

Proposal:**HOV Lane Access For Electric Vehicles****Submission Relevant To:**

Rachel Anne Notley, Premier of Alberta
Sara Marjorie Hoffman, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health
Brian Mason, Minister of Transportation / Minister of Infrastructure
David Manson Eggen, Minister of Education
Deron Bilous, Minister of Economic Development and Trade
Joseph Anthony Ceci, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
Danielle Marie Larivee, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Margaret Ellen McCuaig-Boyd, Minister of Energy
Christina Gray, Minister of Labour
Marlin Robert Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education
Brandy Lynn Payne, Associate Minister of Health
David Wheeler, Chair of Alberta Energy Efficiency Panel

Situation:

Electric Vehicle adoption can be increased with simple stimulants like incentives. Small perceived advantages as rewards for transitioning to electric vehicles can go far with motivating the average consumer.

Problem:

Initial price of a product is usually the perceived cost even over long-term savings of a higher priced item.

Motivation to move to a better technology may be hampered unless incentives are given to migrate.

Key Analysis:

Other provinces such as Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia offer incentives which have increased the adoption rate of electric vehicles. One of these incentives is the allowance of EVs to travel in HOV lanes regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicle.

For the consumer, the ability to drive in HOV lanes equates to a reward for making an environmentally friendly choice by having a perceived easier commute.

Recommendation:

Legislation changes should be made to allow for EVs to travel in HOV lanes regardless of the number of passengers.

Justification:

The implementation of these suggested changes will offer an increase the adoption of electric vehicle

ownership.

EV Ownership and use will lower greenhouse gas emissions (by potentially 23% using 2015 statistics) and cut noise pollution which will reduce healthcare costs.

Infrastructure development will create jobs for skilled Alberta workers stimulating the economy.

The demand for skilled labour will stimulate post-secondary education within the province.

Potential Funding:

As this is a legislation change for allowing electric vehicles in HOV lanes, the cost of implementation would be low.

Reference:

Electric Vehicle Adoption Proposal In Alberta – Terms of Reference – Version C1.0