

NEWS RELEASE

MONTANA'S GARDINER GATEWAY PROJECT

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Montana Governor and Yellowstone Superintendent highlight tourism and economic benefits of Gardiner Revitalization Partnership Project

GARDINER, MONTANA - JUNE 14, 2012 — A plan to revitalize Montana's historic, year-round entrance to Yellowstone National Park was unveiled today at Arch Park in the gateway community of Gardiner.

Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer and Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk were among the many dignitaries on hand for the signing of the historic partnership agreement. Fifteen federal, state, local, and non-profit groups have all agreed to work together to help revitalize the Gardiner Gateway to the world's first national park.

"This agreement calls for all the partners to work together, cooperatively, to make this historic, iconic park entrance a more memorable experience for hundreds of thousands of visitors each year", said Governor Schweitzer. "The community of Gardiner and businesses in the gateway area will reap additional economic



Governor Schweitzer, Superintendent Wenk, and other dignitaries arrived at the event by stagecoach and vintage Yellow Bus. (NPS Photo by Jim Peaco)

benefits from the revitalization and future generations will continue to see the benefits of the Montana Gardiner Gateway Project for years to come."

The project is the result of an effort on the part of the National Park Service to improve traffic circulation and enhance visitor safety along Park Street and the North Entrance. In addition, the Gardiner Gateway Project will enhance the experience of visitors to Gardiner and the North Entrance, through beautification of the area, increased visitor services, and additional economic opportunities for Gardiner and Park County.

Park Superintendent Wenk added "For well over one hundred years, visitors have traveled to the Gardiner area to enter Yellowstone National Park. We welcome working with this great group of local, state, federal, and non-profit partners to enhance the experience of visiting Yellowstone, Montana, and Gardiner."

Representatives of the groups signing the Memorandum of Understanding arrived at Arch Park in a Yellowstone Stagecoach and vintage Yellow Bus, escorted by local riders on horseback. After the remarks, the group traveled the short distance to the Roosevelt Arch for the historic signing of the agreement.

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Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk addresses the crowd with the Roosevelt Arch in the background (NPS Photo by Bob Greenburg)



Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer received a commemorative pen from Gardiner Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ker'en Walters (NPS Photo by Jim Peaco)

Understanding.

Both the community of Gardiner and Yellowstone National Park are seeking funding sources to begin work on their respective aspects of the project. The goal is to have components of the revitalization project completed by 2016, which marks the 100th anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service.

- gardinergatewayproject.org -

Producers/Editors note: Publication quality versions of the photos contained in this news release are available by calling 307-344-2015 during normal business hours.