

## **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION of INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO**

#### **SUBJECT: SPECIAL HAULING PERMITS (SHP)**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/07/2019**

#### **PURPOSE:**

These rules and regulations are necessary to mitigate the deterioration of streets, highways, bridges, utilities and other City-owned structures caused by overweight and oversized vehicles. Sections 5577.01 to 5577.15 of the Ohio Revised Code address the weight and dimension limits for such vehicles. Section 4513.34 of the Ohio Revised Code and Section 2139 of the Columbus City Code authorize the Director of Public Service to issue permits for those loads that exceed the statutory weight and dimension limits contained in the Ohio Revised Code. These limitations and provisions described below are the general requirements placed on the operation of the over dimension and overweight vehicles traveling on roadways and are in addition to specific provisions stated on the Special Hauling Permit (SHP) or its attachments. For reference or detailed information, please refer to the ODOT Special Hauling Permits Operational Guide or contact the City of Columbus Permit Section.

#### **GENERAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

1. No application for a Special Hauling Permit (SHP) shall be approved unless the application is legible and complete.
2. A copy of the current and valid Special Hauling Permit (SHP) issued by the City of Columbus(COC) shall be in the possession of the driver at all times during the progress of transportation and shall be shown on demand to any law enforcement officer, Ohio State Highway Patrol or to any employee of City of Columbus. The SHP shall be clearly legible and free of any markings, writing, symbol, logo, letterhead, characters or inscriptions that are not part of the SHP as transmitted by COC (an additional tele-facsimile header is allowed).
3. The permission granted in the SHP restricts the movement of the vehicle(s) or object(s) to the highways specified, between the points designated, and within the time allotted. Permittee shall check the route for abnormal, changed, or unknown/unusual conditions which may exist during any transport. Permits are only lawful on city streets. At the discretion of the local authority provided in the Ohio Revised Code, they are not valid on the interstate system, US routes, and state routes under the authority of the state of Ohio. Permittee shall obtain permission to travel county or township roads or local streets not part of the City of Columbus Roadway System within the city from the proper governmental agencies.
4. No vehicle(s) or object(s) being transported under a SHP shall be parked on the roadway at any time except in case of an emergency, in which case permittee shall be responsible for obtaining adequate protection for the traveling public while such vehicle or object is parked. The vehicle(s) shall not be loaded or unloaded while on the roadway.
5. The driver of the permitted vehicle must comply with all laws, rules, regulations or credentials covering the movement of traffic over highways and streets and Commercial Motor Vehicle operations.
6. SHPs will not generally be issued for built-up loads that are divisible into legal loads or loads that have not been loaded to the least over dimension or the least overweight. However, miscellaneous items may, however, be transported on the same vehicle with an over dimensional piece or pieces as long as the miscellaneous items do not add to the over dimension. It is not necessary to identify these miscellaneous items. If, in the event of an extenuating circumstance, an SHP is issued for a divisible load in which two or more pieces add to the over dimension or over weight, such load shall be adequately described.
7. An SHP is void at any time that road, weather or traffic conditions make travel unsafe, as determined by the State Highway Patrol or local law enforcement.
8. Movement of mobile homes, manufactured structures, office trailers, and park model recreational vehicles is prohibited when wind velocity exceeds 25 mph on the roadway or 15 mph on bridges.
9. The duration of the SHP shall not extend beyond the expiration date of the insurance policy filed with the Department.
10. The original permit and any attachments as issued must be carried in the cab of the vehicle during movement.

11. The permittee is solely responsible for renewing its permit prior to its expiration date. The City of Columbus shall not issue any notice prior to expiration of said permit. The permittee is also responsible for ensuring that the permit accurately describes the vehicle and load. The permit is null and void if there are any inaccuracies contained in the description of the vehicle or load.

**TYPE OF PERMITS:**

**A. SINGLE TRIP**

1. Single Trip permits will be issued for a specific origin and destination. This permit may also include a return to the stated point of origin. This type of permit would be appropriate when a load is needed at a job site and is then returned to the point of origin all within the effective dates of the permit. Application must include the specific route proposed.
2. Single Trip permits will be issued for vehicles that are over 120,000 pounds gross weight and/or over 90 feet in length and/or over 11 feet in width and/or above 13'-6" in height.
3. Single Trip permits are issued to the specific truck or commercial tractor used for the load or loads. When indicated on the application, various trailers may be used. On overweight configurations, the trailers must be identical as far as number of axles, axle spacing, axle weights, and number of tires on each axle and the sizes of those tires.
4. Permittee will have 5 consecutive days to move the vehicle.

**B. CONTINUING ANNUAL PERMITS (LESS THAN 120,000 LBS. GVW)**

1. When more than one load needs to be moved, a 365 day continuing permit may be issued to a specific vehicle including an approved load for repeated one-way movement between the same two points over prescribed routes. This permit may also include a return to the stated point of origin. Maximum duration of validity is 365 days.
2. The permit is issued to the truck or commercial tractor. When indicated on the application, various trailers may be used. On overweight configurations, the trailers must be identical as far as number of axles, axle spacing, axle weights, and number of tires on each axle and the sizes of those tires.
3. The load, in addition to being under 120,000 lbs. gross weight, must not be greater than 13'-6" in height and not greater than 11 feet in width. If any of these conditions exist, a single trip permit must be obtained per Section A.

**C. CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT (UNDER 120,000 LBS. GVW)**

1. This specialized permit is used for the frequent movement of over width construction machinery to and from job sites. To qualify for this permit, the vehicle and load must be legal in accordance with Section 5577.04 through 5577.05 of the Ohio Revised Code. Maximum duration of validity is 365 days.
2. Loads may consist of small dozers, backhoes, or other similar equipment being transported on straight trucks or on equipment trailers pulled by trucks, or on semi-trailers hauled by commercial tractor. Field office trailers towed on their own undercarriages may also be included. The permit is issued to the truck or commercial tractor. When indicated on the application, various trailers may be used.
3. Be alert for overhead obstructions and be aware that posted limits, including those on pavements and bridges, must be obeyed.
4. The load, in addition to being under 120,000 lbs. gross weight, must not be greater than 13'-6" in height and not greater than 11 feet in width. If any of these conditions exist, a single trip permit must be obtained per Section A.
5. Revisions may be issued upon request at no charge whenever construction impedes movement along the assigned route. Request may be made by calling the Permit Office at 614-645-7497.

**FEES:**

OVERSIZE LOAD (1 TIME MOVE)	\$90.00
OVERSIDE LOAD (ANNUAL)	80,000 to 90,000 lbs. GVW = \$420.00
	90,001 to 105,000 lbs. GVW = \$950.00
	105,001 to 120,000 lbs. GVW = \$1,400.00

The fees for government projects may be waived at the discretion of the Director of Public Service.

**VEHICLE OPERATING LIMITATIONS:**

1. No vehicle(s) or object(s) being transported under an SHP shall travel in convoy with any other oversize/overweight vehicle or vehicle and load. Convoying is defined as operating within 500' of any other permitted vehicle that is traveling in front and in the same direction as said vehicle.
2. Every vehicle operating under an SHP when traveling on freeways, expressways, multi-lane undivided highways, shall remain in the extreme right-hand lane of said roadway except as necessary to maintain continuous through movement, to make left turns or exits or to pass other vehicles.
3. Any load with an overall height in excess of 14 feet 6 inches shall be required to coordinate the move with the owners of all overhead signs, signals, utilities, etc., which may obstruct safe, clear movement.
4. Reductions in legal weight posted on roadways or bridges must be obeyed. Contact the Permit Office immediately if your route includes legal load reductions.
5. Due to bridge load limit restrictions, no SHP is permitted for the following roadways within the City of Columbus.

Arcadia Ave east of Indianola  
Calumet St.  
Country Club Rd.  
Lehman Rd. east of Gender Rd.

**DAYS/HOURS OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS:**

1. Overweight vehicle/loads that are not over dimensional, traveling under the authority of an SHP, will not be restricted as to travel hours or days so long as the overweight vehicle/load can move without obstructing the normal flow of the traffic.
2. With the exception of permitted legal dimensioned overweight vehicle/loads noted above, vehicle/loads traveling under the authority of a SHP shall be prohibited from movement on the following days /weekends: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.
3. Movement of all vehicles/loads in excess of twelve feet in width shall be prohibited within the city limits of Columbus between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
4. Movement of all vehicles/loads in excess of twelve feet in width shall be permitted during daylight hours only (daylight hours are defined as one-half hour prior to sunrise to one-half hour after sunset).

**WARNING FLAGS, LIGHTING, AND SIGNS:**

All warning flags, lights, and signs shall be displayed as described in the OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS section of the ODOT SHP OPERATIONAL GUIDE and per the Ohio Revised Code, section 5577.

**PRIVATE ESCORT VEHICLES:**

1. Private Escort vehicles, when required by an SHP to accompany an over dimensional or overweight vehicle or vehicle/load, shall be required to display a warning sign, yellow with black letters, reading "OVERSIZE LOAD". The sign shall be 5 feet long by 12 inches high with 8 inch high letters and shall be in good repair. Escort vehicles shall also be required to maintain radio communication with the operator of the permitted vehicle and shall also be required to be equipped with a roof mounted amber flashing or rotating light(s). Driver of the escort vehicle is to act as a flagger when needed.

2. The Driver of an escort vehicle shall not serve as an operator of other vehicles or equipment while escorting a vehicle/load operating under an SHP. Unless otherwise specified on the SHP, Public Safety/Law Enforcement Vehicles shall not be considered to be Private Escorts.
3. One rear escort vehicle shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load with a permitted length in excess of 90 feet. Columbus Police escort required when excess of 100 feet.
4. One lead (rear on multiple lane highways) escort vehicle shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load with a permitted width in excess of 11 feet. Columbus Police escort required when excess of 13 feet.
5. One lead escort vehicle equipped with a height sensing device shall be required for the transportation of any vehicle/load with a permitted height in excess of 14 feet. Columbus Police escort required when excess of 15 feet.
6. One lead and one rear escort shall be required on any vehicle/load with a permitted width in excess of 11 feet and on any vehicle/load with a permitted height in excess of 14 feet.
7. If more than one of the conditions set forth in numbers 2 through 4 above are met, (for example, a load with a permitted width exceeding 11 feet and a permitted length exceeding 90 feet ) two escorts (one lead and one rear) shall be required. Depending on size of load and route, more than one Columbus Police Officer maybe required.
8. Front and rear escort vehicles, when required, shall maintain a safe operating distance consistent with existing traffic conditions between the vehicle/load being escorted and the escort vehicle.
9. Escort vehicles shall be a single unit vehicle with unobstructed vision from the front and rear. Escort Vehicles when accompanying a vehicle/load operating under an SHP shall not tow a trailer or another vehicle, or haul equipment which extends beyond the dimensions of the escort vehicle.

**PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION:**

1. Failure to comply with the requirements herein shall render the SHP null and void and the operator of the vehicle will be subject to enforcement action, as provided in Sections 2139.02 through 2139.05 of the Columbus City Code.
2. An SHP should not be voided when a vehicle exceeds a granted axle weight by 2000 lbs or less, provided that the vehicle does not exceed the gross vehicle weight granted by the SHP. The permittee shall be responsible for bringing the vehicle into compliance with the SHP prior to substantial movement upon being ordered so by law enforcement officials pursuant to a traffic stop. If the load cannot be brought into compliance, the load may not move until a revised SHP is obtained from the Department of Public Service. Should the vehicle be moved prior to the vehicle being brought into compliance or prior to a revised SHP being obtained, the SHP shall be rendered null and void and the operator will be subject to enforcement action as provided in Sections 2139.02 to 2139.05 of the Columbus City Code.
3. Moving violations for offenses that are relevant to the safe movement of a Commercial Motor Vehicle (for example, Speed, Reckless Operation, DUI, Improper Lane Change, etc.) shall render the SHP null and void, and the operator subject to additional enforcement action as provided in Title 21 of the Columbus City Code.

JENNIFER GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE