

PROLOGUE

WHAT IS A HIGHWAY?

To the family, the highway is a path of happiness that brings loved ones together for reunions, vacations and visits.

To the manufacturer, farmer and merchant, the highway is a massive conveyor that brings product and consumer into contact.

To the individual, the highway is a magic carpet of adventure; to the worker, greater job opportunities; to the community, an economic — cultural — social lifeline.

To the people who are responsible for the highway system, it is an engineered medium for independent vehicular travel that must be constantly maintained and improved. In the words of Robert Louis Stevenson:

“Our road is not built to last a thousand years, yet in a sense it is. When a road is once built, it is a strange thing how it collects traffic, how every year as it goes on, more and more people are found to walk thereon, and others are raised up to repair and perpetuate it, and keep it alive.”