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California State Parks
Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division
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ATTN: Katie Metraux

Submitted by email: Planning@parks.ca.gov

For over 53 years, the California Off-Road Vehicle Association, CORVA, has advocated to preserve, promote and protect off-road and motorized recreation opportunities throughout the state of California. We represent thousands of enthusiasts who use off-highway and street legal 4-wheel drive vehicles to enjoy their favorite activities. Our members use California's State Vehicular Recreation Areas and depend on the well-managed system of roads, trails and areas offered in these parks to enjoy motorized recreation.

CORVA has been involved with Carnegie SVRA planning efforts and has participated in Carnegie Team Advisory meetings since their inception. The staff of Carnegie SVRA has done an excellent job of listening and being responsive to requests and ideas from park enthusiasts, which is evident in the Draft General Plan.

The proximity of Carnegie to the greater Bay Area makes it a critically important park for motorcycles and ATV enthusiasts. Considering the loss of the Alameda-Tesla area and its previously intended use to expand opportunities for off-road recreation in Carnegie SVRA, it is incumbent on the proposed general plan to improve and enhance existing uses to the extent possible. In large part, the plan fulfills this mission. As stated in 4.3.1.2 of the proposed General Plan, one of the goals of the analysis is to; "Improve and/or expand visitor recreational experience areas and amenities." Everything proposed in the general plan following that initial statement looks to accomplish that goal. We appreciate the diligence in the plan and offer the following comments.

 The proposed group campsite is a great idea that has been successfully utilized and enjoyed at other SVRA's. The only caveat to the proposal is the idea of water and electric hookups. Because there are other facilities and restrooms available in Carnegie SVRA, we do not recommend or see a need for full hookups. Off-roaders are well acquainted with the concept of dry camping and enjoy the rustic atmosphere this allows.



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- 2. The same applies to other camping areas that are proposed for the park. CORVA wants to ensure that camping is available for families enjoying activities at Carnegie SVRA, and for off-road enthusiasts. A campsite with full hookups would be attractive to campers from outside the park, who could reserve all the camping sites in advance, blocking the availability for the off-roading public. The other proposed changes, including accommodating larger toy haulers and motorhomes, and adding an RV dump station are welcome.
- 3. CORVA also supports the relocation of the concession store to a more appropriate location that could serve the visitors to Carnegie SVRA in addition to visitors to the yet-to-be-determined park that will be created in the former Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area. The proposed changes would enhance the conditions for the concessionaire.
- 4. The proposed rehabilitation of Waterfall Canyon can be beneficial; however, the state must be aware of the inappropriateness of using the OHV Trust Fund for expenses related to non-motorized forms of recreation. Access to non-motorized forms of recreation is part of the mission statement of the OHMVR Division. However, opportunities including trail and obstacle building solely for the use of mountain bikes and e-bikes do not fall into allowable expenses from the fund.
- 5. Having just commented on the Prairie City Road and Trails Management Plan, and experiencing the extensive outreach that park undertook as part of the process, CORVA can endorse the idea that all SVRA's in the state go through that analysis. This type of planning can more closely meet enthusiasts' wants and needs in a very site-specific capacity and go into more details than a General Plan.

CORVA appreciates how the remainder of the proposals in the draft General Plan are designed to enhance and improve the riding experience in the park and restore availability to trails and areas previously closed. Equally important is managing the park in accordance with the environmental criteria specified in SB 249, and making sure Carnegie is a stand-out example of an environmentally sustainable park that hosts off-road recreation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of CORVA,

Amy Granat

Managing Director