

Letter from Ted Cabral to OHMVR Commissioners

Dear Commissioners,

I will be submitting public comment on a non-agenda item at your 11/4/22 meeting to expand the OHMVR Division's current permit system. At this time, the OHMVR Division process permits for non-resident OHV use, OHMVR vehicle day use annual pass and two SNO-Park passes. I've attached a copy of the permit order form from the Division's website for you to review

I will propose to add a Competition Vehicle Permit to allow use of competition vehicles on public lands for sanctioned and permitted competition events only. This permit would allow land managers the ability to manage the use of these currently unregulated vehicles and their impacts on public lands. This proposal is to address the failed DMV administered process (SB 894) that was approved by California's legislators this year but vetoed by Governor Newsom. In his attached letter, Governor Newsom acknowledges the benefits of OHV competition to rural communities in California. He also justifies his veto based on the fiscal impact of implementing the bill. Under this permit proposal, the burden of registration for the DMV and the associated fiscal impacts would be eliminated. The OHMVR Division would assume the responsibility of permitting these vehicles under this expansion while also recovering the lost revenue from the retired "Red Sticker" registration system.

The second part of this proposal is an eBike permit. This permit would provide access to eBike users on OHV trails throughout our state and align California with the current federal regulations regarding eBike use on federal lands. It would also classify these vehicles as a much needed zero emission component of the OHMVR program. The funds generated would be used to manage eBike use and provide critical support to land managers throughout California.

I will be asking the commission chair to schedule an actionable item for this proposal at the following OHMVR Commission meeting. At that meeting, the commission could discuss the proposal and receive public feedback on the item. The Commission could make a recommendation to OHMVR Division staff to implement this proposal if the body desires.

If you have any questions or desire more information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ted Cabral

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