

# **Department of Transportation**

Division of Operations 700 E Broadway Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586 Phone: 605-773-3571 FAX: 605-773-6600

November 8, 2019

Mr. Greg Fuller Director of Operations South Dakota Department of Transportation Pierre, SD 57501

Subject: Memorial Highway Designation Request

The Department has been contacted requesting the Transportation Commission designate US Highway 16B from Interstate 90 to SD Highway 79 in Rapid City as the United States Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway. Attached is the application for this request along with a sample sign design for the Transportation Commission's consideration.

Sincerely,

Christina Bennett, PE Operations Traffic Engineer South Dakota Department of Transportation Pierre, SD 57501

C. Wiley Cress 3113 Palmer Drive Rapid City, SD 57702

October 10, 2019

Rick Gordon Operations Construction Engineer 700 E. Broadway Avenue Pierre, SD 57501

**RE:** Application for Memorial Highway

Dear Mr. Gordon,

Thank you for your letter of October 3<sup>rd</sup> explaining that the form I used for the application of a memorial highway, from your website, was out of date and the application fee has changed from \$600 to \$2,000.

I respectfully request that my original request for a memorial highway be honored and the application fee remain at \$600. Our Submarine Veterans Base, here in Rapid City, is small and resources are limited. The \$600 application fee placed a burden on our treasury, however, the Executive Board felt these were funds well spent in order to honor and recognize the submarine veterans of the United States.

I have enclosed the completed new application form and I request that, if approved, the application fee be set at \$600.

Thank you for your consideration.

C. Wiley Cress Commander, USN, Ret.

cc: The Honorable Kristi Noem

encl: Copy of the SD DOT letter of October 3, 2019 Copy of the original application of September 28, 2019

#### DOT-402 (4/15/2019) SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION FOR MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS AND AUTO TOUR ROUTE SIGNS

# APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: C. WILEY CRESS		
Representing: U.S. SCIAMARINE VISTERANS, POLARIS BASE		
Address: 3113 PALMER DR		
City: RAPID City	State: South DAKOTA	Zip Code: 5770 2
Phone Number 605 390 7081	Fax Number:	
Email Address: WSCRESSELIUE, Com		

APPLICATION FOR: 🔀 MEMORIAL HIGHWAY or 🛛 AUTO TOUR ROUTE

# ASSURANCE:

### a. MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS:

Proposed Wording on Sign: CLANTED STATES SLABMARINE CETERAUS MEMORIAL HICHWAY

The legend displayed on memorial signs shall be limited to the name of the person or entity being recognized and a simple message preceding or following the name, such as "Dedicated to" or "Memorial Parkway." Additional legend, such as biographical information, shall not be displayed on memorial signs. Decorative or graphical elements, pictographs, logos, or symbols shall not be displayed on memorial signs. The route number or officially mapped name of the highway shall not be displayed on the memorial sign. Memorial names shall not appear on supplemental signs or on any other information sign on or along the highway or its intersecting routes. The lettering for the name of the person or entity being recognized may be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.

Provide information describing the individual or groups historic significance to the State of South Dakota or to the United States. The information submitted will be what the Transportation Commission uses to consider and evaluate the request. Please be as specific and complete as possible and provide adequate details. Utilize the following guidelines (add additional sheets as necessary):

- A memorial highway can be named after an event, person, or organization.
- The named entity should be associated with activities or events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of South Dakota history.
  - Guideline for this requirement could be documentation in commonly recognized history texts.
  - The application process requires a detailed explanation and documentation of the historical significance.
- Statewide historical significance of the event, person, or group should be directly related to the geographic area known as South Dakota.
- The event, person, or group of national historical significance should have direct association with the state of South Dakota.
- The person or persons should be deceased for at least 5 years.

# DOT-402 (4/15/2019) SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION FOR MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS AND AUTO TOUR ROUTE SIGNS

# JUSTIFICATION:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SHEET

#### b. AUTO TOUR ROUTE:

Proposed Auto Tour Route name:

Specify what makes the route of particular cultural, historical or educational significance (use additional sheets if needed):

Attach a copy of the tour route symbol if applicable.

FOR EITHER A MEMORIAL HIGHWAY OR AUTO TOUR ROUTE, STATE THE HIGHWAY NUMBER AND BEGIN AND ENDING POINT OF ROUTE TO BE SIGNED:

ELK VALE ROAD, BETWEEN HIWAY 79 TO EXIT 61 190

- Attach a map of route or routes to be signed.
- Attach any letters of support, resolutions by supporting governmental entities, or applicable information.
- Upon approval by the Transportation Commission, a \$2,000 fee to cover administration and sign costs will be submitted to the SDDOT by the applicant.

I am a member of the United States Submarine Veterans (USSV). There are over 12,000 members belonging to 162 Bases throughout the world. Polaris Base, here in Rapid City, is one of those Bases. The mission of the USSV is "To Perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."

During World War Two the U.S. Navy's submarine service suffered the highest casualty percentage of all the American armed forces, losing one in five submariners. Some 16,000 submariners served during the war, of whom 375 officers and 3131 enlisted men were killed with the loss of 52 submarines.

Since World War Two, four submarines have been lost. The two most recent were the USS THRESHER (SSN-593) and USS SCORPION (SSN-589), resulting in the loss of 228 men.

Recently, I had the privilege to serve on the Governor's Commissioning Committee for the new submarine SOUTH DAKOTA (SSN-790). She was commissioned in Groton, CT in February of this year. It is truly an honor to have a submarine named for the great state of South Dakota. USS SOUTH DAKOTA is currently assigned to the Atlantic Submarine Force.

In an effort to acknowledge the sacrifice of the men who lost their lives and to recognize our new submarine, I feel it's proper and fitting to establish a memorial highway honoring our submarine veterans.

Thank you for your consideration.

### DOT-402 (4/15/2019) SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION FOR MEMORIAL HIGHWAYS AND AUTO TOUR ROUTE SIGNS

## **CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANTS:**

I certify that the above and foregoing statements are true and correct and I will inform the Department of any changes to the above indicated information that may affect the availability of the service provided in accordance with State Law, and Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Applicant's signature

Submit Application, Documentation, and Map to:

Operations Support SDDOT 700 East Broadway Pierre, SD 57501 (605) 773-3571



