



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JANUARY 23, 2018**
FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARDS: 1, 2, & 3**
SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF AXLE RESTRICTIONS ON SEGMENTS OF ARLINGTON, CENTRAL, CHICAGO, IOWA, AND JURUPA AVENUES – ORDINANCE

ISSUE:

Adopt an ordinance to establish axle restrictions prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on designated segments of Arlington, Central, Chicago, Iowa and Jurupa Avenues.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council introduce and adopt an ordinance to:

1. Establish an axle restriction prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on Arlington Avenue from Horace Street to Chicago Avenue;
2. Establish axle restrictions prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on Central Avenue from Fremont Street to Brockton Avenue;
3. Establish an axle restriction prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on Chicago Avenue from Arlington Avenue to Central Avenue;
4. Establish an axle restriction prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on Iowa Avenue from Spruce Street to Blaine Street; and
5. Establish an axle restriction prohibiting use by commercial vehicles exceeding three axles on Jurupa Avenue from Fremont Street to Brockton Avenue.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

On October 4, 2017, the Transportation Board (Board) reviewed this matter; six of seven members were present. The Board recommended establishment of the proposed axle restrictions on designated segments of Alessandro and Van Buren Boulevards, Arlington, Central, Chicago, Iowa, and Jurupa Avenues, however, at the request of the County of Riverside the proposed restrictions for the segments involving Van Buren Boulevard and Alessandro Boulevard were not considered in the motion as further discussion regarding the viability axle restrictions on the shared

jurisdiction street segments was determined to be necessary. Additionally, the Board requested that truck stickers, a City exemption letter for the business, or other means of identification for some businesses generating truck activity be allowed. Businesses requested these exemptions to continue using their existing routes and avoid the need for trucks to make left-turns onto major arterials, to provide the shortest routes to/from their destinations especially if they serve additional businesses in the City, and/or improve safety.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department may establish weight limit or axle restrictions to prohibit use of select streets by larger commercial vehicles. These types of restrictions reduce commercial truck traffic on certain local, residential, and/or collector roadways by directing truck traffic onto arterial roadways. Weight limit restrictions assist in preserving the pavement and promoting safe use of streets which may have distinctive roadway conditions, are residential in nature, or experience cut-through truck traffic. Such restrictions do not prevent use for the purpose of delivering or picking up of materials/merchandise or the performance of services in connection with a property within the specific block.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department is proposing establishment of axle restrictions prohibiting use by commercial trucks exceeding three axles on designated segments of Arlington, Central, Chicago, Iowa and Jurupa Avenues which are experiencing commercial truck cut-through traffic. The proposed axle restrictions will also aid in reducing safety concerns created by large truck use and preventing excessive asphalt damage on our roadways.

Subsequent to the August 10, 2017 Transportation Committee review and recommendation related to the proposed establishment of axle restrictions, the Riverside Police Department's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division made additional recommendations including changes to the parameters of the proposed zones on Central Avenue and Arlington Avenue as well as the addition of axle restrictions on segments of Chicago Avenue, Iowa Avenue, and Jurupa Avenue. Per the Police Department's recommendations, to avoid potential impacts to the Tava Lanes Commercial Center and the nearby storage facility on Arlington Avenue the proposed axle restriction boundaries for Arlington Avenue were modified from "Chicago Avenue to the SR-91 Freeway" to "Horace Street to Chicago Avenue" and the boundaries for the proposed westerly Central Avenue axle restriction were extended westerly from "Brockton Avenue to Phoenix Avenue" to "Brockton Avenue to Fremont Street" to include additional segments which have residential homes fronting. The Police Department also recommended the establishment of axle restrictions on Jurupa Avenue from Fremont Street to Brockton Avenue to reduce truck cut-through traffic, particularly car haulers, between SR-91 and Van Buren Boulevard and on Chicago Avenue from Arlington Avenue to Central Avenue to avoid large trucks traveling on Central Avenue from the I-215 or Canyon Crest Town Center from heading southbound on Chicago Avenue leading to other connecting axle restricted streets including Arlington and Central Avenues. The Police Department's final recommendation was to establish an additional axle restriction on Iowa Avenue between Spruce Street and Blaine Street as trucks that exceed a length of 65-feet and are "over-length" have difficulty traversing the intersection when making a southbound right-turn from Iowa Avenue onto westbound Blaine Street in order to access the I-215 Freeway.

Implementation of the proposed axle restrictions would aid in regulating heavy truck traffic on these select arterial roadway segments keeping larger trucks on local freeways and promoting safer operations as well as encouraging use of alternate unrestricted arterial roadway segments better suited for large commercial truck traffic. Trucks in excess of three axles which are directly en-route to businesses locations in the vicinity and/or engaged in pick-up and/or delivery activities within these areas are in compliance with the regulations and not considered in violation of the posted axle restrictions.

Consideration of Board recommended measures to minimize the impacts of the proposed axle restrictions on businesses in the immediate areas resulted in the Riverside Police Department Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer recommending initial utilization of an exemption letter for select area businesses. The letter would preserve commercial truck pick-ups and delivery routes for these businesses to ensure continued efficient business operations allowing the axle restrictions to address cut-through commercial traffic as intended.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of sign fabrication, removal, and installation is estimated at \$18,000. Funding is available in the existing Public Works Department budget, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost.

Prepared by:	Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Ordinance
2. Site Map
3. Transportation Board Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2017