

Mr. Brennan - I would like to offer additional comments to this measure, outlining use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) aka Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) on Oregon State highways in rural communities. I noted that certain points in my original comments were included in the Measure summary but I feel that clarification is needed to better define my suggestions on ATV use within these rural communities:

Given the advent of current large and modernized enclosed models of ATVs/OHVs, they differ little from highway legal vehicles. The smaller models are secondary only in being open topped and more maneuverable, but with the same safety equipment. My concern on open highway use is governed by areas of 55 mph speed limit. Operating these open topped vehicles at that speed could be unsafe under certain conditions (visibility, et al). **State highways (395 and 26) that occur within the city limits** of rural communities such as John Day, Canyon City, Dayville, Seneca, Mt. Vernon, Prairie City, Long Creek, etc., have restricted speed limits that can safely accommodate ATV/OHV speed varying from 20 to 35 mph. All cities and county roads within Grant County are open to ATV/OHV use. To my knowledge, only Highway 395 connecting John Day and Canyon City has a speed limit of 35 mph and the towns share a common city limit line. Other towns do not have this situation and the distance between towns is in excess of 10-13 miles with 55 mph speed limits. The individuals operating ATVs/OHVs for ranching and farming purposes outside of city limits typically stay to the shoulder of the road for short distances and that use has been long established and ignored by local law enforcement officers. Other vehicles that utilize our area highways are rubber tired loaders, graders, farm tractors, and numerous other types of equipment. Grant County is unique in many ways, but I am sure other rural communities can lay claim to similar conditions.

I feel it is important to use both ATV and OHV terminology in the presentation of this measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bob and Judy Kerr  
Canyon City, OR