



Caltrans®



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO)

California Truck Size and Weight Programs (Legal and extra-legal)



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PREVIEW

- Overview of California Legal Truck Size & Weight
- Truck Routes and California Truck Network Maps
- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility (Truck Weigh Station)
- Overview of Oversize-Overweight Vehicles/Loads
- Transportation Permit Types
- California Highway Patrol (CHP)
- Pictures of Permit loads & High Load Hits
- Challenges

SAFETY FIRST

- By providing reliable information to the public on legal truck size and weight matters including CA truck routes and restricted routes etc. to ensure the safe movement of legal vehicles.
- By issuing Transportation Permits of Oversize-Overweight (OS-OW) vehicles to ensure the safe movement of OS-OW loads.
 - Keep the traveling public, haulers/permittee personnel, Caltrans and CHP employees safe.
 - Protect California's transportation infrastructure
 - Liability
 - Economy

CALIFORNIA LEGAL TRUCK SIZE AND WEIGHT PROGRAMS

California law requires that Caltrans determine where longer trucks, buses, and motor homes (over 40 feet up to 45 feet) may travel on State highways.

LEGAL SIZE & WEIGHT IN CALIFORNIA



- **Maximum width8' - 6"**
- **Maximum height14' - 0"**
- **Maximum length75' - 0"**
- **Maximum length for single vehicle... 40' - 0"**
- **Maximum weight80,000 lbs.**

LEGAL TRUCK LENGTHS

Truck Tractor - Semitrailers:

Lengths	"Green" STAA Trucks		"Black" California Legal Trucks
			
Route Colors:			
Overall Length:	unlimited	unlimited	65 feet Max
Semitrailer:	53 feet Max	48 feet Max	unlimited
KPRA (kingpin-to-rear-most-axle distance):	40 feet Max (two-axle semitrailer); 38 feet Max (single-axle semitrailer)	unlimited	40 feet Max (two-axle semitrailer); 38 feet Max (single-axle semitrailer)

STAA” = federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982

LEGAL TRUCK LENGTHS

Doubles:

Lengths	"Green" STAA Trucks	"Black" California Legal Trucks	
			
Route Colors:			
		Option A	Option B
Overall Length:	unlimited	75 feet Max	65 feet Max
Trailers:	28 ft - 6 inch Max (each trailer)	28 ft - 6 inch Max (each trailer)	28 ft - 6 inch Max (one trailer) unlimited (other trailer)

LEGAL WIDTH & KPRA

- General Rule: Per CVC 35100. (a) The total outside width of any vehicle or its load shall not exceed 102 inches or (8'6").
- Cities and counties may be more or less restrictive upon highways under their jurisdiction (CVC 35100. (c) & 35105).
- Vehicle & Load Exemptions may apply.
- KPRA 40 ft max

LEGAL WEIGHT

Gross Weight	
Unit	Maximum
Vehicle Combination	80,000 pounds
Axle Weights	
Unit	Maximum
Single Axle	20,000 pounds
Axle Group: less than 8'-6" (8-feet-6-inches) between outer axles	34,000 pounds
Axle Group: 8'-6" (8-feet-6-inches) or more between outer axles (Note: 8'-6" is rounded up to 9 feet.)	See the CVC weight chart

ROUTE COLOR AND SIGNS

Route Colors	Route Type	Signs	"Green" STAA Trucks	"Black" California Legal Trucks
 Green	Primarily interstates	None	Yes	Yes
 Blue	State routes		Yes	Yes
 Black	State routes	Usually none	No	Yes
 Yellow (KPRA Advisory Routes)	State routes		No	Yes -- However, we advise you not to travel on an advisory route unless your KPRA is no more than the posted length, which is 30 feet on most routes.
 Red	Varies	Example: 	The restriction may or may not apply to you. Read the restriction on the map to determine whether it applies. See also the Special Route Restrictions .	

TERMINAL ACCESS (TA)/ SERVICE ACCESS (SA)

Signage	Route Type	Sign Graphics	Purpose
T-Sign G66-56 (CA)	State Route Terminal Access		The T-Signs are trailblazer signs showing "Terminal Access" routes where STAA trucks may exit off the interstate and travel onto State and local routes. These T-Signs are also posted on the State and local Terminal Access routes at decision points. If the T-Sign is not posted, a STAA truck may not travel there. If the Terminal Access route deadends, there will be a T-End sign at or near the turnaround location.
S-Sign G66-55 (CA)	Service Access		The S-Signs are Service Access signs showing where STAA trucks may exit the interstate onto a local road, for one mile only, for food, fuel, lodging, or repair.

TERMINAL ACCESS (TA)/ SERVICE ACCESS (SA)

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TA/ SA SIGNS



CALIFORNIA TRUCK ROUTES

Import bookmarks... Welcome to Onramp |... Traffic

QuickMap Options

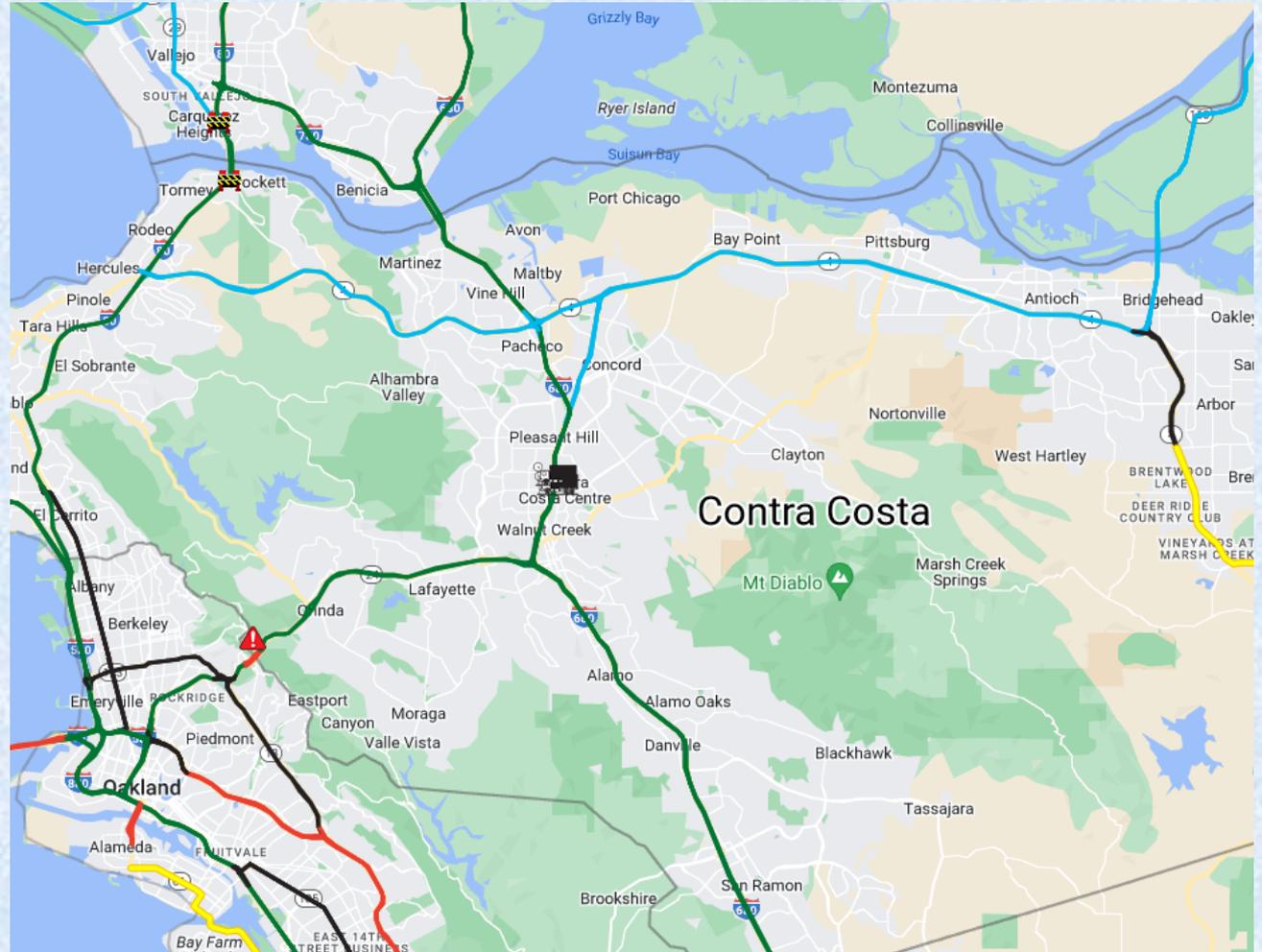
Facilities

Road Conditions

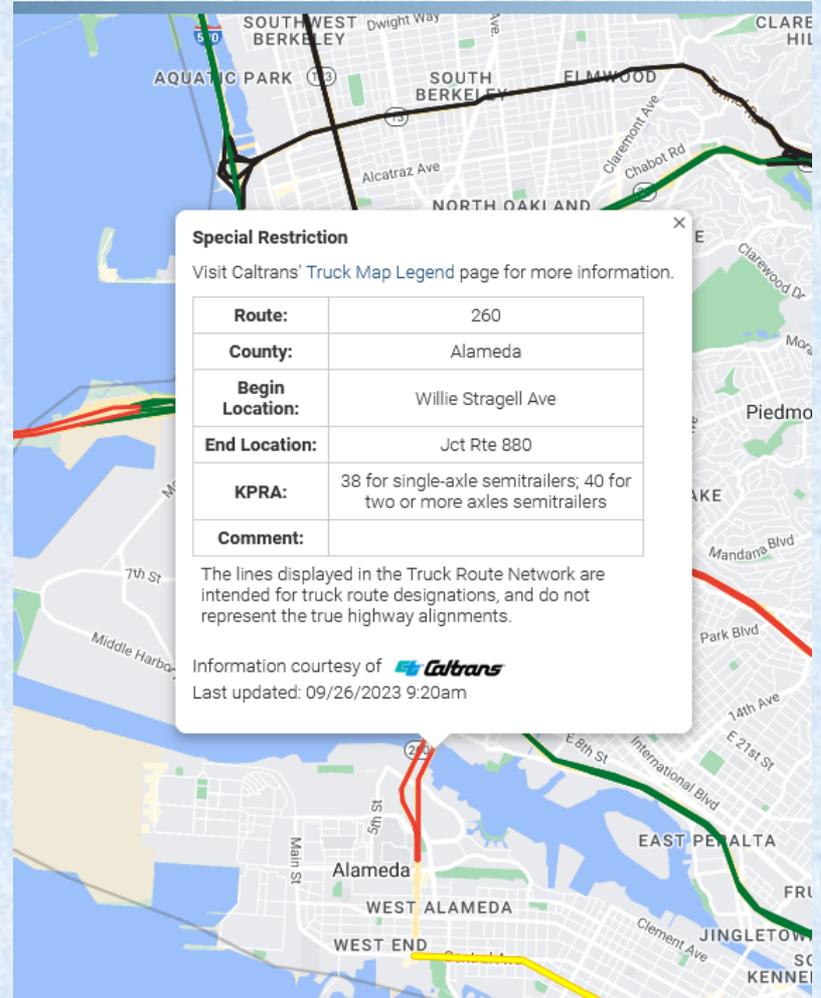
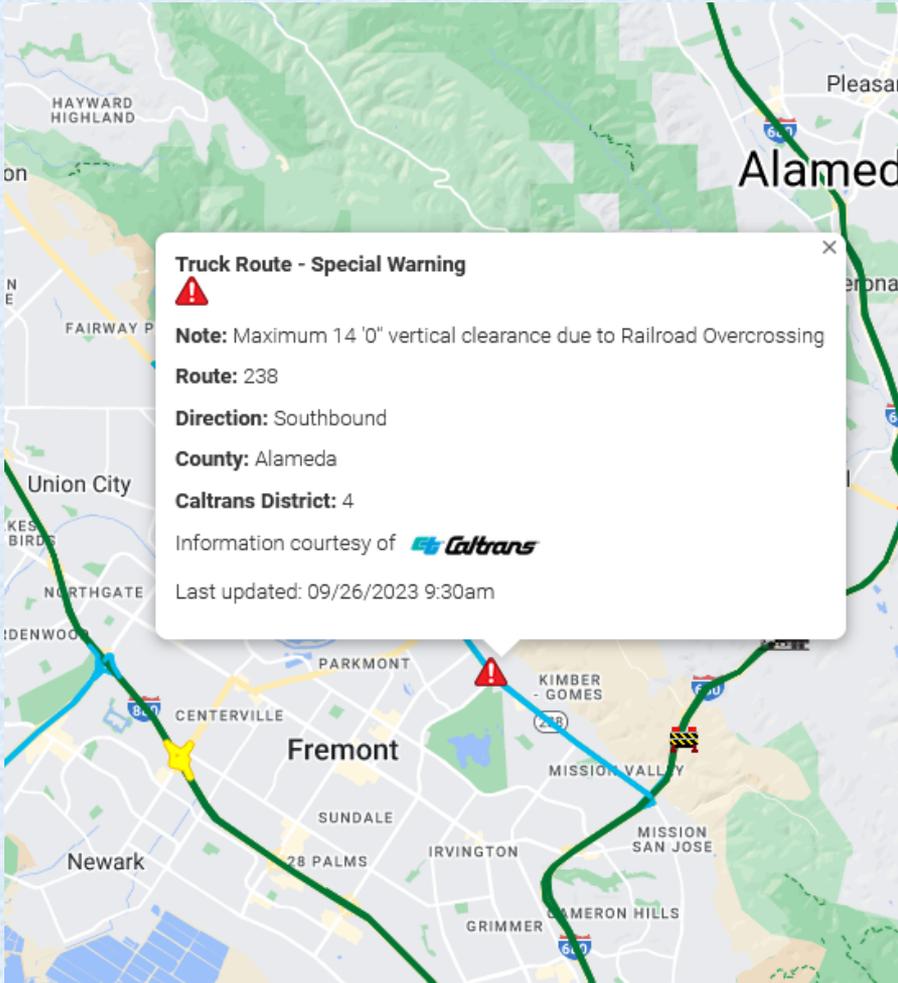
Commercial Vehicles

- Truck Weigh Stations
- California Truck Networks
 - Click route on map to see Truck Map Legend link.
 - National Network Route (STAA)
 - Terminal Access Route (STAA)
 - California Legal Route
 - California Legal Advisory Route
 - Special Restriction
 - Click route on map to see whether restriction applies.
 - Special Warning

Note: The lines displayed in the Truck Route Network indicate the truck route designations and do not represent the true highway alignments. The QuickMap app is a real-time traffic information resource that provides information about road conditions on the State highway system; it is not intended to be used as a navigation app.



SPECIAL WARNING AND RESTRICTION

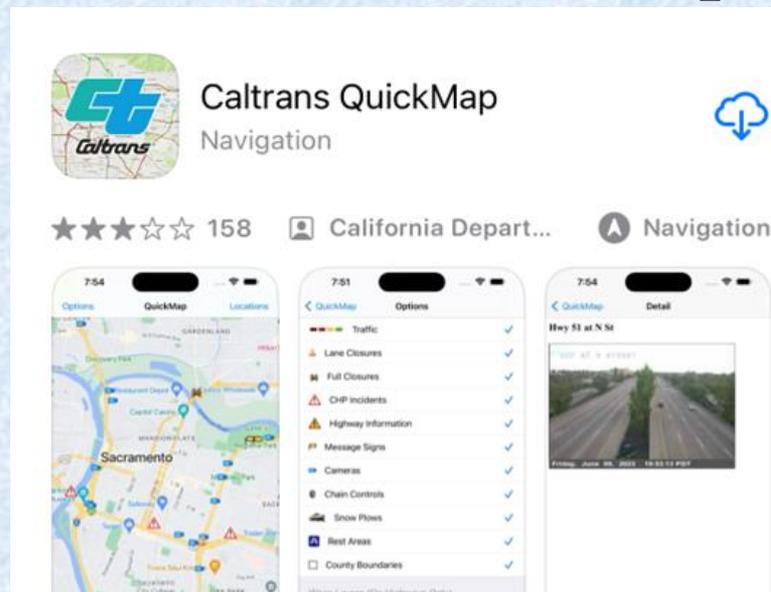


CALTRANS QUICKMAP

- <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>
- See “Commercial Vehicles” under “Options” tab
 - Truck Weigh Stations
 - California Truck Networks
- QuickMap App is available in both iOS and Android versions.
- Download from App Store and use it.

CALTRANS QUICKMAP APP

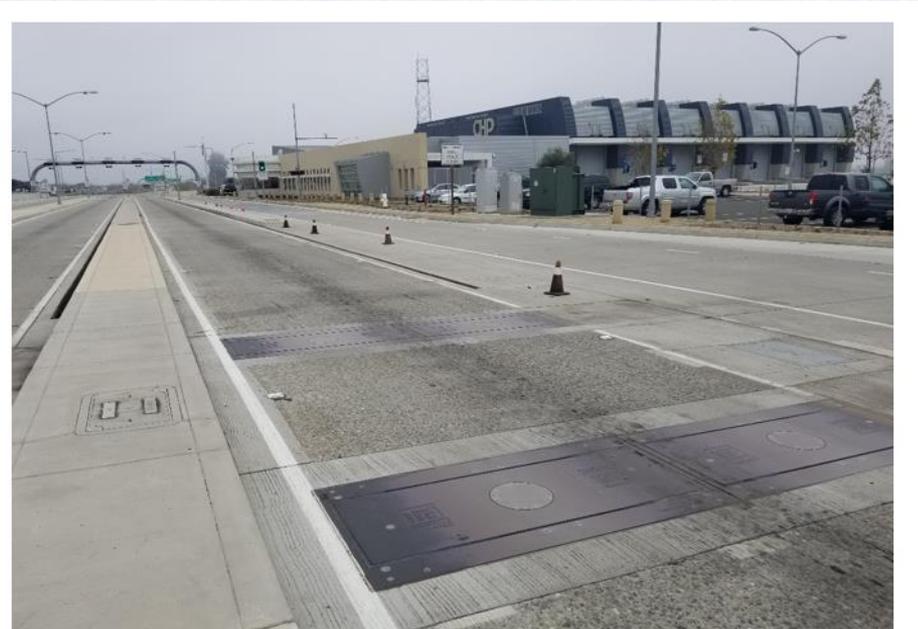
- Go to App Store (both iOS and Android)
- Search for “Caltrans QuickMap”



- Download and start using

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT FACILITY (CVEF)

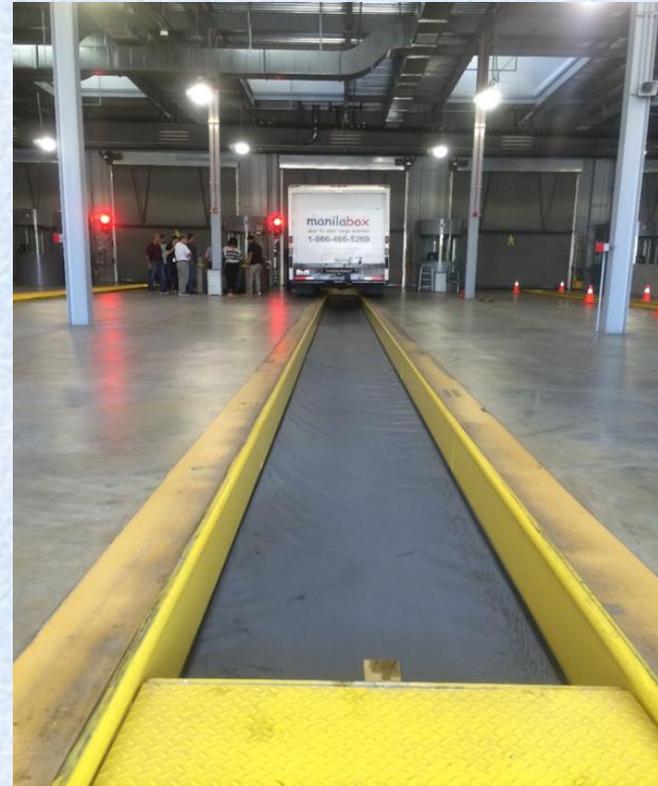
- Commonly known as Truck Weigh Station
- CHP inspects the weight of trucks and conducts other safety inspections of commercial vehicles



CVEF TYPICAL LAYOUT



TRUCK INSPECTION AT CVEF



CONTACTS

- Caltrans Legal Truck Access

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/legal-truck-access>

- CVEF

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/cvef>

CALIFORNIA OVERSIZE-OVERWEIGHT **PROGRAMS**

The Caltrans Transportation Permits Issuance Branch in the office of CVO is responsible for the issuance of special transportation permits for OS-OW vehicles on the State Highway System.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

- **CVC SECTION 35780.** (a) The Department of Transportation or local authorities, with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions, may, at their discretion upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit authorizing the applicant: (1) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this code.

LEGAL vs. EXTRALEGAL DIMENSIONS

- **Maximum width8'- 6"**
- **Maximum height14'- 0"**
- **Maximum length75'- 0"**
- **Maximum length for single vehicle... 40'- 0"**
- **Maximum gross weight80,000 lbs.**
- **Extralegal load - dimensions that exceed the above. (Loads that require a Caltrans transportation permit).**

Extralegal Load - Definition

California Vehicle Code (CVC) 320.5.

- An "extralegal load" is a single unit or an assembled item which due to its design cannot be reasonably reduced or dismantled in size or weight so that it can be legally transported as a load without a permit as required by Section 35780.



TRANSPORTATION PERMIT ELIGIBILITY

- Non-divisible loads/vehicles only
 - Compromise the intended use of the vehicle if divided
 - Destroy the value of the load or vehicle
- Certain types of vehicle requires an inspection report before applying for a permit
 - Caltrans Transportation Permit Manual, [Section 303](#)
Virtual Vehicle Inspection

TYPES OF PERMITS

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has established maximums to control the overall height, width, length, and axle group weight of standard hauling vehicles and/or loads permitted to use the State Highway System and bridges.

- Single Trip – (Online system called STARS2, fax aka paper)
- Variance
- Repetitive
- Annual
- Direct Crossing

STARS2/Single Trip Fax

A single trip transportation permit is a permit issued for a qualifying load or vehicle moving one way and returning unladen or with the same type of load, if requested, within the specified time limits of the permit.

STARS2 (*Online*)

- Electronic Permit Submittal
- A Caltrans debtor account
- Route generated by customer
- Permits reviewed by permit writer and issued
- Performance target
 - Issued within 3-hours

Single Trip (*Paper*)

- Faxed into office
- A Caltrans debtor account or credit card
- Route generated by permit writer or requested by customer
- Performance target
 - Issued within 4-hours

Variance Permit

Required if exceeds dimensional and weight maximums or bridge load ratings

- Height exceeds 17-ft
 - Route Survey (>17-ft)
- Width exceeds 16-ft on a yellow route or 15-ft on green, blue, or brown route
- Length exceeds 135-ft
- Vehicles requiring a Structure Review
- CHP Escort
- Up to 30-day process time
- Encroachment Permit from District

CHP - Escort Requirement

CHP ESCORT TABLE

Route Class	Width	Length	Height	Notes
YELLOW 	>16' 0"	>185' 0"	—	CHP Escort is required when: 1: Opposing lanes are used. 2: Slowing while crossing structure(s).
GREEN 	>15' 0"	>185' 0"	—	
BLUE 	>15' 0"	>135' 0"	≥17' 0"	
BROWN 	>15' 0"	>135' 0"	≥17' 0"	
RED 	Operational Restriction - See "Red Route Summary Table" for details.			

ROUTE CLASSIFICATIONS

- **Yellow**: Multi-lane freeway or expressway with 12' lanes, 4' shoulders (no two-lane routes).
- **Green**: Non-standard freeway or 2-lane road with 12' lanes and 0' to 4' shoulders.
- **Blue**: Two lane road with 11' lanes and 0' to any shoulders.
- **Brown**: Two lane road with 10' lanes and 0' to any shoulders.
- **Red**: Two lane road with less than 10' lanes.
-  **Dashed Route**: Used for all routes with a king pin advisory.

Repetitive Permit

- 12'-0" wide or less, 14'-6" high, and 90'-0" long hauling loads for one way travel from point A to point B.
- Basically, a single trip permit for the delivery of the same load over the same route on a repeated basis.
- Maximum of 90-Day Duration

Annual Permit

- 14'0" high, 12'0" wide, with maximum vehicle length varies depending on the vehicle type.
- Extralegal axle weights under annual permits are limited by the Extralegal Weight Charts.
- One-Year Duration

Direct Crossing Permit

- Per CVC Section 4006, a vehicle which is driven or moved upon a highway only for the purpose of crossing the highway from one property to another in accordance with a permit issued by the Department of Transportation is exempt from registration.
- Valid for the calendar year only

Local Permits Requirements

- Caltrans transportation permits are authorized to travel on California State Highways only.
- City and/or County permits will be required for travel on local roads
- Haulers are responsible to obtain local transportation permits.
- Route is marked as * in the approved permit.

* Asterisk – City and/or County Permit

VEHICLE WIDTH:		KINGPIN TO LAST AXLE:			SEMI-TRAILER LENGTH:			COMB VEHICLE LENGTH:		
AXLE NUMBER		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
NUMBER OF TIRES PER AXLE										
DISTANCE BETWEEN AXLES										
WIDTH OF AXLES AT TIRE SIDEWALL										
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE WEIGHT										
NOT TO EXCEED THE LOADED DIMENSIONS SHOWN BELOW OR AXLE WEIGHTS SHOWN ABOVE										
LOADED HEIGHT:	LOADED WIDTH:	LOADED OVERALL LENGTH:				LOADED OVERHANG:		WEIGHT CLASS:		
ORIGIN:					DESTINATION:					
AUTHORIZED STATE HIGHWAYS - CITY AND/OR COUNTY PERMITS MAY BE REQUIRED WHENEVER THE * IS SHOWN IN THE STATE ROUTE.					For office use only					
* from I ST W/B ON RAMP - 005N - to GARDEN HIGHWAY exit (GARDEN HIGHWAY W/B OFF RAMP exit number 521A) * - 099N - to ELVERTA RD exit (ELVERTA RD W/B OFF RAMP) *										
PILOT CAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										

Summary - Types of Permits

Type of Permit	Cost	Valid dates		Note
Single Trip*	\$16	Seven consecutive days	Extension as well as nights and weekends available for some loads if requested at time of application.	A single trip permit is from a single origin to a single destination in one direction of travel.
Variance	\$66 min	Seven consecutive days	*For width over 15 feet, length over 135 feet, and special hauling equipment, see the section titled Variance Permit.	
Annual	\$90	One-Year Duration.	Available for certain envelope loads or specific vehicles on specified highways.	Anywhere in the state. Tow truck limits. Red route limits.
Repetitive	\$90	90 Days Duration.	Available for certain envelope loads or specific vehicles on specified highways.	Limited to routes listed on the permit.
Direct Crossing	Free	One-Year Duration.	Allow vehicles from one's property to cross state highways to reach the other side.	

What you'll find on our website

- Interactive Application Instructions for Single Trip/Annuals/Variance
- STARS2 & Routing Clearing Database
- Application Forms and Accompaniments
- Transportation Permits Manual
 - New Policies & Revisions
- Extralegal Weight Charts
- Single Trip and Annual Pilot Car Maps
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Weekly Short-Term Restrictions for Annual Permit Holders (pdf)
- Red Route Summary Table (pdf)
- Request for Equipment Review (pdf)
- Request for Policy Exception (pdf)
- Route Color Classification Guide (pdf)
- Route Color Classification Checklist (pdf)
- Red Route Summary Table Revision Checklist (pdf)

California Highway Patrol

- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement
- Provide Escorts for Variance Permits
- Partner with CVO for Commercial Vehicles Challenge Area as part of Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP 2020-24)



Oversize-Overweight Transportation Permits

- Average **Daily** Permits Issued = **500**
- Average **Yearly** Permits Issued = **170,000**

Concrete Pumps



Oversized & Overweight Load



Refinery Tank



9-Axle Heavy Haul Combination w/ 657E Excavator



Space Shuttle Fuel Tank



Space Shuttle Endeavour



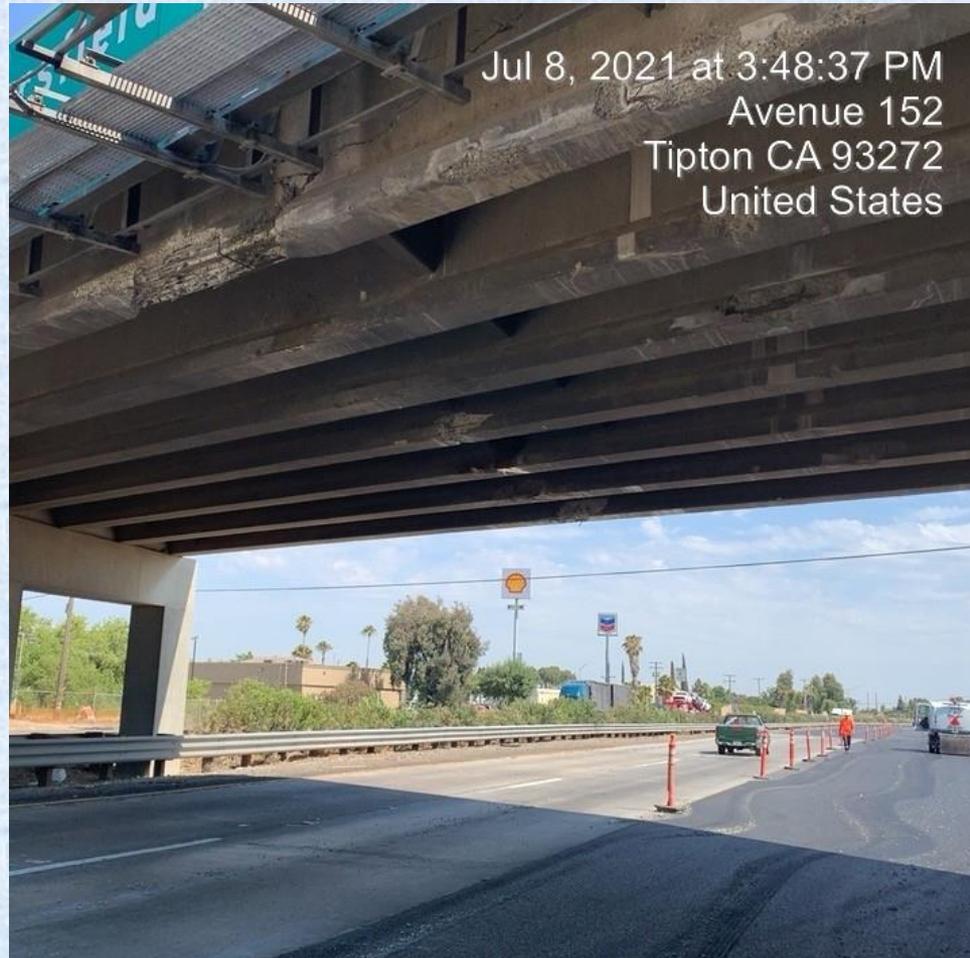
Safety and Consequence of Error

“Poor decisions or errors in judgment could result in **injuries** or **fatalities** to the traveling public, **damage to State highway facilities**, and **increased costs to haulers** and/or their clients.”

High Load Hits



High Load Hits



Jul 8, 2021 at 3:48:37 PM
Avenue 152
Tipton CA 93272
United States

High Load Hits



High Load Hits



Steel Girders



Concrete Girders





Inappropriate Route



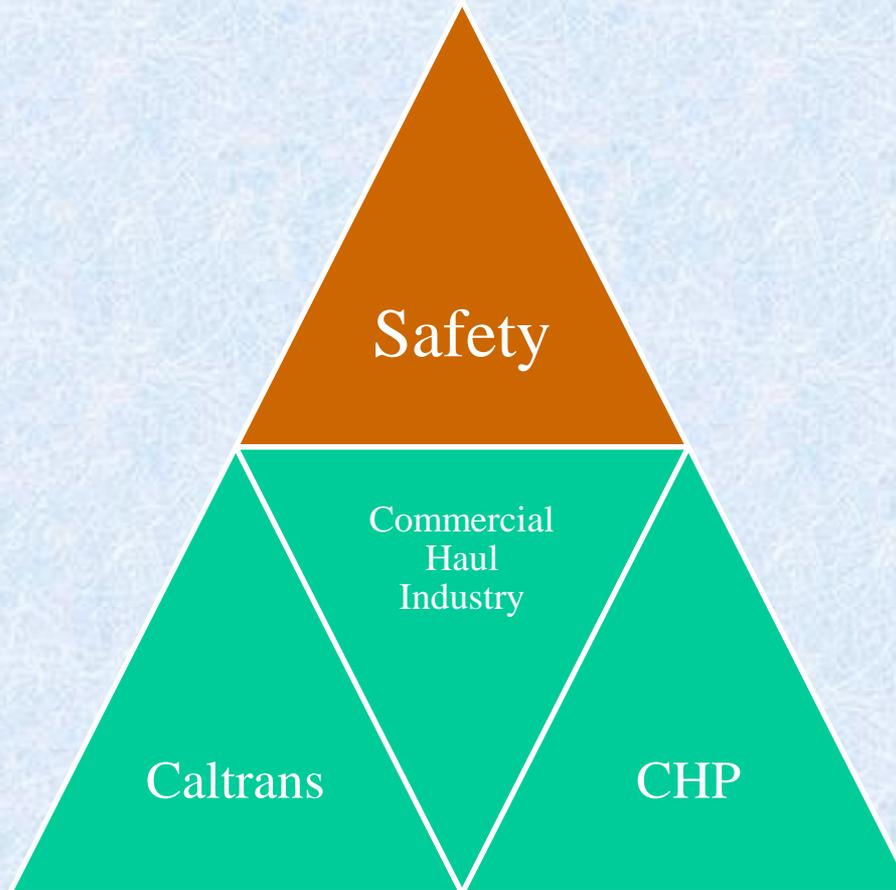
False Work



False Work cont'd



Caltrans/CHP/Haul Industry



Challenges

- Succession Planning
- Teleworking
- Average 500 permits issued per day; 170,000 permits issued per Year
- Emergencies impact workload
- Solution – Automation!!
 - Team Effort - Caltrans/CHP/Commercial Haul Industry

Transportation Permits Office

Contact information
1120 N Street, Sacramento CA 95814

Main Number: 916-322-1297

General Email: Oversize.Overweight.Permits@dot.ca.gov

Website: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>

Questions?



THANK YOU.