



STATE OF
COLORADO

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Lake City/Hinsdale County OHV Pilot Program

1 message

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I write to offer my view on the continuation of the Lake City/Hinsdale County OHV Pilot Program. I urge the Commissioners to not continue this program. The term OHV means Off Highway Vehicle and not just Off Highway with exceptions. These vehicles are not designed or equipped to be driven as on highway vehicles. Initially this program was to cover that portion of Highway 149 that is part of the Alpine Loop. Then it was expanded to the North to include selected businesses north of 2nd Street to the Lake City Sports business north of town. Now the request is to extend it further north to the Toy Wash and south to the Woodlake Park campground.

While perhaps the majority of the operators of these OHV machines are responsible, my experience has shown many of them to operate in a manner that is inconsistent with safe highway operation. Many speed, many drive 10-15 mph under the speed limit, many are not equipped with adequate turn signals or running lights, many do not stay in the proper lane (have encountered OHVs four wide on Highway 149), many are not properly muffled, and many carry more passengers than seats. OHVs are off highway vehicles, and they should not be allowed on State and US highways.

In the almost 20 years I have been a Lake City summer occupant, I have seen businesses come and go annually both before and after the OHV pilot program was initiated. In fact, since the pilot program was initiated, it seems that the turnover among the businesses has increased.

So, keep OHVs where they are designed to be operated, that is off the highways. Otherwise, make them street and highway legal subject to all the motor vehicle licensing, inspections, insurance, and safety requirements.

Jerry [REDACTED]