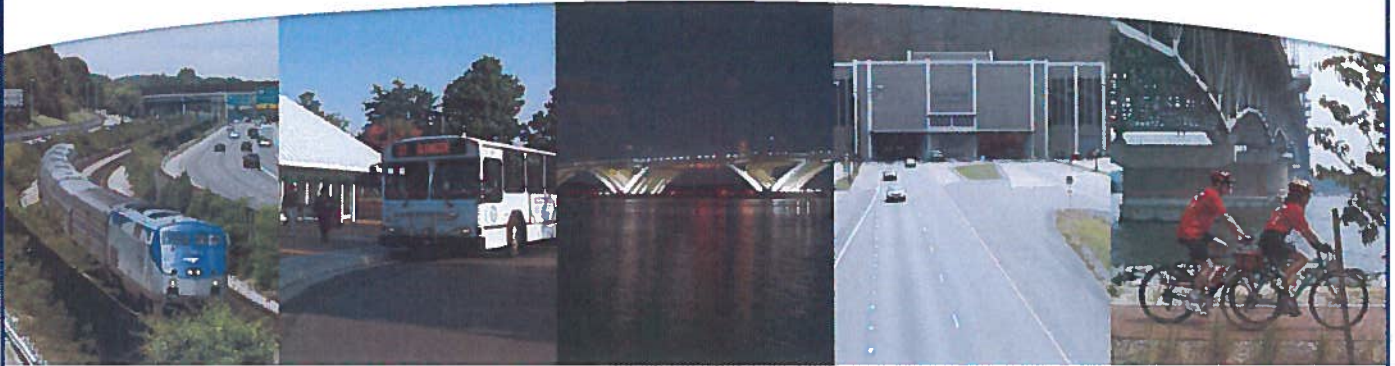


POLICY INDEX



Commonwealth Transportation Board

Virginia Department of Transportation
Policy Division
1401 East Broad Street • Suite 1106
Phone 804.786.1830 • Fax 804.225.4700

Guidelines for Considering Requests to Restrict Through Trucks on Primary and Secondary Highways**Approved: 10/16/2003**

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Virginia in its 2003 session amended Section 46.2-809 to provide that the Commonwealth Transportation Board, or its designee, should have the authority to prohibit or restrict the use by through truck traffic of any part of a primary highway, in addition to secondary highways, if a reasonable alternate route is provided, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation has developed Guidelines for Considering Requests to Restrict Through Trucks on Primary and Secondary Highways that apply to any truck or truck and trailer or semi trailer combination, except a pickup or panel truck, pursuant to Section 46.2-809 of the *Code of Virginia*, which are attached hereto; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guidelines for Considering Requests to Restrict Through Trucks on Primary and Secondary Highways, including all primary and secondary highways under the jurisdiction of the Virginia Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section 46.2-809 of the *Code of Virginia*, is hereby adopted by this Board, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 46.2-809 of the *Code of Virginia* that this Board delegates the authority to approve or deny such through truck traffic restrictions for secondary highways, subject to these Guidelines adopted by this Board, to the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Transportation. The Board will retain authority to approve or deny such through truck traffic restrictions for primary highways.

Editor's Note: The Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) was established to capture all existing regulations promulgated by state agencies. For the current official version of this regulation, see [24 VAC 30-580](#).

Guidelines for Considering Requests to Restrict Through Trucks on Primary and Secondary Highways**Approved: 9/15/1988**

Following a review of the attached guidelines numbered 7l through 7n for considering requests for restricting through trucks on secondary highways, motion was made by Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Beyer, for approval of the guidelines. Motion carried.

Section 46.1-171.2 of the *Code of Virginia* provides:

"The State Highway and Transportation Board (formerly Commission) in response to a formal request by a local governing body, after said body has held public hearings, may, after due notice and a proper hearing, prohibit or restrict the use by through traffic of any part of a secondary highway if a reasonable alternate route is provided, except in cities and any town which maintains its own streets, or any county which owns, operates and maintains its own system of roads and streets, by any truck or truck and trailer or semitrailer combination, except a pickup or panel truck, as may be necessary to promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth. Nothing herein shall affect the validity of any city charter provision or city ordinance heretofore adopted."

To conform to requirements of the Code, the local governing body must hold a public hearing and make a formal request of the Department. To insure that all concerned have an opportunity to provide input concerning the proposed restriction and alternate route, the following must be adhered to:

- (A) The public notices for the hearing must include a description of the proposed through truck restriction and the alternate route with the same termini. A copy of the notices must be provided.
- (B) A public hearing must be held by the local governing body and a transcript of the hearing must be provided with the resolution.
- (C) The resolution must describe the proposed through truck restriction and a description of the alternate, including termini.
- (D) The governing body must include in the resolution that it will use its good offices for enforcement of the proposed restriction by the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

Failure to comply with (A), (B), (C) and (D) will result in the request being returned.

It is the philosophy of the Commonwealth Transportation Board that all vehicles should have access to the roads on which they are legally entitled to travel. Travel by any class of vehicle should be restricted only upon demonstration that it will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth. Following that philosophy, the Virginia Department of Transportation staff and the Commonwealth Transportation Board will consider the following criteria in reviewing a requested through truck restriction.

- (1) Reasonable alternate routing is provided. To be considered "reasonable", the alternate route(s) must be engineered to a standard sufficient for truck travel. The effect on the alternate routing will be evaluated for traffic and safety related impacts. If an alternate contains a Secondary route that must be upgraded, funds must be provided from the county secondary construction funds. The termini of the proposed restriction must be identical to the alternate routing and effectively equivalent to allow a time and distance comparison to be conducted between the two routings. Also, the alternate routing must not create an undue hardship for trucks in reaching their destination.
- (2) The road requested for restriction is functionally classified as local or collector.
- (3) The character and/or frequency of the truck traffic on the route proposed for restriction is not compatible with the affected area. Evaluation will include safety and other traffic engineering related issues, and will take into account the volumes of truck traffic in relation to the remaining traffic as indicated by the following table:

| Total Traffic Volume Ranges | Total Truck Volume Ranges |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4000+ | 200 |
| 2000-4000 | 100-200 |
| 1000-2000 | 50-100 |
| 400-1000 | 20-50 |
| 250-400 | 13-20 |
| 50-250 | 3-13 |

- (4) The engineering of the roadway and/or the accident history of the route proposed for restriction indicate that it is not suitable for truck traffic.
 - (5) Within 150' of the existing or proposed roadway center line there must be at least 12 dwellings per 1000 feet of roadway.
- Failure to satisfy at least three (3) of the five (5) criteria will normally result in the rejection of the requested restriction.