



Permit Procedures for Oversize Vehicles

Authority

Under the appropriate authority of Division 15, Chapter 5, Article 6 of the California Vehicle Code, (CVC), the City of American Canyon may, at its discretion, issue special permits to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight or load exceeding the maximums specified in the CVC. Except as specifically provided herein, vehicle registration requirements, signing (CVC 27900), and all other applicable laws must be complied with in all particulars.

Possession and Validity of Permit

Permits shall be carried in the vehicle to which it refers at all times, while the vehicle is being moved within the highway limits, and shall be opened to inspection by any peace officer, traffic officer, authorized agent of the City of American Canyon (City), or any officer or employee charged with the care and protection of such highways (CVC 35783). Permits are City valid for the movement on the assigned City streets.

Procedure for Obtaining an Oversize/Overweight Permit

The City of American Canyon issues oversize/overweight permits from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, (except holidays) at the Engineering Department, located at 4381 Broadway, Suite 201 American Canyon, CA 94503. Processing fees are: \$18 for a single use permit and \$104 for an annual permit. The applicant shall provide the information needed on the permit form, including the vehicle's insurance carrier and policy number that name the City as certificate holder. This information is required in the event of damage to public property. Normally, the permit is issued via E-mail without delay; however, **the application shall precede the journey by 24 hours minimum**. Forms and instructions can be obtained from the Engineering Department or online at www.ciyofoamericancanyon.org

Criteria by which vehicles are determined to be Oversize/Overweight

Weight: An overweight permit can be issued for an overweight load. If the load is over weight, the actual load distribution should be beyond that call for in section 35550, CVC.

Height: An over-height permit can be issued for a vehicle or load over 14 feet in height, section 25250, CVC. It is important to check the over crossing/under crossing height for clearance.

Length: An over-length permit can be issued for vehicles and loads over 40 feet in length section 35400, CVC. Additional special considerations are given for long combinations of vehicles can have problems with narrow turning corners.

Width: An over-width permit can be issued for vehicles over 102 inches (8.5 feet) in width, section 35100 CVC. Pilot cars may be required for over-width vehicles. This requirement depends on two variables: the width of the vehicle/load and the width of the travel lanes on the route. Vehicles issued a permit, which requires one, or more pilot cars by Caltrans are required to retain the pilot cars to the destination point within the City.

Insurance Requirements

All applicants must provide general and auto liability insurance certificates in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 each occurrence.

When is an Oversize Permit not valid?

Permits are null and void and hereby declared non-existent if:

- A) Any portion, part or section is illegible.
- B) An authorized representative of the City does not sign it.
- C) Any portion, part or section has been altered or if an attempt to alter is apparent.
- D) The permit is used to represent proper authority for carrying a load and/or moving a vehicle, which is not specifically described on the face of the permit.
- E) The permit is used to represent proper authority for carry a load or moving a vehicle by any company, crew or equipment not specifically named or organizationally related to the company, agency, or firm to which the permit was issued.
- F) The permit is used to represent proper authority for carrying a load or moving a vehicle before and/or after the times and dates authorized.

The use of this permit is prima facie evidence that the driver has checked the load and/or vehicle and knows it to be within the limits as set forth hereon and has verified the routing accuracy. The vehicle and/or load authorized under this permit are subject to inspection by representatives of the City and costs of such inspections shall be borne by the permittee.

Repair of Damage and Liability During Movement of Oversize Vehicle Loads

In accepting a permit the permittee agrees to repair at his own expense and to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works any damage to highway appurtenances or structures. Notwithstanding, City of American Canyon forces and costs to be borne by the permittee may do work or repair. In the event of damage to facilities such as bridges, traffic signals, light standards and other appurtenances, a written report must be filed with the City within 72 hours after such damage has occurred. Failure to make this report will be cause for cancellation of all permit privileges and pending a satisfactory arrangement with the City for repairs or replacement of the damaged facility. All damages and repairs shall be reported to the California Department of Transportation. The permittee is responsible for all liability for injury to or death of any person, or damage to property, which may occur through any act or omission of either the permittee or the City arising from the issuance of this permit. In the event any claim, suit or action is brought against the City, its officers, employees or agents thereof, by reason of, or in connection with any such act or omission, permittee shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City, its officers, employees or agents from such claim, suit or action.

Overhead Clearance

When height of load exceeds legal limit, responsibility rests with the permittee to check for impaired vertical clearance and to bypass or arrange clearance at such location.

Reducible Loads

Permits are issued for the movement of an "Extralegal Load" as defined in CVC 320.5 when loaded at its least dimensions. Permits are automatically void if the permitted dimensions and weight can be reduced to legal limits by repositioning and/or partial removal of a part, portion or unit there from. Other items may be hauled provided they do not exceed the dimensions of the vehicle or permitted item and loaded vehicle is of legal axle and gross weights. Over height permits shall not be issued for items transported on a conventional flat deck trailer unless the deck is needed to support a long fragile load or cause unbalanced axle group weights.

Tire Capacity and Booster Type Axles

Permitted axle or axle group weights shall not exceed the rated capacity of vehicle tires. A booster axle is an axle, generally, having an air or hydraulic cylinder suspension system that can be actuated independently to assume a portion of the weight that would otherwise be carried by adjacent axles. Booster axles and add-on "Joe-Dog" axles shall not be used in the movement of overweight permit loads.

Traveled Way & Movement During Darkness

Where practical, the vehicle shall be kept in the far right lane of the highway and shall not encroach on highway shoulders except where necessary. "Darkness" is defined in section 280 of the CVC as being...any time from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise..." Reference to "sunset" and/or "sunrise" on the face of the permit includes this said one-half hour grace period before and after sunrise and sunset. Movement is not allowed when visibility is less than 1,000 feet.

Holidays, Inclement Weather and Convoys

Unless authorized on the face of this permit, movement is prohibited on the following holidays (or any of these holidays falling on a weekend and celebrated on a weekday): New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Cesar Chavez's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Admission's Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Movement shall not occur in fog, rain or wind when visibility is restricted to less than 1,000 feet. Movement is **prohibited** when road surfaces are hazardous due to rain, ice or frost. No moving shall be done when the velocity of the wind is such that it causes the vehicle being towed to whip or swerve from side-to-side or fail to follow substantially in the path of the towing vehicle. Any accident caused by excessive wind or weather conditions shall be considered a prima facie violation of this condition. Movement in convoys shall not be permitted unless specified on the face of the permit.

Posting of Load Signs

Signs shall be posted on the front and rear and shall be read "LONG LOAD" or "OVERSIZE." The "Long Load" sign shall be used whenever overall length exceeds 100 feet. The "Oversize" sign shall be used for shorter lengths and other oversize features. The more definitive signs reading "WIDE LOAD", "LONG LOAD", "OVERSIZE LOAD", "EXCESSIVE FRONT OVERHANG" or "EXCESSIVE REAR OVERHANG" sign when appropriate. The "LONG LOAD" sign shall have preference when length exceeds 100 feet and other oversize features exist. The lettering shall be a 10-inch minimum height with a 1/8 inch minimum brush stroke, and a minimum 1-inch margin all around. All signs shall be in black letters on a yellow background, mounted at least 18 inches above the road surface in the front and rear. Signs shall be neat, clean, legible, mounted securely and visible from straight ahead or behind and to 45° either side thereof.

Pilot Car and Equipment

It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to ensure that pilot car vehicles and operators are equipped and briefed as to their duties prior to movement. Pilot cars shall be single vehicles with a minimum of 60 inches in width, and may operate with a nondestructive vertical clearance-measuring device with height in excess of 14 feet. Pilot cars shall be equipped with:

- A) One each stop/slow sign paddle.
- B) One each orange vest.
- C) One each red hand flag (18"x18" minimum).
- D) Two-way radio communication between the pilot car(s) and the transporting vehicle.
- E) Top-mounted flashing amber light(s). The light(s) shall be visible to the front when leading and to the rear when following, and shall be operated at all times when escorting a permit move. Lights shall be removed or covered with opaque material when not escorting movement described on permit (25270 CVC).
- F) Neat, clean and legible sign(s) visible from straight-ahead or behind and to 45° either side thereof. The bottom of the sign(s) shall be a minimum of 48 inches above the ground. The sign shall read "OVERSIZE when viewed from the front or rear. The more definitive signs reading "OVERSIZE LOAD, WIDE LOAD or LONG LOAD" may be substituted for the "OVERSIZE" sign when appropriate. The sign shall have a bright yellow background with black lettering and have a minimum projected area of 440 square inches. The lettering shall have one-inch brush stroke with a six-inch minimum projected letter height.

Pilot Car Location and Responsibility

Pilot car(s) are required where indicated on the permit. The pilot car shall:

- A) Precede the load on two or three-lane conventional roads and follow on four or more lanes conventional highways and divided highways. When two pilot cars are required, one shall precede and one shall follow.
- B) Remain right of the center line of the roadway at all times except when prevented by the physical limitations of the highway. The use of a pilot car does not grant to the permittee the right to pre-empt the opposing traffic lane. When it becomes necessary because of physical limitations of the highway to use a portion of the opposing traffic lane, opposing traffic is not to be stopped, except in extreme emergencies. It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to stop safely and wait until the opposing lane is free of traffic before proceeding.
- C) Maintain proper interval between load and the pilot car to allow passing by other traffic. D) Accompany the permitted load over all operational California Highway Patrol facilities.

The pilot car shall not: A) Tow another vehicle while being used as a pilot car. B) Pre-empt opposing traffic. C) Display the STOP/SLOW sign paddle out of the window of a moving vehicle. D) Stop opposing traffic except in extreme emergencies. E) Convey more than one load at the same time.

When necessary to post a flagger in order to warn and direct traffic, the flagging shall be done in accordance with Title 8, Sections 1598 and 1599 of the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Construction Safety Order and Caltrans "Manual of Traffic Controls." Flaggers shall not be less than 18 years of age.

