DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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Armando Quintero, Director

OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING Virtual Meeting September 16, 2022

STAFF REPORT: SNO-Park Program

STAFF: Jennifer Grady, Winter Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: SNO-Park Permit Fee Increase

Summary

Public Meeting to discuss the increase to the SNO-Park Permit Fees.

Public Resources Code (PRC) 5091.15 (c)

PRC 5091.15 (c) states in part: "The fee for the issuance of a parking permit under this chapter shall be determined by the department. The department shall hold at least one public hearing and notify the Legislature at least 30 days prior to any proposal to change the fees."

Discussion

2022 Winter Season Permit Fee Increase

Currently the SNO-Park Permit fee is \$5/day and \$25/season. Division is proposing to increase the daily fee to \$15, and the season pass to \$40 beginning November 1, 2022.

The SNO-Park Permit program has not had a fee increase since before 2000. Utilizing regional market research data, the proposed fee schedule is still well below other privately owned SNO-Play/Parks in the State which charge between \$29 for 90 minutes and \$40+ per day (\$20 parking, \$20 per person). The price is in-line with neighboring state-run programs whose fees are anywhere from \$7.50 - \$25 per vehicle per day and \$25 - \$50 per vehicle for the season with a \$70 special sticker requirement for their high use areas.

The fee increase is vital to the life of the SNO-Park program. The current permit fees do not allow the program to continue to be self-sustaining. The cost of contracts required maintenance projects to offset the Special Use Permit fees with Region 5 of the Forest Service and basic program costs far exceeds the revenue that the program brings in, meaning that the fund balance is continuing to diminish year after year. The fee increase will help ensure that the program can continue as Legislatively designated.

The OHMVR Division is utilizing this meeting to welcome input from both the Commission and the public. This is the opportune time for the Commission and the public to provide valuable feedback on how our program may improve.

Once all input is received from this meeting, the Division will carefully review, consider and analyze all input to ensure applicability and adherence to statutory requirements. Any changes made will be provided in future reports.

Commission Action

For information only.

Attachments

None.