Use of Off-Highway Vehicles within State Highway Rights-of-Way  
UDOT 06C-12  
Effective: October 6, 2005  
Revised: January 25, 2017

**Purpose**

To establish authorization, approval, and use of Off-Highway Vehicles within State Highway Right-of-Way and for the protection of Utah Department of Transportation (Department) Right-of-Way.

**Policy**

All State highway right-of-way, paved and otherwise, will be closed to the use of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) unless designated as an OHV route by the Department or allowed by Utah Code. A designated OHV route allows for the operation of OHV within the State highway right-of-way including paved or unpaved travel lanes and shoulders.

Approved OHV routes will be posted with highway and right-of-way signing designating the route within the right-of-way. OHV designation signs will be placed at the beginning and end of the designated route and at intermediate intervals if other public roads or trails intersect the State right-of-way.

Requests for designation of a portion of a State highway right-of-way as an OHV route will be submitted to the Region Director. Submittals include a detailed plan including a route map.

**OHV Use within State Right-of-way and on Paved or Unpaved Travel Lanes and Shoulders**

OHV are not permitted on the roadway portion of the State highway right-of-way including paved and unpaved travel lanes and shoulders unless allowed by Utah Code. An exception may be considered only if the request complies with the criteria listed below.

1. The proposed OHV route provides the only available connectivity between public trails or roads and established public recreational facilities.

2. The proposed route does not adversely impact the safety of the Highway System.

3. The proposed route will not create a drainage, erosion, or vegetation problem.

4. The route is part of an approved and adopted plan from a municipality or county.
5. The State roadway has a Department published AADT of less than 1,500 vehicles and truck volume of less than 12 percent single unit and 15 percent combo units excluding recreational vehicles.

Exceptions for OHV use on paved travel lanes and shoulders may be approved with review of the Region Traffic Operations Engineer and approval from the Department Engineer for Traffic and Safety for roadways with Department published AADT greater than 1,500 vehicles but less than 3,500 vehicles.

Exceptions will not be approved for OHV use on paved travel lanes and shoulders for roadways with Department published AADT greater than 3,500 vehicles.

Background

The following Utah Code sections apply to this policy:

Chapter 7, Title 72, Protection of Highways
72-7-301, Liability for damage to highway...
72-7-302, Damage to signs, warnings, or barriers – Penalty
Chapter 22, Title 41, Off-Highway Vehicles
41-22-5.5, Off-highway husbandry vehicles
41-22-10.1, Vehicles operated on posted lands
41-22-10.2, Off-highway vehicles – prohibited on interstate freeways
41-22-10.3, Operation of vehicles on highways – limits
41-22-10.5, Local ordinances – Designating routes – Supervision
Chapter 6a, Title 41, Traffic Code
41-6a-1509, Street legal all-terrain vehicle...
Procedures
Signing for Off Highway Vehicles

Responsibility: Region Director

Action
1. Receive Local jurisdiction request.
2. Request approval and TEO (06C-5) from Division of Traffic and Safety if request is justified.
3. Submit supporting documentation identified in Policy 06C-12.

Responsibility: Engineer for Traffic and Safety

4. Review and approve jurisdictional request
5. Issue TEO according to Policy 06C-5

Responsibility: Region Director

6. Inform local jurisdiction
7. Inform local law enforcement
8. Implement TEO according to Policy 06C-5
9. Return documents to Division of Traffic and Safety