

# MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
DATE: March 10, 2015

FROM:  KEN GREHM / PHILLIP VASSION

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF 7 TON WEIGHT RESTRICTION ON NELSON LANE NORTH OF HIGHWAY 65

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## ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

1. Conduct a public hearing to consider an amendment to the existing ordinance [County Code, Chapter 10, Section 10.08.160 (P1)] to remove the seven (7) ton weight restriction along Nelson Lane, north of Highway 65. There is no net County cost.

## BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

Nelson Lane, from Nicolaus Road to Moore Road, currently has a seven (7) ton weight restriction prohibiting commercial vehicle use. This limit was placed because of the narrowness of the road and the inadequacies of the Markham Ravine Bridge and roadway pavement to carry heavy loads.

Placer County currently owns and maintains Nelson Lane. The City of Lincoln, in cooperation with Placer County, just completed an extensive project on Nelson Lane, north of Highway 65 that included reconstruction of the existing two-lane narrow road into a four-lane divided road, and replacement of the Markham Ravine Bridge to two, two-lane bridges. These improvements provide direct access from Highway 65 to the Lincoln Airport and the commercial corridor along Aviation Boulevard. Other benefits of the project include reduced vehicle delay, and improved safety and traffic operations.

Based upon the recent improvements, Public Works has considered removing the seven (7) ton weight restriction from Nelson Lane in order to allow commercial vehicle use. The Department of Public Works went to the Rural Lincoln MAC on January 12, and the MAC voted against the removal. A resident expressed noise concerns with the new improved roadway and requested that the restriction remain until his noise concerns were addressed. Since the construction of the Highway 65 Bypass, Nelson Lane has become the direct connection from the Bypass to Western Lincoln and from the highway to the Lincoln airport. The improvements made to Nelson Lane have addressed the deficiencies that lead to the restrictions being imposed. Typically all trucks carrying legal loads are allowed on California highways. Weight restrictions are necessary only if the roadway cannot carry the vehicle loads safely. Although we respect the MAC's desires, Public Works feels there is no technical reason to restrict truck traffic on Nelson Lane (north of Highway 65) and the road is the direct link for trucks to the airport.

An analysis was also conducted on South Brewer Road and Nelson Lane, south of Highway 65 to determine if weight restrictions could be removed. Although two bridges have been replaced on South Brewer Road, the extremely poor condition of the pavement and lack of pavement north of Moore Road led the Department to not seek any amendment to the weight restriction at this time. For Nelson Lane, south of Highway 65, Public Works has determined to not seek removal of the weight restriction, due to the narrowness of the road and public feedback at the MAC.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

This action is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15301c, Operation of an Existing Highway.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The total cost of sign removal would be nominal and would be borne by the Road Fund.

Attachment: Ordinance  
Exhibit A – Location Map  
Exhibit B – County Ordinance – Chapter 10, Section 10.08.160  
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**Before the Board of Supervisors  
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of: Adopt amendment to the existing ordinance [County Code, Chapter 10, Section 10.08.160 (P1)] to remove the seven (7) ton weight restriction along Nelson Lane, north of Highway 65. There is no net County cost.

Ordinance No: \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

The following   ORDINANCE   was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Attest:  
Clerk of said Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, State of California, does hereby ordain as follows:

**Section 1.** That this Board adopt amendment to the existing ordinance [County Code, Chapter 10, Section 10.08.160 (P1)] to remove the seven (7) ton weight restriction along Nelson Lane, north of Highway 65.

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

**EXHIBIT B- Chapter 10**

**10.08.160 Load limits on specific county highways.**

P. Load Limits on Nelson Lane (C5021).

1. Commercial vehicles exceeding a gross weight of fourteen thousand (14,000) pounds (seven tons) are prohibited from using Nelson Lane (C5021) between Moore Road (A4064) and Nicolaus Road (A5076) **Highway 65(Z0065)**.



