

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5508-01  
Bill No.: HB 2047  
Subject: Parks and Recreation; Natural Resources, Department of; Motor Vehicles  
Type: Original  
Date: February 8, 2016

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Bill Summary: This proposal allows certain individuals to use all-terrain vehicles and golf carts on the Katy Trail on certain days.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
State Parks Earnings Fund	(\$293,947)	(\$234,935)	(\$237,632)
State Parks Sales Tax Fund	\$0	(Unknown)	(Unknown)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>(\$293,947)</b>	<b>(Unknown to \$234,935)</b>	<b>(Unknown to \$237,632)</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 8 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
DNR State Parks Earnings Fund	4 FTE	4 FTE	4 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>

☒ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** assume this proposal would have a negative fiscal impact on their organization.

This proposal would allow for the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and golf carts at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less by individuals who are disabled or 55 years of age or older on the Katy Trail on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Currently the Department of Natural Resources - Division of State Parks (DSP) allows electric golf carts on the Katy Trail for people with mobility disabilities. The use of the electric golf cart is very minimal at this time and no redesign of the squeeze gates had to be made since the electric golf carts are typically 48" wide which is the width of the current squeeze gates.

The existing width of the trail is not sufficient for two ATV/golf carts to pass each other on the trail safely. Therefore, the trail width would have to be increased to over 14' wide, including shoulders, to accommodate two-way traffic. So the cost for a new base, ballast and surface, if contracted out, would be about \$168,000 per mile for the 240 miles. This does not include what it would cost to modify our bridge decks. The cost to modify the bridge decks is unknown at this time and is not included in the fiscal estimates. The expense of the redesign and construction work is spread over the first three years of the fiscal note to accommodate design work, estimated to be \$5 million, in the first fiscal year and construction during the following two fiscal years.

After the trail is rebuilt to accommodate ATV/golf cart use, the increased annual maintenance costs would be about \$100 per mile. This would begin after construction of any mile is completed; therefore the cost for the annual maintenance begins during Fiscal Year 2018.

The Katy Trail has roughly 50 squeeze gates that are in place to keep unauthorized vehicles off the trail. DSP would also need to redesign the squeeze gates to allow ATV's and golf carts passage. DSP estimates 50 gates that would need to be redesigned and installed at an estimated \$1,000 per gate.

DSP would also need to install new signs along the Katy Trail State Park to ensure they meet highway standards to be break-away signs. Further study would be needed to determine the exact number of signs that would require updating. DSP currently estimates the sign replacement to be \$50,000.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

The DSP manages the Katy Trails' 240 miles by sectioning it into four managerial units. Based on the proposed legislation the department would request the equivalent of one additional Maintenance Worker II (Park and Historic Site) per management unit, or 4 FTE. (NOTE: The Maintenance Worker II (Park and Historic Site) was approved by the Personnel Advisory Board on the January 12 meeting at a range 15, which replaces the previous Park Maintenance Worker II position). DSP would also need one additional Park Ranger per management unit, or 4 FTE, to assist with the monitoring of the Katy Trail to ensure the ATV's and golf carts are being used on appropriate days and by appropriate drivers. Each Park Ranger will need to be outfitted with a dedicated equipped police vehicle (includes gun rack, light bars, radar, antenna, hitch, etc.) as well as the necessary communication equipment inside the car and a car computer. The additional Maintenance Worker II (Park and Historic Site) would not need standard office equipment set-up. However, DSP anticipates these Maintenance Workers would need small tools such as shovels, picks, chalk lines, personal protective equipment, string trimmers, back-pack blowers and other miscellaneous equipment. Both the Park Rangers and the Maintenance Workers would require both initial uniform installments as well as annual uniform replacements.

Neither the State Parks Sales Tax Fund nor Earnings Fund has sufficient cash balances to cover these additional operating and construction costs. Therefore, DSP assumes General Revenue Fund would be requested for these additional costs resulting from this proposal.

DNR provided this additional information:

Missouri State Parks (MSP) is aware of instances where visitors have accessed the trail using motorized transportation for accessibility purpose; these instances are extremely isolated.

MSP currently has four (4) park rangers assigned in the areas of the Katy Trail. These rangers patrol their assigned state parks and responsible sections of the Katy Trail. They monitor the Katy Trail corridor via bicycles as well as their cruisers by opening access gates. Access gates are in place to prohibit the use of full size vehicles by visitors. However, park rangers have the ability to open the access gates to monitor the Katy Trail corridor and respond to emergency situations.

If ATV's and golf carts are allowed on the trail for recreational purposes. The additional four (4) rangers would be needed to ensure the safety of all visitors on the trail and enforce the law as proposed.

**ASSUMPTION** (continued)

Current average wide of the Katy trail is between 8 to 10 feet. Based on this proposal the trail would have to be widen to 14 feet including shoulders.

**Oversight** would like to note the following balances in the DNR State Parks Earnings Fund and State Parks Sales Tax Fund for the fiscal years listed in the table below:

<b>DNR State Parks</b>	<b>FY13</b>	<b>FY14</b>	<b>FY15</b>
0415 Earnings Fund	\$32,827,173.86	\$33,437,664.26	\$38,264,215.46
0613 Sales Tax Fund	\$19,462,132.95	\$17,510,740.12	\$19,538,529.76
<b>Combined Balance of these Funds (0415 &amp; 0613) as of June 30, 2015</b>			<b>\$57,802,745.22</b>

**Oversight** would like to note that the width of ATV's or utility vehicles range from 52.6 to 60 inches based on the three models shown in the following table. If two of these vehicles were to pass (meet side by side) on the trail the combined width would be 120 inches or 10 feet (based on the John Deere model) without taking into consideration allowing for space in between them. If they were to allow a reasonable safe distance between them of 3 feet or 36 inches to pass each other on the trail, this would now require 156 inches of width or 13 feet. The proposed redesign is to make the Katy Trail 14 feet or 168 inches including the shoulders; this would only allow 6 inches of shoulder on each side for two John Deere ATV's to pass each other.

<b>All Terrain/Utility Vehicles</b>			
<b>Model</b>	<b>Kubota RTV500</b>	<b>John Deere Gator TX 4 x 2</b>	<b>Kawasaki Mule 610 4 x 4</b>
Width in Inches	54.7	60	52.6
<b>Per MSP - The width of the Katy Trail after redesign would be 14 feet or 168 inches</b>			

**Oversight** will show a fiscal impact in this note that allows for the addition of four maintenance workers and other expenses related to these additional personnel.

**Oversight** will show a fiscal impact for new squeeze gate, breakaway signs, and continued maintenance of the trail for FY 17 through FY19.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

**Oversight** will show a \$0 impact in FY17 for the Katy Trail expansion and redesign based on the balance in the State Parks Earnings Fund and State Parks Sales Tax Fund. Oversight will show an unknown fiscal impact in FY18 and FY19 for the expansion and redesign of the Katy Trail.

State Parks Earnings Fund as of 6/30/15	\$38,264,215.46
State Parks Sales Tax Fund as of 6/30/15	\$19,538,529.76
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$57,802,745.22</b>
FY17 Expansion and Redesign	(\$5,000,000)
FY18 Expansion and Redesign	(Unknown)
FY19 Expansion and Redesign	(Unknown)
<b>Balance after Expansion and Redesign</b>	<b>\$52,802,745.22</b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>STATE PARKS SALES TAX FUND</b>			
<u>Transfer Out - State Parks Earnings Fund</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE PARKS SALES TAX FUND</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>(Unknown)</u></b>	<b><u>(Unknown)</u></b>
<b>STATE PARKS EARNINGS FUND</b>			
<u>Transfer In - State Parks Sales Tax Fund</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
<u>Costs - State Parks Earning Fund</u>			
Personnel Services - 4 Maintenance Workers	(\$93,680)	(\$113,540)	(\$114,676)
Fringe Benefits	(\$59,233)	(\$71,387)	(\$71,697)
Annual Uniform Replacement - 4 total	(\$1,500)	(\$1,845)	(\$1,891)
Squeeze gates - 50	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0
Signs - Breakaway	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0
Data Processing and Office Equipment	(\$8,376)	\$0	\$0
Maintenance Equipment and Small Tools	(\$12,000)	\$0	\$0
Other Expenses	(\$19,158)	(\$23,563)	(\$24,153)
Annual Trail Maintenance - 240 miles	\$0	(\$24,600)	(\$25,215)
Trail and Expansion and Redesign	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>	<u>(Unknown)</u>
<u>Total Cost - State Parks Earnings Fund</u>	<b><u>(\$293,947)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$234,935)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$237,632)</u></b>
 FTE Change - DNR	 4 FTE	 4 FTE	 4 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE PARKS EARNINGS FUND</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>NET FTE CHANGE ON STATE PARKS EARNINGS FUND</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>	<b>4 FTE</b>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

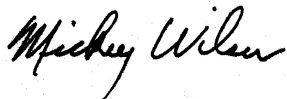
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill allows for the use of all-terrain vehicles and golf carts at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less by individuals who are disabled or 55 years of age or older on the Katy Trail on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Natural Resources



Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
February 8, 2016

Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
February 8, 2016