# Hinsdale County/Town of Lake City 2023 OHV Program Report

Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City applied for and were granted a three-year Special Use Permit from CDOT in March, 2021, that would allow Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) to travel on a 2.26 mile stretch of SH 149 that runs through Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City. This permit was the second granted by CDOT to allow this use of State Highway 149, the first being a two-year permit that was granted in 2019.

Discussion between the county, town and CDOT regarding a program to allow OHVs on Hwy 149 came about after a state program in 2016 highlighted 16 trails in the state with gaps or missing segments. The Alpine Loop Scenic Byway, which loops from Lake City through the San Juan Mountains in Hinsdale County, was highlighted as one of these trails.

The Alpine Loop was identified because traveling the entirety of the loop requires using SH 149. After considerable study by Hinsdale County, Town of Lake City and CDOT, it was determined there were no optional routes that would allow OHV riders to travel the entire Alpine Loop without using the highway.

The CDOT Special Use Permit allows OHVs on the SH149 from Memorial Day until September 30 and required special signage on the highway, lowering speed highway speed limits along the highway route, increased education to inform OHV riders of the program, seasonal counts of OHVs on the highway and the ability of the public to provide feedback on the program via the Hinsdale County website.

Following the seasonal end of the OHV program, a report is created for CDOT with comments from program partners on the overall success of the season, along with OHV interaction statistics and comments from the public.

Partners participating in the 2023 after-season meeting on October 5 and providing comments included Hinsdale County Administrator Sandy Hines, Town of Lake City Mayor Dave Roberts, Hinsdale County Sheriff Chris Kambish, and CDOT Traffic and Safety Program Manager Zane Znamenacek. Comments were provided from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regional Officer Lucas Martin and CDOT Regional Operator RE Hall.

Information from the 2023 season-end meeting are as follows:

Sandy Hines gave an introduction regarding the history of the program that allows OHVs to travel on SH149.

Sheriff Chris Kambish said numbers of all vehicles traveling on the highway to OHVs is 5 to 1. Kambish discussed the statistics regarding OHVs from his office (spreadsheet included in this report). He said that traffic violations with regular vehicles compared to OHVs was 3 to 1, adding that numbers of violations are down from 2022. Kambish contributes part of the decrease of violations in 2023 to staffing issues in his office. Kambish said his office is not able to breakdown violation locations to determine if they occurred on the highway or not. He commented that of all OHV infractions, the number one is underage OHV occupants not wearing a helmet, with the second being violating a traffic law, mostly running stop

signs. He added that OHVs driving on the highway outside of the limits of the route still continues. Drivers still go past the northern limit of the route to get to the car wash and south to get to a campground, but less than they used to, he said, adding that if they go past those areas, his officers probably won't see them. "We very rarely see them going up Slumgullion Pass, but it happens. It's not a lot." Kambish added he believes people who drive OHVs outside of the route know what they are doing. "It's risk vs. reward."

Kambish said he also believes another reason for a decrease in violations is the consistency of expectations of OHV drivers staying the same from the last two years. "When we change rules it makes things more confusing and more difficult. But the rules haven't changed dramatically for a couple of years and I think that is a good thing."

Kambish said there were seven single-vehicle accidents that occurred in the county and town combined, none of which were on the state highway.

Kambish said he has no new concerns regarding the program in 2023. He added that his concerns have always been the same, regarding how safe OVHs are operating on pavement. "They are off-highway vehicles and manufacturers say they should not be operated on pavement. I think there is a reason for that."

Kambish added that OHVs for the most part behave. "It's the same percentage for all vehicles. Five percent of drivers speed or violate traffic laws - it is the same for OHVs." He said the fact that there have been no real tragedies with OHVs on the highway speaks to the efforts of the County and Town to educate OHV drivers and that enforcement of his office has been effective.

"OHVs on the highway is not a concern. I have no more concern for OHVs than other vehicles. Actually, I have more concern for other types of vehicles," Kambish added.

Zane Znamenacek with CDOT has received a few comments regarding the OHV program that were also sent to the town and county. "It's been pretty quiet."

Alpine Outdoor Association (AOA) is a volunteer-based group in Lake City that has provided CDOT's required count of OHVs on the highway during the summer months of the program. In addition to the OHV count, the AOA volunteers provide information on the Lake City area to all interested from their visible booth on the highway. They provide OHV education as well as Stay the Trail information.

The counts are done twice a month during the day with the following numbers for 2023: June 20: 272 OHVs on the highway; June 27: 230; July 11: 385; July 18: 405; Aug 1: 379; Aug 8: 318; Sept 19: 202. Hines stated that these numbers are almost identical to the numbers of OHVs on the highway in 2022. Hector Gomez, head of the AOA communicated ahead of the meeting that it was a good year for OHV program. He said he believes all traffic overall has increased in Lake City There has been an increase in families using OHVs. Gomez also said he believes there is also a 5 to 1 ratio of OHVs to other vehicles, which Sheriff Kambish again agreed with.

Hines reported comments from CDOT Operator RE Hall, who mostly had comments about speed limit signage on the highway. He would like to see an additional 25 mph sign on Hwy 149 south of Lake City in the business district to slow down all vehicles in this area. Hines will work with Znamenacek and CDOT on any additional signage. Hall believes drivers tend to speed up as they leave the town. Sheriff Kambish

agreed that drivers do tend to speed up going south and north as they go up hill out of town. However, he added that most speeding tickets are written on the highway in town. Kambish added that he had also received complaints of vehicles speeding south of town. He spent several days in that area checking speeds with a radar and there were actually very few drivers going above the speed limit.

Dave Roberts commented that trucks and trailers with OHVs park along the highway and along streets in town and the town has received complaints relating to parking. Roberts said he feels it is important to have the highway open to OHVs because it lessens the traffic on side streets and in residential areas.

Roberts suggested that if the OHV program continues that it be extended to Woodlake Campground just to the south of CR 30 and to the car wash just to the north of the OHV route. Currently OHVs have started using a route through residential neighborhoods to get to the car wash and the town has received complaints about that. Roberts said extending the OHV route north to the car wash would also open access to the highway for three different subdivisions. "People have mentioned to me that they live just over the hill from town but they have to trailer their OHVs maybe a third of a mile."

Roberts suggested keeping the 25 mph speed limit on the highway all the way to the car wash for safety concerns. This would have to be brought up separately with CDOT.

Roberts said he believes OHVs are very courteous and keep to the speed limit. He said he hasn't seen major problems with OHVs.

Hines commented that she feels the program went smoothly in 2023 and noticed very little difference from the summer of 2022. Hines added that she didn't feel there was an increase in OHVs due to Silverton banning the vehicles in 2022.

Hines said that Hinsdale County commissioners are discussing conducting a survey of Hinsdale County residents and property owners regarding use of OHVs in Hinsdale County. The idea for the survey was to make sure all residents have their opinions heard regarding OHVs. That process is ongoing at this time, and no decisions have been made as to the look of the survey or the questions that will be asked. The survey process and the results of the survey will be made public. The commissioners have discussed wanting the results of the survey before making a decision regarding a new Special Use Permit application. The town and county will meet in a joint meeting on October 18.

Because of the discussions related to the survey, the county and town have received a great deal of public comments in the past two months. All comments received have been included with this report.

Lucas Martin with Colorado Parks and Wildlife could not attend this meeting but provided comments that are attached to this report. The comments were read during this meeting.

Zane Znamenacek discussed the schedule for submitting a new application for a Special Use Permit with CDOT. A year-end report is required to be submitted to CDOT by the end of the year. He said there is no time limit to apply for a new permit. CDOT will address a new permit at any time, but he advised the application should come in soon after the new year in case there are any changes that need to be made with signage, etc., There need to be time to get those things in place before the program can become active if the goal is to have the program in place by Memorial Day. If a new permit application comes to CDOT, there will need to be a resolution from both the town and county to enter into the permit.

Znamenacek added that there are new members of the CDOT Transportation Commission that will be reviewing the Special Use Permit application since the 2021 application. He added that he believes since the program has been going fine he doesn't believe there is any less chance that a permit will be approved than in the past. In 2021, the Special Use Permit application was submitted in February. Znamenacek said having the application in by the Transportation Commission's February meeting would be good timing.

Znamenacek added that in 2021 there were also discussions about extending the limits of the highway route of the program. "At that time, the sense was that it was probably best not to ask for more. This program was originally created to connect the loop, and anything outside of that was seen as not really meeting the purpose or the need for doing this." Znamenacek cautioned against adding anything to the permit application that is seen as extra.

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OHV'S	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total
ACCIDENT LC													0
ACCIDENT HC						2	3						5
VIOLATOR STOPPED LC					5	9	9	10	13	2			48
VIOLATOR STOPPED HC					2	7	14	10	8	9			50
CITATION LC						3	2	6	2				13
CITATION HC					2	2	3	5		3			15
WARNING LC					2	4	3	3	8	0			20
WARNING HC						4	7	3	10	8			32

MOTOR VEHICLE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total
ACCIDENT LC	1						5		1				7
ACCIDENT HC					2	1	3		1				7
VIOLATOR STOPPED LC	2	16	5	14	24	57	52	57	63	8			298
VIOLATOR STOPPED HC	7	2	3	14	9	22	56	65	47	17			242
CITATION LC		3	1	4		11	17	26	14	1			77
CITATION HC	3	1	1	2	1	2	14	20	24	1			69
WARNING LC	2	13	3	10	26	38	41	28	33	6			200
WARNING HC	3		2	5	9	24	31	55	49	12			190

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OHV'S	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total
ACCIDENT LC							1						1
ACCIDENT HC							3	1	2				6
VIOLATOR STOPPED LC	1	1		2	1	1	8	8	2				24
VIOLATOR STOPPED HC					1	9	24	9	9				52
CITATION LC	1				1	1	6	5	1				15
CITATION HC					1	4	7	5	5				22
WARNING LC		1				1	4	2					8
WARNING HC					1	6	14	1	1				23
MOTOR VEHICLE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total
ACCIDENT LC		3			1		1	2					7
ACCIDENT HC			2		1			1	2				6
VIOLATOR STOPPED LC		7	6	3	8	19	20	18	9				90
VIOLATOR STOPPED HC			1	3	21	24	39	43	25				156
CITATION LC		5	4	1	3	2	9	12	3				39
CITATION HC			1	1	11	3	15	22	6				59
WARNING LC			1	1	6	7	3	7	12				37
WARNING HC					1	7	13	2	7				30

I, Wildlife Officer Lucas Martin, appreciate this opportunity to provide input in reference to the "Pilot Program" that was initiated by the Town of Lake City and the Hinsdale County Board of County Commissioners. The main feedback metric I have provided in the past has been the, "number of citations" related to OHV/ATV state level infractions. Typically, <u>in</u> the "Pilot Program" stretch of Colorado State Highway 149, I don't write any citations except when the "Pilot Program" is suspended for the year. However, <u>outside</u> the "Pilot Program" area, I continue to cite individuals illegally operating on the state highway under Colorado Revised Statute Title 33.

Monitoring OHV's on the state highway is not a primary task that I dedicate much time to. This reality is based on all my other job duties that take precedent. When I witness a violation, typically operation of an OHV outside the "Pilot Program" area/boundaries, I will cite the individual/individuals. However, I certainly <u>do not</u> feel that citations are a good or representative metric for determining anything valuable about the "Pilot Program."

However, I think a different, more holistic approach as it relates to the "Pilot Program" is necessary to have a productive dialogue and evaluation about OHV's using a 3.26 mile stretch of highway. To look at the 3.26 mile stretch as wholly separate from the loop system is not capturing the full breath of impacts, both positive and negative.

I think it is important to realize that the initial goal of the "Pilot Program" was to facilitate the connection of the Alpine Loop. Dovetail that with the Town of Lake City allowing OHV's/ATV's on all town streets and alleys, access to the Alpine Loop, for the majority of OHV users within the town limits and along the 3.26 mile stretch of highway 149, is wide open.

I want to mention a few concerns I have been stewing on for several years that have a direct nexus with the "Pilot Program."

The first concern I feel obligated to articulate, not in a professional context, but more based on personal opinion and observation. This opinion is directly tied to the level of noise produced by OHV's/ATV on the state highway. As a resident of Lake City for almost 20 years, I can certainly detect additional tire noise as well as high decibel engine noise (90 decibel's or greater) even as machines leave the town limits and head toward Hinsdale County Road 30 or into the Oceanwave area of town to the north. I have talked to dozens of year round and seasonal residents that live along highway 149, and many, not all, are very upset with the significant level of OHV noise along the highway corridor. Thanks for indulging my opinion.

My second concern is tied directly to being a Wildlife Officer for Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Lake City. I think the addition of the "pilot program" section of the loop has certainly had a significant impact on the adjacent public land and wildlife. With the addition of the "Pilot Program" 3.26 highway section, the "Alpine Loop" is functioning like an intersection roundabout in a busy city. As you know, roundabouts are specifically designed to promote a continuous flow of traffic, so an intersection can handle more traffic volume in the same amount of time. Granted, a true urban roundabout has one way traffic and yield signs associated with it, but the functionality is essentially the same.

By facilitating a much higher volume of traffic, our county roads are being severely degraded and destroyed. OHV's and ATV's engage the road bed in a very different fashion than traditional 4X4 vehicles. Typically the tires, torque, and speed of OHV's contribute to the rapid erosion of the road, displacing rock at an accelerated pace. This advent in modern motorized technology is very different than the roads being historically used by jeeps, trucks, SUV's and other 4X4's. Also, the magnitude is quite different as well, as many people ride in large groups, quite often only having one occupant per OHV.

Additionally, the "Pilot Program" stretch directly changed how people access the Roundtop Mountain Complex of roads. Historically, people had to trailer their OHV's/ATV's to access the Roundtop Mountain road. Now they have a direct conduit off of highway 149. The added level of noise and traffic going up Roundtop Mountain is much greater than it has ever been. Certainly this change in disturbance and use is a direct result of the "Pilot Program" removing the step of having to trailer to the Roundtop Road. CPW has been historically able to identify a series of migratory paths from the Upper Lake Fork of the Gunnison River that our native Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep (BHS) herd use around the perimeter of Roundtop Mountain to access upper Henson Creek. The added level of motorized disturbance may sever or degrade the use of these migratory paths in the future.

As roads continue to degrade, many visitors to Hinsdale County can no longer get to sections of the CDT, 14er trailheads, or even the destination locations of Engineer and Cinnamon Pass without being in or on an OHV or ATV. For countless years, hunters and anglers were able to travel up the Wager Gulch Road, the Nellie Creek Road, and the Cottonwood Creek Road, just to name a few. Now many of these roads are very difficult to navigate, if at all, in a normal 4x4 SUV, Jeep or truck. There are many locations I used to patrol with regularity in my patrol truck that I can no longer patrol due to road conditions, thus making access limited to being on or in an OHV or ATV. This reality also rings true for EMS, Search and Rescue, and Sheriff's Office personnel when an actual 4X4 vehicle is the needed equipment.

Think of the "Pilot Program" as a turbocharger on a combustion engine. Turbos can provide efficiency, power, and added thrills. However, there are also a whole theater of problems associated with the implementation of turbos as well.

I have spoken.....

From: Sent: To: Subject: Ann McCord Monday, August 21, 2023 9:20 AM Sandy Hines FW: OHV Pilot Program on Hwy 149

From: Brent Smith <bsmith@greatbendks.net> Sent: Sunday, August 20, 2023 2:30 PM To: Ann McCord <office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: OHV Pilot Program on Hwy 149

We travel to Lake City annually and will continue to do so. We normally stay out at the lake and ride into town for fuel, food and to complete the loop. We are considering staying in town in 2024 but don't want to have to trailer daily to ride. Do you know if the pilot program will be extended and allow us to ride Hwy 149 from town to the lake. Thank you in advance for any information you are able to provide.

#### **Brent Smith**

Fire Chief City of Great Bend, Kansas 1205 Williams Great Bend, Kansas 67530 W: 620.793.4140 C: 316.215.4910 bsmith@greatbendks.net

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From: Sent: To: Subject: Alexander Mulhall <townmanager@townoflakecity.co> Thursday, August 17, 2023 2:05 PM Sandy Hines Fwd: OHVS

Hi Sandy, I noticed that this email had an incorrect email address for you so I am forwarding it to you. Cheers, Lex ------ Forwarded message -------From: jodie faltysek <ifaltysek@msn.com> Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 11:38 AM Subject: OHVS To: administrator@himsdalecountycolorado.us <administrator@himsdalecountycolorado.us>, townmanager@townoflakecity.co<, zane.znamenacek@state.-co.us <zane.znamenacek@state.-co.us>

Good afternoon,

I was told you may stop allowing individuals from driving OHVS in town. I hope this rumor is incorrect! While visiting your amazing town this summer, I found it convenient to drive one during our stay. I'm sure others feel the same way, and are attracted to stay and visit because of this convenience.

Thank you, and I look forward to visiting again next summer! Jodie Faltysek

Sent from my iPhone

Alexander Mulhall Town Manager (970) 944-2333



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Town of Lake City PO Box 544 Lake City, CO 81235 www.townoflakecityco.gov

From:	Sportsman's BBQ Station <sportsmansbbq173@gmail.com></sportsmansbbq173@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, August 17, 2023 7:35 PM
То:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co
Cc:	zaneznamenacek@state.co.us
Subject:	Request - OHV Program Renewal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my desire for the county and town to work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV Program on Highway 149 for future years. It has been an asset to our community, and we rely greatly on the support this program gives to our community, notably through our tourism and economy. It would also be appreciated if the program could extend its borders to encompass a greater entirety of the businesses and services to the OHVs. Currently OHVs do not have continued access to our county transfer station or our town's toy/car wash. If the OHV program could be extended by one mile to the north, it could include these entities. Additionally to the south, the current program cuts off the Woodlake RV park, which an extension of half a mile could include them. I believe the increased emphasis on education has helped to reduce negative aspects of the program, and that it will only improve in future years. Please consider working to extend the OHV program for future years, and don't deprive our small community of these essential programs which boost our tourism and economy. Thank you for your time,

Christina Bowman (Full-time/Year-round resident and business owner) Sportsman's BBQ Station Lake City, CO

From:	sbettiey@yahoo.com
Sent:	Saturday, July 29, 2023 8:16 PM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Proposal to extend OHV's on State Highway 149

Please consider the following actions.

I am asking that the County and State work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on State Highway 149, in Hinsdale County.

This would allow OHV's to continue to have access to this highway.....this has worked very well for some time. We do need to extend both ends of the existing routes, for a short distance north to San Juan Springs Drive to allow access to our one and only car wash that is very popular with our OHV's. As it is now our OHV's have to drive through neighborhoods to clean their vehicles. North boundary of pilot programs is currently at Ocean Wave Dr. which is at Mile Post 72.9.1 am requesting it be moved to MP 73.8.

South boundary of pilot program is currently at MP 69.8, County Road 30. New requested stop point is MP 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park. This RV park though out the summer has many OHV patrons that have to trailer their OHVs less than a mile to be get to Cty Rd 30.....

My wife and I have two OHVs and we have to ride through some neighborhoods to go and wash our vehicles. This would make my neighbors and us very happy. We are property owners in Lake City and OHVs ability to do the Alpine Loop was very important in our decision.

Lake City is "THE" location for vacationers who ride OHVs on our trails, but what is the most important area we have is the Alpine Loop. Vacationers from all over ride the Alpine Loop, bring money to shop, eat, vehicle repairs, tours of area, and lodging.

Making Lake City accessible to visitors is a big point of the OHV pilot program.

I am asking that this pilot program be extended for 3-5 years. This is the final year of this program. I hope you will consider this most important project.

Steve & Carolyn Bettley P. O. Box 311 1276 Forest Drive Lake City, CO 81235

Sent from my iPad

From:	Buz Brymer <buzbrymer@gmail.com></buzbrymer@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, July 15, 2023 1:16 PM
То:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co
Cc:	zane.znamenacek@state.co.us
Subject:	Renewing and extending the OHV use on CO State Hwy 149 in Lake City

July 15, 2023

TO: Hinsdale County administrator, and board of Commissioners

Lake City Town Manager and City Council

**CC: Colorado Department of Transportation** 

I am a non-resident of Colorado but have been visiting Lake City for the last 5 years, extending my visit each year. One of my passions in visiting is using my OHV on the Alpine Loop and many other trails in the vicinity.

I am imploring you to work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to extend OHV use on HWY 149 for another 3-5 years, and in addition, to extend the Highway use a short distance both north and south from the current agreement. Personally, I have been camping at the Woodlake RV park just south of the current legal arrangement and an additional ½ mile of authorization south of town would serve our RV community very well.

The Lake City economy is fragile and I believe the dollars myself and others with similar passion bring to the community is very helpful.

Thank you,

SF Buz Brymer

1051 New Technology Blvd, Hutto, TX 78634

512-689-1660

From:	Roxanne Loper <roxannel@lcamc.net></roxannel@lcamc.net>
Sent:	Saturday, July 15, 2023 1:14 PM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	OHV Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider working with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on Highway 149 to allow the use of OHV's on said highway for as many years as possible (3-5 years or more).

Please also be in consideration of extending both ends of the existing route a short distance to help businesses profit from the extension. It would be beneficial to extend north to San Juan Springs Drive as this would allow access to our only car wash and is very popular for OHV use. The existing route is north to Ocean Wave Dr at MP 72.9. The proposed new route would extend to San Juan Springs Dr at MP 73.8.

The south proposed route would extend from MP 69.8 at County Road 30 to the new requested stop of MP 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park. During the summer season as many as 50-60 OHVs are in the campground at any one time and many of these campers have no ability to trailer the short distance to CR 30.

Please consider these actions for our fragile short season economy. Thank you for your action on this issue.

Roxanne Loper 1000 N Hwy 149 Lake City, CO 81235

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Wayne Moore <wmorre@gmail.com> Saturday, July 15, 2023 12:36 PM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.com OHV use on Hwy 149 in Hinsdale County

July 15, 2023

**TO: Hinsdale County board of Commisioners** 

CC: The Lake City Council

I am a non-resident of Colorado but have been visiting Lake City for the last 5 years, extending my visit each year. One of my passions in visiting is using my OHV on the Alpine Pass and many other trails in the vicinity.

I am imploring you to work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to extend OHV use on HWY 149 for another 3-5 years, and in addition, to extend the Highway use a short distance both north and south from the current agreement. Personally, I have been camping at the Woodlake RV park just south of the current legal arrangement and an additional ½ mile of authorization south of town would serve our RV community very well.

The Lake City economy is fragile and I believe the dollars myself and others with similar passion bring to the community is very helpful

Wayne Moore 3509 Kelly Ln Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-228-9887

Wayne Moore 512-228-9887 cell

From:	Becky Phillips <beckywalkerphillips@gmail.com></beckywalkerphillips@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, July 13, 2023 9:31 PM
To:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; zane.znamenacek@state.co.us
Subject:	OHV's on Highway 149

To the Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners and the Lake City Town Council,

Please consider the following actions:

\* That the county and town work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on Highway 149

\* To allow the use of OHV's on Hwy 149 for as many years as possible

\* To extend the existing route to include the neighborhoods to the north end of town including San Juan Springs, and our one and only carwash. (M.P. 73.8 San Juan Springs Dr.)

\* To extend the existing route to include Woodlake RV Park (M.P. 69.4). During the season, there are as many as 60 OHV's in Woodlake RV Park at one time. Many of these campers have no ability to trailer to County Road 30, or other trailheads.

Please consider these very important actions for our fragile short season economy. Thanks for your attention to these matters.

Mark and Becky Phillips 817-675-4418, We are full-time RVers who ride side by sides while visiting Lake City. Currently residing at Woodlake RV Park until 9/29/23

Mailing Address: 156 HCR 4411 Grandview, TX 76050

From:	Cristie Carstens Reeves <cristie.carstens.reeves@gmail.com></cristie.carstens.reeves@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, July 12, 2023 2:54 PM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	OHV Program

I apologize for the previous incomplete email.

We would like to convey our support for continuation of the OHV Program here in Hinsdale County. We would also support extending the existing route to include extending north to MP 73.8, to include the Toy Wash & south to MP 69.4 to include Woodlake RV park. As property owners, seasonal residents & OHV owners we understand the importance & economic impact of the summer tourism here. The popularity of OHVs & the ability this program affords to complete the Alpine Loop are very important factors in successful all important summer season for local businesses, enhancing the yearlong financial viability of the county & Lake City itself. Thank you for your careful consideration of this very important matter.

Sincerely, Cristie & Jack Reeves 740 HCR 142 Lake City

From:	steve@lakecityloopers.com
Sent:	Sunday, July 9, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Subject:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; zane.znamenacek@state.co.us Hwy 149 OHV Program
bubjeed	

Hi ~

My name is Steve Twyman and I am a business owner in Lake City, Co. I own the Lake City Loopers business located at 130 N Gunnison Ave, Lake City, Co. 81235. Our store phone number is 970-784-6630

I encourage the town and county of Hinsdale to work with the state to renew the OHV Program on Highway 149 to allow the use of OHVs on the state highway for years to come. If a limit 7needs to7 be placed on the program extension of years, please consider a minimum of a 5 year extension. I believe the town and county have done a good job managing the pilot program and would support a 25 year extension.

I also support extending the route on both ends to include the entire community. To the north of town, I recommend extending the program to mile marker 73.8 to include San Juan Springs Drive. This extension would allow additional Lake City businesses and home/property owners access to the program. To the south, extending the program to mile marker 69.4 would allow a local business (Woodlake RV park) access to the program too. I think including all local residents and businesses access to the program makes the most sense and is fair.

I thank you for your consideration in this important program which helps so many businesses, not to mention generate additional tax revenue for the state and county.

Steve Twyman 970-784-6237 (pers) 970-784-6630 (store)

From: Sent: To: Subject: Ann McCord Thursday, June 29, 2023 11:16 AM Sandy Hines FW: Pilot with UTVs in town

From: Melody Nagel <mnagel@bellcreekranch.com> Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:09 PM To: Ann McCord <office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: Pilot with UTVs in town

My name is Melody Nagel. My husband, David, and I have been coming to Lake City for 30 years. We enjoy all the activities that Lake City offers a family during the summer. Each year we bring 6-15 people during a two week time period, utilizing Woodlake Campground, The Texan, local restaurants, bakery, grocery store, gas stations, movie theater, Putt Putt and of course shopping at the town stores. Although we have to trailer our UTV into town (we camp at Woodlake and are not included in the pilot study), we enjoy being able to safely drive our UTV through town with easy access to the multiple trails Lake City has to offer. We hope the UTV pilot study continues, but we would like to see Woodlake Campground as well as the Toy Wash be included in the covered area to drive UTVs. This would enhance our summer experience (including our friends and family) by not having to trailer our UTVs into town.

Thank you for your consideration,

Melody Nagel David Nagel

Mel's cell- 214-354-778

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Sent: To: Subject: Ann McCord Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:48 AM Sandy Hines FW: OHV

-----Original Message-----From: walther.barbara@gmail.com <walther.barbara@gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, June 10, 2023 6:56 PM To: Ann McCord <office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: OHV

I'm writing you to express my support for extending the OHV policy and allowing these vehicles to use Highway 149 from the Toy Wash to the Lake Campground RV park.

I am a 3rd generation summer visitor to Lake City. My husband and bought a cabin here in 2006. Allowing people to have access to the town by using their OHVs has to benefit the town and its business. Sincerely,

Barbara Walther

Sent from my iPhone

From:	kathy hall <kathy.hall10@outlook.com></kathy.hall10@outlook.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, March 29, 2023 8:26 PM
То:	Stockinger - CDOT, Herman
Cc:	Barbara Vasquez; mark Garcia; Adams Eula; Lisa Hickey; Gary Beedy; Yessica Holguin;
	Kathleen Bracke; Terry; Don Stanton; Karen Stuart; Jason Smith - CDOT; Zane
	Znamenacek - CDOT; Sandy Hines; Jennifer Uebelher - CDOT
Subject:	Re: Hinsdale County/Town of Lake City 2022 OHV Program Report

Herman

Thank you for sending the report Hinsdale county is being very responsible with their education and over site. This permit really helps with their summer infusion of tourism. Makes it much more manageable I have heard from several of the residents that they are so grateful for the Commission trusting them with this unusual request Kathy

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 29, 2023, at 3:13 PM, Stockinger - CDOT, Herman <herman.stockinger@state.co.us> wrote:

Commissioners,

Some of you may remember that in March, 2021, you voted to continue a multi-year pilot project allowing OHVs to travel on a stretch of highway in the Town of Lake City. The link to the resolution is below.

https://www.codot.gov/about/transportation-commission/approvedresolutions/2021-approved-resolution/march-2021/tc\_res\_2021\_03\_10-ohvs.pdf

We have received the 2022 report and I am forwarding it to you for your information. No action is necessary, as the pilot has one more season to go.

Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions. I have copied Jason Smith and Zane Znamenacek from Region 3 on this email, as well as Sandy Hines, the Hinsdale County Administrator, who submitted the report to us.

Herman

Herman Stockinger, Deputy Director and Director of Policy P <u>303.757.9077</u> | C 720.810.6934 Herman.Stockinger@state.co.us

<2022 HC-TLC OHV Program Report.pdf>

Norman McNickle 1722 Fiddlers Hill Stillwater, OK 74074 1331 Silver Road Lake City, CO 81235

August 22, 2023

Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners P.O. Box 277 Lake City, CO 81235

Commissioners:

My name is Norman McNickle and I have been a part time resident of Lake City at 1331 Silver Road since 1997. It is my understanding that the agreement to allow OHVs on Highway 149 is set to expire.

I would encourage you to work with the Colorado Department of transportation to renew the OHV program. I have observed the program to date and would conclude allowing OHVs access to the town as very successful. The Hinsdale County Sheriff's Office has worked diligently to bring compliance to the rules of OHV use of the streets and highway 149. I know there have been a few bad actors who have been cited by the SO but I would note from experience the OHVs on the loop are in majority conscientious in following the rules. The OHV Safety group has also worked hard to insure OHV users know the rules and consequences of misbehavior.

I have become acquainted with several Lake City business owners and know they must have customers during the short tourist season to be successful. In addition those customers contribute to the sales tax collections of the area. I suggest one could look to Silverton's exclusion of OHVs from their town to determine the financial impact of such a prohibition. Further, I am aware of at least one couple who purchased a home in Lake City following an excursion around the loop.

Finally, it is my understanding that there is a desire to extend the area where OHVs are allowed to include travel to the Wood Lake Campground and the Toy Wash. These areas would further extend the economic benefits to those entities and governing bodies.

I know there has been considerable discussion of this subject over the years but it appears the demonstration project has been successful in terms of safety and economic development.

Respectfully,

anui Walist

#### TO: Whom It May Concern

#### RE: OHV Access Discussion Lake City, Colorado

We are a property owner in Hinsdale County just beyond the city limits. Our home is located at 1440 Balsam Road, and we have been an owner for the last 4 years.

The discussion of allowing OHV's the right to use Hwy. 149 from May to September has been an ongoing discussion ever since we have purchased our property, and we have weighed in on this issue before.

Although we do not own an OHV, we understand that the town, as a whole, is thriving because of the revenue and visitors brought to town because the owners of the OHV's are allowed to access the mountain passes by way of Hwy. 149. Looking down the main street of town on any given summer day, you will see the popularity of the OHV's whether they are sitting in front of San Juan Soda, with the line out the door, or restaurant goers sitting on the deck of Southern Vittles. Catering to the needs and accessibility of the OHV owners is a unique perspective of the town that sets it apart from neighboring towns within the same demographic. Some of these towns have chosen not to allow access to the town roads by the OHV's. I firmly believe that their revenue source has been severely impacted by not allowing this demographic to participate.

I cannot imagine what would happen to all the locally owned businesses and their revenue source if this right of access were taken away.

I can sit back and take an unbiased look at both sides of this issue. Arguments that seem to be made are the issue of the dust generated, the additional traffic, and the speed being driven going through town. I think the same can be said for any car, truck, camper, or trailers traveling along the same roadways. As a whole, I think that the OHV drivers are very considerate and respectful of the speed limits posted through town.

If the access to Hwy. 149 is disallowed, I foresee a caravan of trucks with trailers traveling through town to get to the staging areas outside of town in order to access the trails. The size of these areas is very limited and can only accommodate a small number of vehicles and trailers within their confines. The overflow vehicles will then start to illegally park along the sides of the road and create more congestion and traffic problems which will then have to be monitored and take more resources to enforce the law infractions.

Another consideration that might be looked at without muddying the waters further would be to extend the right of way access by an additional two weeks into October. Hinsdale County and adjoining areas are a hunting mecca for locals and visitors alike. When a hunting season starts before September 30, the end of the highway right of way, and stretches into October even by a day or two, the hunter that used his OHV to access his hunting area can no longer use that OHV to get back to his accommodations in Lake City because the right of way access is no longer available. Sometimes delays getting back before the golden September 30 deadline can be hampered by bad weather getting out of the high country as well as other mitigating factors. Then the hunter is stranded at the end of town without a way to get back without finding someone to bring his trailer and vehicle back to him. The other option to put on the table would be to extend the Hwy 149 access as far as the Toy Wash on the north end of town and to Woodlake RV on the South end. Both of these extensions would make the problems of people driving in undesignated areas seem a little bit less daunting.

I hope that everyone involved with this decision will look at both sides of the issue and decide what is best for the town, its residents, and the revenue and overall health of the town.

Thank you for listening to our concerns.

Scott & Sandy Wooldridge 1440 Balsam Road Lake City, CO 81235

From: Sent: To: Subject: Greg Levine Saturday, September 2, 2023 5:32 PM Sandy Hines Fw: OHV Pilot Program

For the file-

Greg Levine Hinsdale County Commissioner P.O. Box 277 Lake City, CO 81235 district1@hinsdalecountycolorado.us 949-456-1228



From: Ingrid Burnett <burnettingrid@yahoo.com> Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 1:37 PM To: Greg Levine <district1@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: OHV Pilot Program

Greg.

I know the OHV discussion is heating up and I'd like to express my preference. We need to stop the pilot program. This does not mean 'ban' OHVs, but rather have a rational approach to allowing ALL outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy our amazing town and surroundings.

OHVs have disrupted our quiet and peaceful town and take away from our quality of life. I know there is a lot of pressure for OHVs, but it seems they can once again trailer their OHVs to ride the loop and have someone potentially shuttle their trailers to the other end. This happens with river rafting all the time and could potentially be another revenue stream for a business.

Please keep an open mind as you and the other commissioners evaluate options regarding OHVs. This should actually be open for another vote as well to ensure we hear directly from Lake City residents and voters.

Thank you. Ingrid Burnett 303.956.1756

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kristie Borchers Saturday, September 2, 2023 11:44 AM Sandy Hines Fw: OHV straw vote

Kristie Borchers Hinsdale County Commissioner PO Box 277 Lake City, CO 81235 district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us 970-596-9071



From: Janene McNeil <jbargurley@gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 4:23 AM To: Kristie Borchers <district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us>; Greg Levine <district1@hinsdalecountycolorado.us>; Robert Hurd <district3@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Cc: Janene McNeil <jbargurley@gmail.com> Subject: OHV straw vote

Kristin Borchers, Greg Levine, and Robert Hurd,

My husband and I, Rick and Janene McNeil, live at 2352 San Juan Drive, in San Juan Ranch Estates. We purchased our home in 2019 after we sold our business and retired. Lake City has been the place my husband and his family has come to for over 50 years.

We are part of the older group that love to poke through the mountains on our OHV. We are on the trails for many hours and experience many drivers, most of who are very respectful of each other and the land. We do experience the few that are in a hurry and dirt bikes that pass and usually scare us to death. We have a lot of regulations in place, but I don't see enough speed limit signs, only the suggested speed. I think if we could enforce our regulations, and get a reputation that Lake City will not tolerate the rule breakers, we may see some changes. There will always be the rule breakers and nothing will change that. We rarely see reasons to change what we have going on here in Lake City. The city is booming! We just have some people that need to be educated and reminded of why we have the regulations in place.

We return to Oklahoma after Fall is over. We live in Sulphur, OK, population 5000. Our little town also depends on tourism. We are fortunate to have Chickasaw National Recreation Area in our town. We have lots of people playing on the lake, camping, hiking, kayaking, and second home owners, all of which spend a lot of money in our community. We owned a furniture and

floor covering business, so we loved our summer tourists. We tolerate overcrowding in our parks, and crazy people on our lake, but summertime passes then we get our trails and lake back to ourselves. Our tourism reminds me so much of Lake City. We hope Lake City continues to flourish, and we can all learn to put up with a few problems, which never outweigh the positive. We listened to the last commissioners meeting via zoom. Mr. Hurd seems to be the only commissioner that understands the importance of the tourism, and has the best interest of the business and home owners. Why would we change anything? We just need to make a some changes by getting more support for our law enforcement. Adding more regulations without manpower to enforce them would only add to the work of our already overworked officers. Try to find seasonal help.

Thank You,

Rick and Janene McNeil

From: Sent: To: Subject: Taylor, Joshua <taylorja@oge.com> Friday, September 1, 2023 12:49 PM Sandy Hines FW: OHV use on Alpine Loop

From: Taylor, Joshua Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 1:44 PM To: administrator@hindsdalecountycolorado.us Subject: OHV use on Alpine Loop

My name is Joshua Taylor from Vian, Oklahoma. I am emailing to voice my opinion on recent discussion of OHV use in Lake City and Alpine Loop. My family has been visiting Lake City for about 7 years now and absolutely love it there. We haul our RZRs 900 miles to get there and have a group of about 14 that come with us. One of the things that brings us to Lake City is the convenience of riding in town and using the Alpine Loop. We loved being able to ride to Silverton for the day but when they banned OHVs in town we just quit going. If they are banned on the loop or regulated to the point where we can't enjoy it that would be a shame. We want to see OHV use continue. Our group supports local business by shopping/eating in town and have met some wonderful people. We could vacation a lot of different places but choose every year to visit your beautiful town and want to continue coming to enjoy the trails along the Loop. Thank you for your time and I hope the town and businesses are in support of OHVs on the Alpine Loop.

ua Taylor

Josh

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#### September 1, 2023

Commissioner Levine, Borchers, and Hurd,

I watched the workshop portion of the August 30 Commission meeting and would like to express my opinion on the OHV questions.

I am disappointed that the question of continuing the program that allows OHVs on the State Highway was not even considered as a question in the proposed straw poll. All of the other questions that were discussed just danced around the fact that dropping support for that program would be the most expediate way of limiting the number of OHVs destroying our back country, would make enforcement of the current rules and regulations easier for the Sherrif's office, and would show that the Board is actually listening to a wider audience than the shouting of minority business owners and OHV advocates.

While a straw poll is at least a step in the right direction, I feel that the Commission is so afraid to anger a certain sub-set of people that they are wasting the opportunity to receive some pointed feedback. Commissioner Hurd stated outright that he does not want to ask tough questions because he does not want to hear the answers. This is exactly the wrong attitude for someone that is supposed to be serving his entire constituency. You should be asking tough questions and you should be willing to hear tough answers.

As a long-time Lake City resident that has never supported the unfettered access of OHVs to our county and our town I am often left to feel like a villain. I refuse to use the same tactics that those in support of allowing the OHVs to run roughshod over our community, specifically, I will not denigrate those people, I will not resort to name calling, and I will not indulge in shouting matches on social media. Because many of us with similar opinions refuse to communicate with that style of bullying, we are not heard. Further, because many of with similar opinions do not own businesses that cater to the OHV crowd we are marginalized and dismissed. Allowing the loudest voices in the room to be the only ones heard disenfranchises those of us who are speaking in a reasonable tone of voice.

I urge you to ask the hard questions and to listen to everyone. I urge you to seek different approaches than the ones that have been used thus far. OHV owners are not the only tourists out there, but they are the loudest.

Jodi Linsey 316 Bluff St Lake City, CO 81235

From:	A Danielle Worthen <danielle@hallrealty.net></danielle@hallrealty.net>
Sent:	Saturday, August 26, 2023 4:17 PM
To:	Greg Levine; Robert Hurd; Kristie Borchers
Cc:	Jeff Worthen; Sandy Hines
Subject:	Comment for Workshop Agenda Item 8-30-23 / Off Highway Vehicle Straw Poll Discussion

Dear Commissioners,

After decades of diligent marketing efforts, advertising expenditures and countless volunteer hours during community events, our Lake City tourist economy is thriving. A number of commercial businesses have changed ownership in the last two years with enthusiastic new owners at their helm.

We are fortunate that Lake City has been discovered, and with that discovery comes growing pains regarding how we can all enjoy, preserve and respectfully share this beautiful mountain town and the surrounding public resources with full time residents, second homeowners and tourists alike.

We truly believe that the Alpine Loop is a spectacular resource that can be explored and preserved by all recreationists with a reasonable approach in OHV ordinance revision, continued OHV education, and increasing the patrolling of OHVs.

As Hinsdale County navigates the pros and cons of Off-Highway Vehicles and their use on county roads, I hope you will strive to seek a balanced approach in seeking resolutions with a non-discriminatory outcome in the end result.

As long time residents and long time business owners, we can say that our business is positively impacted from the OHV community that include tourists, second homeowners and full time residents. Our family also locally rented an OHV last weekend and thoroughly enjoyed the spectacular Alpine Loop.

Lake City is truly a "diamond in the rough". I hope our community can unite in simultaneously protecting our natural resources and our local tourist based economy.

Respectfully, Danielle & Jeff Worthen, Owners

Hall Realty, Inc. P.O. Box 280 Lake City, CO 81235 970-944-8100 Office

www.halirealty.net



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From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: gijoe41 <gijoe41@aol.com> Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:45 PM Sandy Hines townmanager@townoflakecity.co Lake City Pilot plan for OHVs on state Highway 149

# To: Hinsdale County Board of Commissions and The Lake City Town Council.

Please consider the following actions.

- 1. The county and town work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program for Highway 149 to allow the use of OHVs on said highway for as many years as possible, at least 3 to 5 years. The longer the duration the better. Many new investors need stability in a market to feel comfortable investing in a new venture. I believe this town and county appreciate the value tourism brings to the community.
- 2. Both ends of the pilot program need to be extended to include highway segments from mile post 73.8 at San Juan Springs Drive to the new stopping point of mile post 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park. These moves would include

both the southern RV park and the toy wash on the north end of town. As I understand it the town is concerned with the amount of water usage by existing RV users and parks.

Including the Toy Wash would utilize less of the current water producing capacity, leaving it available for further developing housing and business expansion. The town would not have to invest in the additional enhancements to it's existing system to meet these needs. Please consider these very important actions for our fragile short season economy. The loss of any current revenues would be tragic.

Sincerely,

Joseph Maddry owner and operator of River Fork RV Park and Henson Creek RV Park, both located inside the city limits of Lake City, Colorado.

My wife and I invested in this community in 2020 at the beginning of COVID. We believed in the town then as we do now.

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

From:	Steve Gunter <steveg5207@gmail.com></steveg5207@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, August 28, 2023 8:24 PM
То:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; zane.znamenacek@state.co.us
Cc:	Robert Hurd; Kristine Borchers; Ann McCord
Subject:	OHV / HWY 149 Program Renewal & Extensions

Lake City Town Council

Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners

Colorado Department of Transportation

All,

As Hinsdale County Property owners, we respectfully request that both the Town Council and County Commissioners work with CDOT to renew the HWY 149 allowance for OHV usage. We would also ask that not just the current boundaries from CR 30 to Oceanwave Drive be renewed but to extend those just slightly further south to include the Woodlake RV Park entrance and to the north to San Juan Drive to provide HWY access to our only car wash near Lake City.

Both extensions provide a number of benefits for those vacationing in Lake City but would also help reduce the additional trailering of OHV's, the dust and noise for the very winding detour route to finally get to the car wash, the haphazard use of water and runoff for those who opt to wash their OHV's elsewhere and just as important, the overall economy for Hinsdale County.

Finally, with such a great deal of planning and administrative costs involved for everyone, we request that the program be extended for not just the customary three years as before but that it be further extended for at least five years this juncture.

Sincerely,

Steve & Trish Gunter 720 & 730 County Road 142 Lake City, CO 81235 - and -5207 Chariot Circle Arcadia, OK 73007-8908

(405) 831-6737 steveg5207@gmail.com

From: Sent: To: Subject: Danny Oge <Danny@lcgeneralstore.com> Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:13 PM Sandy Hines OHV

Please consider the following actions:

That the County and Town work with The Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV Program on Highway 149 to allow the use of OHVs on the highway for as many years as possible, at least 3 years but extending it to 5 would be better. I also believe we need to extend both sides of the existing route for a short distance to get OHV's out of neighborhoods on North End to San Juan Springs Drive. I also think we need to extend access to our Toy Wash, so it can be used by OHV's. Existing MP at Ocean Wave Drive is 72.9, new MP would be 73.8 at San Juan Springs Dr. From South existing MP is 69.8 at County Rd 30, new requested stop point is MP 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park. This would allow riders to get to County Rd 30 without having to trailer such a short distance. Please consider these very important actions for our fragile short season **economy**.

Thank You for considering this very important issue,

Danny Oge'

The General Store Lake City, Colorado 970-944-2513

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Joe & Della <anderson.joe50@yahoo.com> Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:50 PM Sandy Hines OHV access

Dear Sir or Madam

We want to express our positive support for the renewal of the OHV program on highway 149. We have been coming to Colorado for many years bringing family and friends to ride the trails and roads where allowed on OHVs. We appreciate the beauty, uniqueness, and rich history of the mountains. We know it is a privilege to be able to have these experiences—one of those being the Alpine Loop. Without Lake City, OHVs are unable to continue that amazing journey which would not only impact riders but also the economy of Lake City.

We were in a store buying items when I told the owner how thankful I was that Lake City still allowed OHVs to ride through town and that I would only be spending my money in your town because of that fact. I'm guessing we are not the only ones that feel that way.

Please consider extending the program. We appreciate your efforts to please all, as we too, consider our conduct and respect as we ride.

**Best Regards** Joe & Della Anderson 2377 E 181st St Scranton, KS 66537 785-640-4742

TO: Hinsdele County Board Of Com And The Lake City Town Council. Please Consider The Following Actions. That the County And Town Work with The Colo Department Of Transportation To Renew the OHV Pri On Highway 149 To allow the use of OHV'S On sold H tay For As many Years As Possible At Leest 3 To 5 Years. I Also B We Need To Extend Both Ends Of The Existing Route. For A Short Distance To Get OHV'S Out Of Neighborhoods On North End To San Juan Springs Drive Also To Allow Access To Our One And Only Car Wash That Is Very Popular For OHV Use So To Be Clear Existing M.P. At Ocean Wave Drive is 72.9 . Ne Requested M.P. is 73.8 At San Juan Springs Drive. On South Inclusive on JP, IS 75.8 AT 3an Juan springs of Ne. On South End Of OHV Route Exiting Stop Point Is M.P. 69.8 At County Road 30, New Requested Stop Point Is M.P. 69.4 At Woodhike RV Park. As During Summer Season As Many as 50 To 60 OHV'S Are In The Camporund At Any One Time And Many Of These Campors Have No Ability To Trailer The OHV'S The VERY SHORT Distance To County RD 30. Please Consider These Very Impertant Actions For Our Fragile Conditions (COUNT) At Tools In a failed the Sector

Please Consider These Very Important Actions For Our Frag Short Season ECONDMY. Thanks For Action On This Very important issue.

Must Sign And Address Would Be Good Also Moting As A Hinsdale Voter Or Property Owner In Hinsdale Or Not All Visitors Can Submit This Voter Or Not Any Support Of Program is Very Important. Submit Email To

From: Sent: To: Subject: Doreen Balvin <doreenbalvin@gmail.com> Tuesday, August 29, 2023 3:57 PM Sandy Hines OHV Program

Please renew the OHV Program for Hinsdale County. We are older and enjoy our rides. Thank you Doreen Shacklee

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Frank L Shacklee <fshacklee@gmail.com> Tuesday, August 29, 2023 3:52 PM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co OHV's in town

I love that your town welcomes OHV's! Please continue this policy, and extend the allowance boundary to include the car wash on the north end of town. I can't help but think that the impact to the local merchants is huge, and most may not be able to survive if this source of income was diminished. We hope to be back next year!

#### August 30, 2023

From: Wesley Williams 1312 Silver Road P.O. Box 1148 Lake City, CO. 81235

To: Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners And The Lake City Town Council

First of all, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Wesley Williams. I am a full-time resident of Lake City. I am a business owner and our business is opened year round serving the locals and guests to our town. Our business helps to support other businesses in town as well as government agencies. We are like many of the businesses in town that rely on summer business to make our business model work. Much of our summer business is composed of OHV users. We are very thankful for the program that allows OHV's to use highway 149 to move about Lake City and the surrounding area. Without this program economic survival would be extremely difficult if not imposable.

Please consider the following Actions;

That the County and Town work with The Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on highway 149 to allow the use of OHV's on said highway for as many years as possible, at least 3 to 5 years.

I would also like the County and Town in conjunction with the CDOT to consider extending both ends of the existing route. The extension would allow OHV's out of neighborhoods on north end to San Juan Springs Dive and allow access to the only car wash in town as well as the Refuse Transfer Station. Extension of the south end would allow people in the Woodlake RV park to utilize the program. The new distance for route would be from M.P. 73.8 on the north end and M.P. 69.4 on the south end.

Please consider these very important actions for our fragile short season economy. Thanks for your positive action on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

lettellion

Wesley Williams Williams Country Store

From: Sent: To: Subject: Frank L Shacklee <fshacklee@gmail.com> Tuesday, August 29, 2023 3:58 PM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co Re: OHV's in town

I love that your town welcomes OHV's! Please continue this policy, and extend the allowance boundary to include the car wash on the north end of town. I can't help but think that the impact to the local merchants is huge, and most may not be able to survive if this source of income was diminished. We hope to be back next year!

This time with my name attached... Frank Shacklee Whitesboro, Tx 76273

On Tue, Aug 29, 2023, 3:52 PM Frank L Shacklee <<u>fshacklee@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

I love that your town welcomes OHV's! Please continue this policy, and extend the allowance boundary to include the car wash on the north end of town. I can't help but think that the impact to the local merchants is huge, and most may not be able to survive if this source of income was diminished. We hope to be back next year!

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kristie Borchers Wednesday, September 13, 2023 1:43 PM Sandy Hines Fw: OHVs

I am not sure if I have already forwarded this for the file

Kristie Borchers Hinsdale County Commissioner PO Box 277 Lake City, CO 81235 district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us 970-596-9071



From: Teresa McAfee <teresamcafee@me.com> Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 8:57 AM To: Kristie Borchers <district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: OHVs

**Commissioner Borchers**,

I own Wildflower Cabins here in Lake City. I am reaching out to learn what your position is regarding OHVs. I know this has been and is a controversial topic.

As a business owner who has invested my retirement savings into my business it is critically important for me to understand what the future looks like for my business. As you probably realize the vast majority of my customers come here to ride OHVs. I would estimate 75% of my guests come to ride motorcycles, four wheelers, and side by sides. The side by sides are definitely what the over wheeling majority ride. Many have expressed that they will never return to Silverton because of the OHV ban there. I fear that an OHV ban in Lake City would severely and negatively impact the profitability of my business and all local businesses here in Lake City.

There are a group of business owners currently collaborating to try to be a part of the solution. We are want to avoid creating division amongst the business owners and members of the community.

I spend a lot of time watching the traffic on 149 in front of my cabins. To be perfectly honest, I see more speeding violations by regular automobiles. The vast majority of the noise actually comes from trucks and motorcycles. I would like to better understand the specific concerns of local citizens. I try hard to strongly encourage my guests to adhere to all of the OHV regulations. I include the "Know Before You Go" flyers in every cabin. The information is included in my e-mail communications to guests and in my cabin guides.

If you would like to speak in person or by phone, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thanks for your time, Teresa Wagner 405-919-3256

From:	Tracy Edwards < Tracy.Edwards@findfreedom.church>
Sent:	Wednesday, September 13, 2023 10:57 AM
То:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co
Cc:	Michelle Guthmiller
Subject:	Lake City - OHV Discussion

Greetings,

My name is Tracy Edwards and I am the Business Director of Freedom Church in Carrollton. One of my responsibility is coordinating events for our church.

Since September 2020, our church has brought couples to Lake City for a Marriage Retreat. One of the primary reasons, outside the beauty and the hospitality of the people, is the easy access to the Alpine Loop on OHV (razors).

Our group (14-18 people each time) comes two times each summer and we frequent the following businesses as part of our itinerary:

- Inn At The Lake
- Packard/Cannibal Grill
- Southern Vittles
- San Juan Soda Shop
- Lake City Auto and Sports Center
- The Climb (previous years)
- The Silver Spur Shop
- Silver Slice Pizza
- Blue Bonnet / Bird Gift Shop
- Chillin' Cafe
- The Sportsman
- The Wrangler (new this year)
- The Country Store & Deli
- Lake City Bakery
- Breakfast Hangout & Euphoria (new this year for us)

Our church spends \$28,000.00 for each group to come to Lake City for basically 4 days. This does not include our airfare. Nor does it include the shopping that the couples do on their own. That is \$56,000.00 that our two groups alone bring to Lake City in 8 days.

I heard that the accessibly to the Alpine Loop through Lake City (149 / US 30) was in discussion. We wanted to let you know that should access to the Alpine Loop on OHV (razors) be prohibited, we would have to find other options for our retreat.

We love Lake City and its people. We support local businesses. We hope we continue to bring our retreats to this wonderful City.

Thank you for your time.

Tracy Edwards

**Business Director** 

FREEDOM CHURCH 2435 EAST HEBRON PARKWAY CARROLLTON, TX 75010

972.307.2304 X101 FINDFREEDOM.CHURCH tracy.edwards@findfreedom.church



From:	Alexander Mulhall <townmanager@townoflakecity.co></townmanager@townoflakecity.co>
Sent:	Friday, September 8, 2023 11:40 AM
To:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Fwd: OHV program

Here is another OHV letter.

------Forwarded message -------From: Skipper Dickson <<u>SDickson@morrisdickson.com</u>> Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 11:13 AM Subject: OHV program To: county (<u>administrator@hindalecountycolorado.us</u>) <<u>administrator@hindalecountycolorado.us</u>>, town lake city (<u>townmanager@townoflakecity.co</u>) <<u>townmanager@townoflakecity.co></u>

Please consider

My wife and I have been property owners in town for 10 years.

There is so much we love about Lake City and the freedom to ride in our OHV is one of them.

Please do not restrict the use.

Our economy in town would be severely hurt if restrictions are put in place.

The existing area needs to be expanded to include the bakery, car wash and Woodland park.

Lake City is so wonderfully unique in so many ways. Please don't restrict our freedom to ride our OHV in town.

Thanks

Skipper and Cindy Dickson

420 N Henson St

Alexander Mulhall Town Manager (970) 944-2333 Town of Lake City PO Box 544 Lake City, CO 81235 www.townoflakecityco.gov

From:	Mitch Morgan <dividecreekranch@yahoo.com></dividecreekranch@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Thursday, September 7, 2023 12:24 PM
To:	townmanager@townoflakecity.co; Sandy Hines
Subject:	Side by side riding

My husband, myself and two friends were just in Lake City for 6 days. We were told by some other tourists that you were considering banning side by sides in town. We have been coming to Lake City a few times each summer so we could enjoy your great town and have the luxury of riding straight from our cabin or motel. It seems to me that you guys are doing it right, capitalizing on your beautiful area to boost tourism. In the past we have also enjoyed Silverton. When they banned side by sides in town we quit going there. It seems if you do the same you will lose tourists and in turn lose businesses who are supported by those tourists. I was looking online at some of your lodging sites and one of the top questions on the sites is " can I ride from my cabin?" I sincerely hope you reconsider this.

Sincerely,

Mitch Morgan Sanja Morgan Jimmy Peloquin Mindy Peloquin Breann Koschel Josh Koschel Mike Tornes Dusti Tornes

Sent from my iPhone

September 5, 2023

**Dear Sirs:** 

We hope that Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City continue to support the renewing of the CDOT OHV Program on Highway 149 which allows completion of the Alpine Loop.

We are writing to urge you to extend the route for OHV's on Highway 149 south past CR 30 to the Woodlake RV Park at M.P 69.4 and north to Ocean Drive, so we can access the only car wash in Lake City. With this extension, all Lake City businesses can benefit from this renewal. This route will allow OHV's access to the Alpine Loop without trailering. It just makes sense and OHV'ers would really appreciate it. One of the best things about Lake City is being able to ride OHV's on your city streets where we can shop in your stores, get groceries and gas, and get to accommodations. Can Lake City businesses even survive without OHV accessibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Derek & Laurie Roberson P.O. Box 425

Olton, TX 79064

drocknolton@gmail.com

#### September 5, 2023

#### **Dear Sirs:**

We hope that Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City continue to support the renewing of the CDOT OHV Program on Highway 149 which allows completion of the Alpine Loop.

We are writing to urge you to extend the route for OHV's on Highway 149 south past CR 30 to the Woodlake RV Park at M.P 69.4 and north to Ocean Drive, so we can access the only car wash in Lake City. With this extension, all Lake City businesses can benefit from this renewal. This route will allow OHV's access to the Alpine Loop without trailering. It just makes sense and OHV'ers would really appreciate it. One of the best things about Lake City is being able to ride OHV's on your city streets where we can shop in your stores, get groceries and gas, and get to accommodations. Can Lake City businesses even survive without OHV accessibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerel uller

Brian & Cindy Muller 1710 FM 1072 Fieldton, TX 79326 muller.ck@gmail.com September 5, 2023

#### Dear Sirs:

We hope that Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City continue to support the renewing of the CDOT OHV Program on Highway 149 which allows completion of the Alpine Loop.

We are writing to urge you to extend the route for OHV's on Highway 149 south past CR 30 to the Woodlake RV Park at M.P 69.4 and north to Ocean Drive, so we can access the only car wash in Lake City. With this extension, all Lake City businesses can benefit from this renewal. This route will allow OHV's access to the Alpine Loop without trailering. It just makes sense and OHV'ers would really appreciate it. One of the best things about Lake City is being able to ride OHV's on your city streets where we can shop in your stores, get groceries and gas, and get to accommodations. Can Lake City businesses even survive without OHV accessibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Robern Parkol

Scott and Pam Roberson 2651 US Hwy 70 Olton, TX 79064 roberson2651@gmail.com

From:Debbie Barber <deb@myazgc.com>Sent:Wednesday, September 6, 2023 5:52 PMTo:Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; zane.znamenacek@state.co.usSubject:Renewal of OHV Program on Highway 149

Please consider the following actions.

1. That the county and town work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on Highway 149 to allow the use of OHVs on said highway for as many years as possible (at least 3 to 5 years).

2. Extend both ends of the existing route for a short distance to get OHVs out of the neighborhoods on the north end to San Juan Springs Drive and also to allow access to the one and only car wash that is very popular for OHV use. To be clear, the Existing MP at Ocean Wave Drive is 72.9. New requested MP is 73.8 at San Juan Springs Drive. On the South end of the OHV route exiting stop point is MP 69.8 at County Road 30. The new requested stop point is MP 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park. During the summer season as many as 50 to 60 OHVs are in the campground at any one time and many of these campers have no ability to trailer the OHVs the very short distance to County Road 30.

While we are not residents of Lake City, we are annual visitors and we feel a strong connection to Lake City and the beautiful trails, historical sites, wildlife, and the businesses we frequent when we are there. We understand the short season and the impact the OHV community has on the Lake City economy so we are hopeful these changes can be implemented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark & Debbie Barber 23020 S. 182nd Street Gilbert, AZ 85298 480-226-8118

From:	Thomas Carl <tcat232@gmail.com></tcat232@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:44 AM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Off Road comments

Hinsdale County Commissioners,

I am in favor of all types of tourism in Hinsdale county. With our vast amount of public lands, 96%, we need to do everything we can to reasonably accommodate all types of recreation. The highway project is vital to keeping OHV visitors out of neighborhoods, to be open from Deer Trail to the north, even with a reduced speed limit, and to Packers Road to the south would help business and visitors alike to be able to enjoy our area.

Our tax base is small enough that to lose any forms of recreation would have an adverse affect on all of our residents and public service budgets.

Tom Carl

Date: 9-5-2023 To: Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners and The Lake City Town Council From: Arris and Glenda Slaughter Shreveport, LA. 318-393-0942 ASL049@aol.com

Subject: OHV program for Hinsdale County

My family has been coming to southwest Colorado since 1981. Over the last 15 years OHV's have been a significant part of these trips. Ten plus years ago we discovered Lake City, CO. Five years ago we began to look at properties to purchase. While we searched for a property the turmoil over the use of OHV's in Hinsdale County came to light. This opposition to OHV's led to a restriction of use of OHV's in Hinsdale County. At that time we stopped our search for property because we didn't want to invest in an area that could further restrict or ban one of the things we enjoyed about the area.

Over the years Lake City and the people we have met here have become very special to us. In December of 2020 we found a solution for extended stays in Lake City without the risks of a property purchase. We acquired a Fifth wheel. As our stays have lengthened (one month in 2021 and 4 months in 2022 and 2023) we have become more involved In the community. We go to church here and volunteer for events sponsored by the Community Presbyterian Church. We support the Lake City Arts Center and we have donated to many Lake City causes. We have been a part of the Western Enactment group, helped with the stick horse rodeo event and are volunteering at the Lake City Wine Festival. We visit local restaurants on a regular basis and purchase most of our supples (food, gas, etc.) here.

Most people with OHV's are law abiding folks that are very respectful and responsible with their machines. After careful observation we think that the <u>reduction of speed limits and</u> <u>enforcement for ALL</u> vehicles on county roads 20 and 30 and enforcement for ALL vehicles on all roads in Hinsdale County will take care of most of the complaints and problems.

We respectfully request and hope that the County Commissioners and the Town Council will work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to renew the OHV program on state highway 149 for at least 3 to 5 years. We also request and hope the existing route will be extended to the north to San Juan Springs Drive (M. P. 73.8) so that neighborhoods on the north side of Lake City have access with their OHV's and so that everyone will have access to the only car wash. We also request and hope that the southern route will be extended to allow the people staying at Woodlake RV Park have access to the approved route (new requested stop point M.P. 69.4 at Woodlake RV Park).

We respectfully request and hope that you will consider these actions and approve of them. We have talked so much about Lake City over the years that we are having numerous family members come here to visit while we are here. They eat almost all their meals at local restaurants, purchase groceries, gas and gifts and other supplies as well as rental of cabins/ houses and OHV's.

OHV's are now street legal in 22 states when properly equipped. OHV users are an essential part of the economic health of Lake City and Hinsdale County. We stopped going to Silverton when they banned OHV's. We will not stop coming to Lake City because of the many friendships that we have made here. However, our trips to Lake City will be limited to a two to three week period instead of four months if OHV's are further restricted or banned. In conclusion, Hinsdale County is at least 94% public land that WE ALL pay taxes to support ... both residents and non-residents. WE ALL should be able to use these lands. Thank you for your consideration.

Dear Hinsdale County Commissioners and CDOT Board of Directors,

I continue to oppose OHVs on State Highway 149. There will never be enough money or manpower to enforce existing laws and noise violations so the the only solution is to STOP the program.

Everyday, all day, they putz around from wherever to the Post Office or to take the "nickel tour" of the town. Most people that favor them DO NOT even live in town/National Historic District.

I cannot begin to express the distress the NOISE and TRAILER PARKING has caused. We never would have built our home here if they had been legal in 2001. It is a little too late to move and start over. You have ruined our peaceful retirement that we returned to Colorado to enjoy, CDOT.

Signed,

Kerry Coy One very dissappointed Lake City resident among many.

N
1

Sandy, please factor the following comments into the county's deliberations concerning use of OHVs throughout town, on county roads, and on Hwy 149. Lana and I, like many county taxpayers, are directly impacted in two ways which I will get to shortly. First, while we are not directly impacted, we want to join those who are to urge that measures be taken to address the noise issues on town streets.

Second, regarding the economic impact of OHVs, we appreciate the benefits that accrue to businesses, their families, and their employees. This is extremely important, especially given our size and remote location. That said, there is an economic penalty that is seldom addressed but needs to be resolved. This matter does impact Lana and I directly, as well as all county and town taxpayers. I am referring to the destruction of our roads and the cost of repairs and maintenance we must pay. As you know, I am most impacted by the damage done to CR20 — our road crew had it in excellent condition this spring, this October it is in serious need of rework. CR30 and other heavily travel roads suffer the same fate.

So, there are three dogs in this tussle: residents annoyed by noisy speeding OHVs, taxpayers who pay for their damage long after they happily return home, and the business interests that look forward to the cash they leave behind. (In my personal situation, in addition to being in the taxpayer camp, I also am annoyed by OHV noise, reckless speed, and CR20 road damage.) From my perspective, there is only one of these three dogs that are doing well,

Surely this imbalance can be remedied. Surely enforcement of speed and noise statutes or establishing them is possible. Surely some form of use fee can be collected directly or indirectly from our cherished OHV visitors.

In summary, surely there is a better balance between the pros and cons than we have seen thus far. Try harder. The stakes are too high to fail. Don & Lana Booher

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: BECKY BEEDY <beckybeedy@gmail.com> Wednesday, October 11, 2023 3:33 PM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co info@lcbusinessalliance.org State Hwy 149 OHV Program

# Dear recipients,

I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program. This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City. The access from the trails to the highway allows tourists to be able to get gas, stay or park at local lodgings, shop and eat at local restaurants. This allows Lake City to take advantage of the economic benefits that come with outdoor tourism.

We choose to vacation in Lake City due to the OHV program and without it we may not visit in the future. I also understand that OHV drivers must follow all rules and expectations to be continued to keep this privilege in Lake City. Please keep this program going.

The current boundaries of this program exclude some areas. Extending the boundaries by a short distance would include the one car wash in town, a restaurant, lodging and an RV park. New requested extensions would be at M.P. 69.4 and M.P. 73.8.

Please consider extending the Highway 149 OHV program along with the boundary extensions.

This is essential to the short season economy in Lake City. Many tourists travel to Lake City specifically for The Alpine Loop. Without the 149 extension it is not possible to complete the loop and access the town.

Lake City depends on tourism as their main source of tax revenue and can't afford to lose a large portion of our visitors. We appreciate your support and serious consideration of this important program that provides considerable revenue which provides infrastructure for not only OHV enthusiasts, but helps maintain the county for hikers, bikers, ice climbers, fisherman, hunters and nature lovers.

Respectfully, Becky Beedy

Sent from my iPad

From: Sent: To: Subject: Ann McCord Tuesday, September 19, 2023 10:49 AM Sandy Hines FW: OHV Program 2023

From: Steven Rock <sirock@att.net> Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 10:46 AM To: Ann McCord <office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us> Subject: Re: OHV Program 2023

Despite what you claim, OHVs frequently go past CR 30 on 149 to the Woodlake RV park. No enforcement occurs for these regulations!

On Sep 19, 2023, at 12:40 PM, Ann McCord <<u>office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us</u>> wrote:

[\*\*\* This email originated from outside Hinsdale County - PLEASE USE CAUTION OPENING LINKS, ATTACHMENTS OR REPLYING \*\*\* ] **Hey Folks!** 

The **OHV Program** will end **Friday, September 29, 2023!** (date correction) That is the last day of the year that OHVs will be allowed on State Highway 149.

Currently OHV's **are allowed** on State Highway 149 from the **County Road 30 intersection** south of town, to the **Ocean Wave Drive** intersection **ONLY**.

OHV's <u>are NEVER</u> allowed to travel on Hwy 149 past CR 30 to the south, or past the Lake City Bakery within the Town of Lake City.

Please message <u>office@hinsdalecountycolorado.us</u> with any suggestions or comments.

<image002.jpg>

From:	Mary Wainwright <marypw16@gmail.com></marypw16@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:33 PM
To:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; zane.znamenacek@state.co.us
Subject:	OHV / support for Hinsdale County

To: Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners

We have been coming to Lake City since 1978. We stayed one to two weeks in rental cabins for 25 years primarily at the Rocky Top, often bringing many friends and family, supporting Lake City extensively. Then we started coming in our RV continuing our tradition and our grown sons adding their families to that significant support of Lake City. We have been staying most of the summers at Woodlake RV Resort since 2012.

In 2016 we began using our off-road vehicle, which we purchased specifically for enjoying the Lake City area. As in all places we live and play, we follow the rules, speed limit, registration, and safety equipment; and are especially diligent with respect to controlling sound and road safety.

As a significant supporter of Lake City, we consider the following useful and supportive of all those living in Lake City fulltime and episodic:

- Advocate for the renewal of the OHV program with the Department of Transportation to allow OHVs to use a designated portion of Hwy 149 expanded to between Mile Point 69.8 on the south end and 73.8 on the north end
- 2. Enforce speed limits and increase limitations as needed, as well as other safety restrictions
- 3. Consider the potential impact of a noise restriction in residential and town areas

We respect and applaud the work each of you does to serve the public.

Sincerely, Dennis and Mary Wainwright

10302 Bryson Drive Temple Texas, 76502. 281-433-7014

From:	Fred Stapleton <stapleton44@live.com></stapleton44@live.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, September 20, 2023 3:30 PM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Colorado Hiway 149

To the Administrator and County Commissioners of Hinsdale, Colorado

It s our understanding the State of Colorado department of Transportation will be renewing the use of OHV's Colorado highway 149 for at least 5 to 7 years. In conjunction with the support of Hinsdale County Colorado And the Town of Lake City, Colorado, we ask you to support the continued use of OHV's for the benefit of our community.

Our home owners association (San Juan Springs Hone Owners Association) support the continued use of OHV's On Colorado Highway 149. We would also like you to support these 3 items.

Expend the use of OHV's on Colorado highway 149 to the Car Wash (Toy Wash ) North of town. Extend the use of OHV's on Colorado 'highway 149 to Wood Lake RV Campground, south of town. Permit and change the dates of the use of OHV's on Colorado Hiway 149 From May 15 to October 15. So people can enjoy our area more which would our Business owners.

Thank you for considering our support for the use of OHV's in Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City, Colorado

We the Home Owners of San Juan Springs Homeowner's Association at our annual meeting September 19, 2023 ask our President, Fred E. Stapleton, to send this letter to you all in support the OHV's and our economic. (we have 11 homeowners)

Respectfully

Fred E. Stapleton President San Juan Springs Home Owners Association Hinsdale County, Colorado P O Box 928, Lake City, Colorado 81235

Sent from Mail for Windows

September 21,2023 Joyce Stapleton PO Box 1132 Lake City, CO 81235

To the attention of: Hinsdale County Board of Commissioners and The Lake City Town Council:

I understand that you are discussing the renewal of OHV continued use of HWY 149 for the next several years. I believe extending this agreement for 5 to 7 years would be ideal. I personally support the OHV use as I feels it is critical to the financial survival of many of our local businesses.

I also would like you to consider:

- 1. Extending the current route north on HWY 149 to San Juan Springs Drive to allow a convenient way for OHV users to access the Toy Wash. You may want to consider reducing the speed limit from 40 miles per hour.
- 2. Extending the current route south on HWY 149 to Wood Lake RV Campground as many of the campers are not able to trailer their OHV's the short distance to County Road 30.
- Extend the dates of these changes on HWY 149 from May 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. This would help business owners to extend their prime season and allow OHV users to enjoy our fall colors.
- 4. I also recommend you give your full support to our local sheriff's department and park rangers in more actively enforcing the speed limits and proper OHV usage, such as helmets, only allow number of passengers that OHV is licensed for, no children on adult laps, etc. Just giving warnings has not been as effective as I would have thought.

I appreciate your seriously considering these recommendations that, in my opinion, would be in the best interest of our town and county.

Sincerely, Joyce Stapleton - A concerned citizen. administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us townmanager@townoflakec:ty.co zane.znamenacek@state.co.us

September, 2023

Dear Sirs:

We hope that Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City continue to support the renewing of the CDOT OHV Program on Highway 149 which allows completion of the Alpine Loop.

We are writing to urge you to extend the route for OHV's on Highway 149 south past CR 30 to the Woodlake RV Park at M.P 69.4 and north to Ocean Drive, so we can access the only car wash in Lake City. With this extension, all Lake City businesses can benefit from this renewal. This route will allow OHV's access to the Alpine Loop without trailering. It just makes sense and OHV'ers would really appreciate it. One of the best things about Lake City is being able to ride OHV's on your city streets where we can shop in your stores, get groceries and gas, and get to accommodations. Can Lake City businesses even survive without OHV accessibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us

townmanager@townoflakecity.co

zane.znamenacek@state.co.us

September, 2023

**Dear Sirs:** 

We hope that Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City continue to support the renewing of the CDOT OHV Program on Highway 149 which allows completion of the Alpine Loop.

We are writing to urge you to extend the route for OHV's on Highway 149 south past CR 30 to the Woodlake RV Park at M.P 69.4 and north to Ocean Drive, so we can access the only car wash in Lake City. With this extension, all Lake City businesses can benefit from this renewal. This route will allow OHV's access to the Alpine Loop without trailering. It just makes sense and OHV'ers would really appreciate it. One of the best things about Lake City is being able to ride OHV's on your city streets where we can shop in your stores, get groceries and gas, and get to accommodations. Can Lake City businesses even survive without OHV accessibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Robin Spain Roll US Hury. 70 OLTON TX 79001 robin. spaine Outlook. com

#### To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I have been living year-round in Lake City since 2015. Prior to moving to Lake City, we lived in Gunnison but visited and recreated in Lake City frequently. We have grown our family and are raising our 4 kids here, run 3 local businesses, live here year-round, and consider this our home. In the 8 years we have lived here, I have watched the OHV issue come up over and over again. While I see and understand both sides of the issue, I think the biggest issue is the economy of Lake City. One of our businesses is property management, where we own and manage short term rental properties, several of which are on the same property where we live. Needless to say, I come into contact and speak with hundreds of diverse people and tourists throughout the year. I know that the majority of our renters bring OHVs and love that in Lake City you can ride them from our properties to access the loop. Many of them have been coming for 30+ years and have seen the changes in Lake City over those years. They are so thrilled when they can drive the entire loop and connect both sides via the OHV highway program. Most have stopped going to Silverton altogether because they see Lake City as OHV friendly and wanting their business, and they would rather give their business to Lake City now. Many of our renters used to stay in Silverton but are now staying in Lake City each year because Lake City has made it a priority to access the loop, businesses, gas stations, restaurants and shopping on their OHVs.

I am writing this letter in support of the OHV highway program because I am in support of Lake City tourism and economy. I see that OHVs are a large part of Lake City economy and affect so many aspects of our town. We also own and run a fishing and hunting outfitting business so we have a lot of contact with several types of outdoor enthusiasts. Many times, we are booking guided fishing trips to people/families that came to town with the main purpose to ride their OHVs, but then also look for other activities to do. By them booking guided trips and activities, they are bringing revenue to other types of businesses as well.

I believe that renewing the highway program is a smart choice for Lake City and keeping small businesses running. And with renewing this program, there is a proposed extension would include the one car wash in town, a restaurant, lodging and an RV park. New requested extensions would be at M.P. 69.4 and M.P. 73.8. This extension would keep the majority of the OHV traffic to the main highway and allow access to places like the car wash which is a sought-after business to frequent.

Lake City has a short season each year for businesses to earn their years' worth of income. The Alpine Loop is the reason that a lot of tourists come to Lake City and utilize it for various purposes. Lake City also has a unique opportunity to continue connecting the loop to make it easier to access and allowing people of all walks of life to enjoy the scenery and everything it has to offer. Without the OHV Highway program, it is not possible to connect the Loop and access many of the businesses in town. Lake City depends on tourism as the main source of revenue and I believe that losing the OHV highway program would be devastating to our tourism. Yes, we would still have some visitors that would keep vacationing in Lake City. But if we lost a large portion of our visitors, many of our small businesses would not survive that hit.

We appreciate your consideration and continued support of our livelihoods, town economy and way of life.

Sincerely,

Seth and Aimee Withrow

Owners of Rocky Top Vacation Home Rentals, Alpine Outfitters (fishing and hunting guiding), and Withrow Inc Drywall business

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

chris mcgregor <cmgrgr@yahoo.com> Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:45 AM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co 149 program

TO: administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us, townmanager@townoflakecity.co

BCC: info@lcbusinessalliance.org

Dear Hinsdale County Commissioners and Town of Lake City Board of Trustees,

I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program.

This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHV's provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fisherman, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County is negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

I would like the following considerations to be seriously considered:

- Extend the program for 5 years, from 2024 through 2028 before reconsideration.
- Extend the program boundaries to be inclusive of more of the Lake City area. Those would be at M.P. 69.4 and M.P. 73.8.
- Extend the time frame of the program from mid-May to mid-October to allow the community to collect even more tax revenues from the increased traffic.

Renewal of the program is essential to the short season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much needed) benefit to the community.

I vacation in the area because of the OHV Program and very much want to see it continued.

Thank you.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From:Leon Little <box1805@gmail.com>Sent:Friday, October 6, 2023 5:01 PMTo:townmanager@townoflakecity.coCc:Sandy HinesSubject:Ohv in lake city are ruining the town

I was a regular visitor, but have not been there since the ohv invasion.

It has ruined what i liked best about the town..nature and peacefness.

It is like bringing the worst part of the big city to the outdoors.

I am headed elsewhere for my next vacation.

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Mike Smith <mike@mchmail.com> Saturday, October 7, 2023 8:12 AM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co info@lcbusinessalliance.org OHV

Dear Hinsdale County Commissioners and Town of Lake City Board of Trustees,

I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program.

This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHVs provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fishermen, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County will be negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

I would like the following considerations to be seriously considered:

- Extend the program for 5 years, from 2024 through 2028 before reconsideration.
- Extend the program boundaries to be inclusive of more of the Lake City area. Those would be at M.P. 69.4 and M.P. 73.8.
- Extend the time frame of the program from mid-May to mid-October to allow the community to collect even more tax revenues from the increased traffic.

Renewal of the program is essential to the short-season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much-needed) benefits to the community.

I vacation in the area because of the OHV Program and very much want to see it continued.

Thank you.

Mike

From:	John Neudorf <horizon.jn@gmail.com></horizon.jn@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, October 7, 2023 9:04 AM
To:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Highway 149 OHV program.

Hello,

My name is John Neudorf,

I have been coming to Lake City for 9 years now, my extended family and mainly my father in law has been coming for 40+ years.

We mostly spend time on the rivers and lakes fishing etc.

I would most definitely want Lake City Business to thrive and we have been grateful for them and their service.

The few things that I have experienced with the OHV drivers in town, on the street, on 149 and on CR 30;

1- stopping in the road ways and not pulling aside to allow others to pass,

2- OHV driving over speed limits and also Far under the speed limits ,

My opinion the best "traffic flow" is driving the posted speed limits.

3- I have Been completely Blinded by large LED light bars on OHVs , Which in my opinion if they are on your public roads it is extremely inconsiderate at the least by that individual.

4- many OHVs have high performance exhaust which when over accelerated they are extremely loud. That said,

I do understand Lake City's limited resources and that not all things can be monitored and enforced.

I wonder though if a "Listed Guideline" could be implemented in some way ?,

This and I believe common courtesy would allow OHV enthusiast, other yearly vacationers like us, And most importantly the local residents all enjoy Lake City together and continue this for years to come.

I believe I would gladly sign the Highway 149 OHV program. if I could get some opinions and/or thoughts and comments about the things I listed

Thank you

John

From:	John Neudorf <horizon.jn@gmail.com></horizon.jn@gmail.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, October 10, 2023 11:19 AM
То:	Sandy Hines
Subject:	Re: Highway 149 OHV program.

Also

Forgot to mention my wife's biggest concern and that is some of the OHV riders who do not respect preservation of nature on the passes,

Again,

I understand this is Hard to monitor and police

On Tue, Oct 10, 2023 at 12:07 PM Sandy Hines <a href="mailto:administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us">administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us</a> wrote:

[\*\*\* This email originated from outside Hinsdale County - PLEASE USE CAUTION OPENING LINKS, ATTACHMENTS OR REPLYING \*\*\* ]

Thank you John

Your email will be provided to the county commissioners, town trustees and CDOT.

# Sandy Hines

**Hinsdale County Administrator** 

**Public Information Officer** 

970-944-2225

From: John Neudorf <<u>horizon.jn@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Saturday, October 7, 2023 9:04 AM To: Sandy Hines <<u>administrator@hinsdalecountycolorado.us</u>> Subject: Highway 149 OHV program.

Hello,

My name is John Neudorf,

From:	Don DeLoach <ddeloach@comcast.net></ddeloach@comcast.net>
Sent:	Saturday, October 7, 2023 2:43 PM
To:	Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co; info@lcbusinessalliance.org
Subject:	Our Fragile Tourism Economy

Dear County Commissioners and Lake City Board of Trustees,

As a property owner in Lake City and seasonal resident since 2015, I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program.

This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHVs provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fishermen, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County will be negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

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Renewal of the program is essential to the short-season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much-needed) benefits to the community.

Very truly Yours,

Don DeLoach 105 Sleeping Ute Way Lake City, CO 81235

From: Sent: To: Subject: Steve Tait <Steve.Tait@blpipeco.com> Sunday, October 8, 2023 10:19 AM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co Support the State Hwy 149 OHV Program Renewal

Dear Hinsdale County Commissioners and Town of Lake City Board of Trustees,

As a real estate owner in Lake City, I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program.

This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHVs provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fishermen, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County will be negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

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Renewal of the program is essential to the short-season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much-needed) benefits to the community.

In addition to owning rental properties in lake City I also vacation in the area because of the OHV Program and very much want to see it continued.

Thank you.

Steve Tait

Steve Tait President &CEO



Steve Tait President & CEO



Main: 281-955-3500 Steve.Tait@blpipeco.com www.blpipeco.com



2

From: Sent: To: Subject: William Graham <wgraham@windward.vi> Monday, October 9, 2023 10:07 AM Sandy Hines; townmanager@townoflakecity.co OHV Program

I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program. This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHVs provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fishermen, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County will be negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

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Renewal of the program is essential to the short-season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much-needed) benefits to the community.

Thank you.

Wm. Graham, G&M Cabins Owner

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Katie Nelson <katienelson.kmn@gmail.com> Monday, October 9, 2023 12:34 PM townmanager@townoflakecity.co; Sandy Hines Support the State Hwy 149 OHV Program Renewal</katienelson.kmn@gmail.com>
	Dear Hinsdale County Commissioners and Town of Lake City Board of Trustees,
	I am writing in support of continuing the Highway 149 OHV program.
	This program has provided numerous and diverse opportunities for OHV enthusiasts to explore the town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHV's provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism including bikers, bikers, fisherman, bunters

town of Lake City and surrounding areas including the Alpine Loop. OHV's provide the largest portion of sales tax dollars to the area and therefore OHV's provide economic support for the continued maintenance of infrastructure that supports all tourism, including hikers, bikers, fisherman, hunters, ice-climbers, snow-mobilers, back-count skiers, star-gazers and nature enthusiasts. No other tourism group draws the numbers and associated tax revenue to support such a diverse set of mountain and area users. Therefore, if the OHV program is halted, all tourism in Hinsdale County is negatively impacted, not to mention the livelihood of small business owners and residents in the County.

I personally have so many memories of weekends camping up in Lake City and being able to ride around and get to the Alpine Loop for day use. I adore this town and would hate to lose that opportunity!

I would like the following considerations to be seriously considered:

- Extend the program for 5 years, from 2024 through 2028 before reconsideration.
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Renewal of the program is essential to the short season economy in Lake City. Including the additional requested extensions in the renewal will provide even more (much needed) benefit to the community.

I vacation in the area because of the OHV Program and very much want to see it continued.

Thank you. Katie Nelson

From: Sent: To: Subject: hrduchene@gmail.com Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:08 AM Sandy Hines renewal of OHV program

October 10, 2023

Dear Commissioners.

Please do not renew the OHV program. To my knowledge, Lake City is the only town in the San Juans that allows OHVs in town. While most OHV drivers are courteous and considerate, the vehicles they drive are noisy. Some OHV drivers are not courteous, a fact that I have personally encountered in town and on the Alpine Loop. The noise that these four wheeled "motorcycles" bring to the Town of Lake City and to the area adjacent to the Alpine Loop is offensive. Having been an off-road motorcycle rider in my youth, I know that part of the off-road experience is driving a vehicle that makes a lot of noise. I have seen vehicles in Lake City with bumper stickers extolling the "virtues" of driving a loud vehicle. This is diametrically opposed to one of the reasons I moved to Lake City 20 years ago. I came here because of the beauty, tranquility, and quality of life. Tranquility and quality of life have been seriously compromised with the influx of noisy OHVs. In fact, during the summer months I no longer drive the Alpine Loop and only reluctantly go into town. I used to enjoy eating in the restaurants, but I rarely do that now because of the OHV crowd and their noisy vehicles.

I am aware that an organization calling itself the Lake City Business Alliance has been formed to advocate for renewal of the OHV program. Please look closely at the makeup of this alliance. Many of the businesses rent OHVs or profit directly from their presence. They are interested in profiting at the expense of people who live here or retired to this town and county because they desired peace and quiet.

Please be advised that I will not vote for a county commissioner who votes for renewal of the OHV program.

Respectfully, Harvey DuChene 2333 San Juan Drive Lake City, CO 81235

From: Sent: To: Subject: Kristie Borchers Tuesday, October 10, 2023 12:25 PM Sandy Hines Fw: If I were designated the Queen of Compromise regarding OHV

Kristie Borchers Hinsdale County Commissioner PO Box 277 Lake City, CO 81235 district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us 970-596-9071



From: vivajeanashcroft@gmail.com <vivajeanashcroft@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 4:36 PM To: Kristie Borchers <district2@hinsdalecountycolorado.us>; district1@hinsdalecountycommissioners.gov <district1@hinsdalecountycommissioners.gov>; district3@hinsdalecountycommissioners.gov <district3@hinsdalecountycommissioners.gov> Subject: If I were designated the Queen of Compromise regarding OHV

I hate this but if I were required for some reason to draft a compromise, it would look like this which I have drafted understanding that further enforcement, restricting hours, stricter noise ordinances, lower speed limits are just not realistically going to be an option. Compromise:

- 1. Open Hwy 149 to OHVs for two months. Probably July and August. (People cope with limited weeks and date changes of certain types of hunting, they can cope with limited weeks and other changes of OHV highway use.)
- 2. Expand the route as desired. Safety would become a big concern if the route goes up to the pass to the south, I would think. Can our EMS handle some additional highway crashes?
- 3. The town and county to make sure that IMMEDIATELY significant marketing funds get allocated to pursuing the quiet user for this upcoming season. Are there any unused funds in the lodging tax or funds that could be reallocated.? Could the county/town loan the marketing committee funds that could be immediately deployed? Negotiate with vendors for delayed payment?
- 4. The town and county to jointly and openly pursue, in conjunction with the various federal agencies, to begin the process of limiting ALL traffic on the loop by creating and enforcing whatever system it takes....lottery, reservations, fees. (The Alpine Loop has only a few entrance points which could be manned or unmanned with electronic monitoring or just heavy fines for violations. Note the Grand Canyon which is over 300 miles long has numerous entry points and yet a permit is required to CAMP in it; in Sedona you have to have a FS permit to pull over to the side of the state highway! It can be done. And while it may not be necessary this minute, these things can take years to implement so it needs to be pursued now. Also, to quote my friend Dan Milski if you don't lead this effort someone else will and you will lose a lot of control.)

5. A commitment that testimony by county/town officials to the Colo. Dept. of Transportation is to be undertaken by AT LEAST two representatives and not delegated to one. (It is interesting to note that OHV traffic on Ocean Wave- Black Bear Hill consists of maybe 20 or 50 OHVs per day--affecting a few dozen people; Hwy 149, per Alpine Outdoor Assoc., gets 20-50 OHVs PER HOUR--affecting hundreds of people.)

Commissioners, I do appreciate what you do and I am sorry this is such a thorny problem. I am writing this while hoping like heck that the Hwy 149 pilot program is not renewed at all. Know that I speak only for myself and that I still despise what the OHVs have done to the town and the Alpine Loop. I have no idea if anyone has even ever even submitted a compromise plan but thought I would try for it all the while thinking it might just be too late for compromising.

Respectfully,

Viva Ashcroft Citizen, taxpayer and voter.

PS: You can add me to the count of people who had a MadMax experience out on the loop. That would be THREE of them over about 10 hours. Does ANYONE come off the loop and say the driving was all so calm out there? Always there is inept driving but lack of calm is the order of most days I suspect.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Harry MacKendrick <dhmackendrick@gmail.com> Tuesday, October 10, 2023 12:28 PM Kristie Borchers; Sandy Hines Pilot Program Abuse IMG\_4986.mov

For your records

Sent from my iPhone