

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Protection of Routes to Accommodate the Transportation of Oversize Loads

**Policy  
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Purpose

1. To assist in maintaining a system of designated routes to accommodate the transportation of oversize loads.
2. To assure that new permanent obstacles to the transportation of oversize loads will not be constructed unless the Board of Supervisors makes a determination that such construction would be in the best interest of the public.

Background

The manufacture and assembly of specialized equipment and commodities is vital to the economy of San Diego County. It is desired to economically maintain the ability to transport, within and through San Diego County via public highways, certain oversize loads. In the past, certain features, such as road overpasses, pedestrian bridges, traffic signals, directional signs, trolley wires, and utility lines that can impair the economical transportation of oversize loads have been constructed without a proper review of the impact of such construction on the transportation of oversize loads.

Representatives of industries such as transportation, manufacturing, and those that use oversize objects have assisted in identifying the principal routes available for transporting oversize loads. The various jurisdictions in San Diego County have expressed a desire to cooperate in maintaining routes throughout San Diego County for the transportation of oversize loads. The County of San Diego designates the General Plan Mobility Element road network to facilitate transport of oversize loads.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

1. The designated routes for oversize loads shall be Mobility Element roads for the Unincorporated Area of San Diego County. All oversize loads shall be permitted through a Moving Permit. The permit shall describe requirements for moving large loads on Mobility Element roads. Attachment A describes the instructions for moving large loads and Attachment B provides a list of restricted roads.
2. If an applicant processes a project that could create an obstacle to the transportation of oversize loads on a Circulation Element road, a design exception would be necessary to allow construction of those features. The applicant may request an exception by documenting the requested exception to the standards, alternatives considered, consequences of compliance with standards, and cost estimates of all alternatives. The Director of Public Works will assess the

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requested design exception based on engineering and regulatory requirements and may consider consistency with existing road geometrics in the project vicinity, safety for all road users, environmental issues, and consistency with the General Plan. Prior to making a final determination on the design exception, the Director of Public Works will consult with the applicant; the community; and representatives of the industries manufacturing, using, or transporting oversize objects.

3. This policy does not commit the County to providing additional funds for protecting any Mobility Element Road for transportation of oversize loads. It simply establishes a procedure for consideration of the impacts of proposed obstacles on Mobility Element Roads.

Attachment A - Moving Permit Instructions

Attachment B - Restricted Road List

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-21.

Board Action

2-5-85 (11, 12)

3-22-88 (37)

6-15-93 (41)

7-14-99 (4)

06-23-04 (12)

12-09-08 (33)

12-03-14 (4)

CAO Reference

Department of Public Works