



M E M O R A N D U M
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors DATE: July 27, 2021
FROM: Ken Grehm, Director of Public Works
By: Phil Vassion, Associate Civil Engineer
SUBJECT: Dog Bar Road Vehicle Size Restriction / Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 / New Article, Article 10.10, Section 10.10.010 of the Placer County Code

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt an ordinance, introduced July 6, 2021, amending Chapter 10 of the Placer County Code by adding a new article, Article 10.10, Section 10.10.010 regarding vehicle size restrictions on Dog Bar Road.

BACKGROUND

Dog Bar Road is a two lane, rural windy road located in the Meadow Vista area of Placer County. It is a rural collector roadway that connects the community of Meadow Vista to the City of Colfax. It is characterized by very tight radius horizontal curves from Placer Hills Road until it crosses the Nevada County line. A very tight hairpin turn exists just west of Emery Lane. At the Nevada County line, Dog Bar Road crosses the Bear River utilizing a very narrow one-lane bridge. Vehicles traveling westbound on Dog Bar Road would need to make a ninety-degree turn in order to use the bridge to cross the Bear River. In the last month, the bridge railing has been struck three times by westbound vehicles that are oversized coming from Placer Hills Road. The bridge utilizes metal beam guardrails anchored on each side to shield vehicles from going off the bridge. If the bridge's railing continues to get struck as it has previously, it can present a safety hazard for vehicles crossing the bridge and ongoing maintenance concerns for the Department. Also, longer vehicles have the added challenge of possibly getting stuck or unable to turn around in tight areas.

The Department recommends that the Board adopt an ordinance restricting trucks to less than 23' in length to travel along Dog Bar Road. Nevada County already has this restriction in place for vehicles coming from Colfax. In addition, Nevada County has a 17-ton weight restriction in place, recognizing and citing Caltrans' authority to limit vehicle weights over bridges which have been deemed unable to carry specific loads per the California Vehicle Code Section's 35750 – 35755. The Department will also install signage to limit truck weights to under 17 tons per this same recognition and citation of Caltrans authority.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378 as this is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. In addition, this action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15301 and 15061(b)(3).

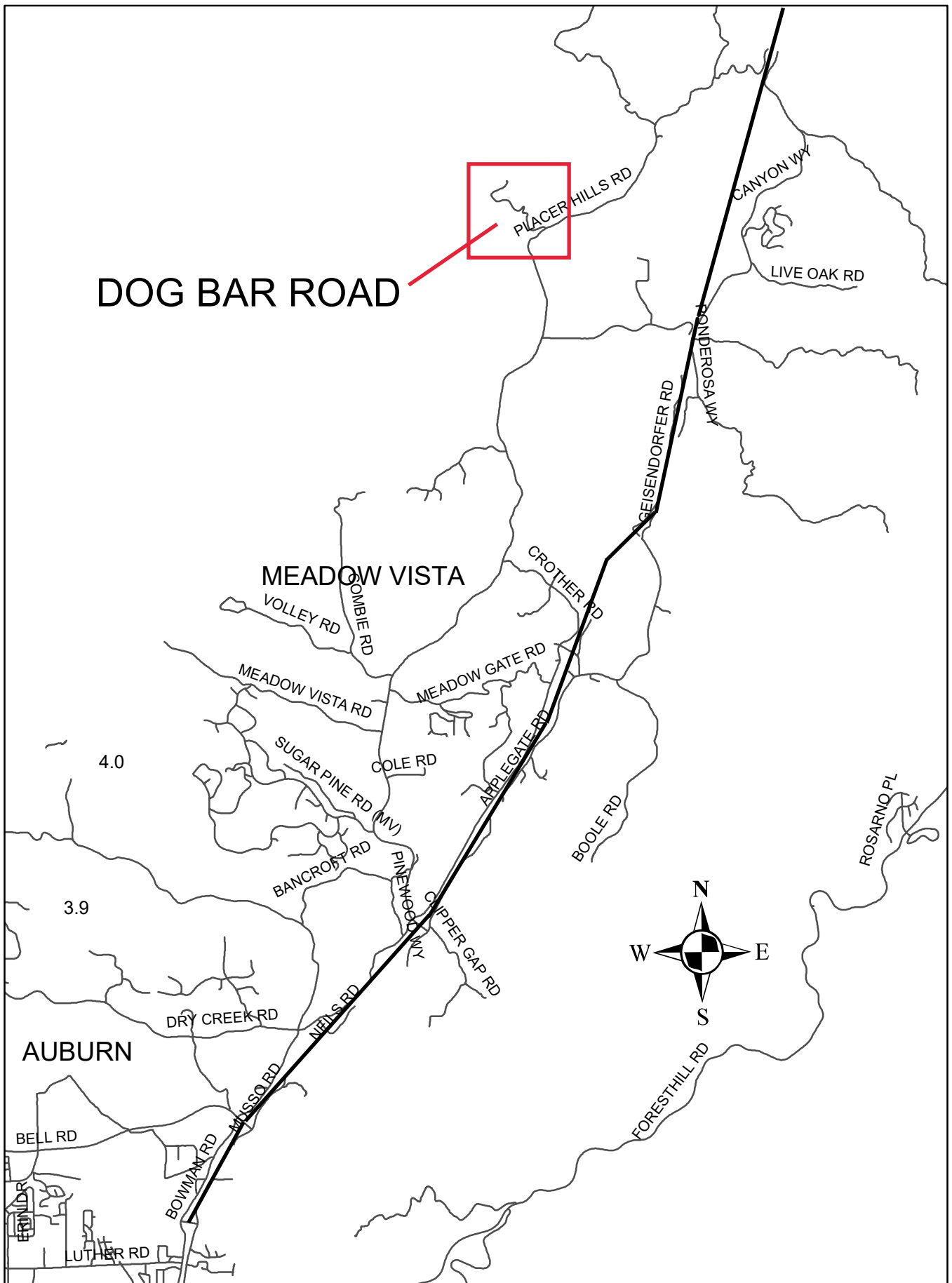
FISCAL IMPACT

The adoption of this Ordinance will have a minor fiscal impact associated with the cost to install new warning signs on Dog Bar Road. This cost is proposed to be absorbed in the Department of Public Works 2021-22 Road Maintenance budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Location Map
Ordinance

LOCATION MAP



Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

An ordinance to amend Chapter 10 of the Placer
County Code by adding Article 10.10, Section
10.10.010 regarding vehicle size restrictions on Dog
Bar Road.

Ordinance No.: _____

Introduced: July 6, 2021

The following Ordinance was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer
at a regular meeting held on July 27, 2021, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the County desires to establish vehicle size limitations on specific county highways
by amending Placer County Code, Chapter 10 to add Article 10.10, Section 10.10.010, titled
"SIZE LIMITS"; and

WHEREAS, County staff have identified a need to restrict commercial vehicle sizes on Dog Bar
Road; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment does not constitute a project under the California
Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378 as this is an
administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the
environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER,
ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1: Placer County Code, Chapter 10 is amended to add Article 10.10, Section 10.10.010 as follows:

Article 10.10 SIZE LIMITS

10.10.010 Size limits on specific county highways.

A. Size limits on Dog Bar Road

1. Commercial vehicles exceeding a length of 23 feet are prohibited from using Dog Bar Road (G3129).

2. State Route 174 is designated as an alternate route for commercial vehicles prohibited from using Dog Bar Road (G3129).

* * *

Section 2: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force thirty (30) days after the date of its passage. The Clerk is directed to publish this ordinance, or a summary thereof, within fifteen (15) days in accordance with Government Code Section 25124.