportation Mobility Program for scenic byways projects, including maintenance and marketing.

However, House leadership refused to allow a vote on the Senate's version, and instead pushed for a 90-day extension of SAFETEA-LU. You can still [express your support](#) for the National Scenic Byways Program by using our handy letter writing tool to contact your delegation.



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