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(54) **DEPLOYABLE ROCKER PANEL**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A vehicle with a deployable rocker panel is provided. The vehicle includes a vehicle frame having a door frame and at least one door panel enclosing the door frame. A rocker panel is mounted adjacent a bottom of the vehicle door frame to provide support to the vehicle in the longitudinal direction. A linear drive assembly is coupled to the rocker panel to move the rocker panel between a stowed position and a deployed position. The linear drive assembly moves the rocker panel substantially along one plane. The linear drive assembly moves the rocker panel to the deployed position when the door panel is opened so that a top surface of the rocker panel is exposed as a step for passenger ingress and egress.

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