

From: dot.sm.r08.trafficsafety <dot.sm.r08.trafficsafety@dot.ny.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 29, 2023 12:55 PM

To: Margaret Morris <margaret.morris@cityofhudson.org>

Subject: T23-341: Letter from City of Hudson Regarding Access Highways and 53' Trucks

Dear Ms. Morris:

Thank you for your correspondence to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), dated August 22, 2023 requesting information on the process for changing Access Highways within the City of Hudson and the prohibition of trucks over 48 feet in length from entering the City of Hudson unless they are making local deliveries.

A written request to de-designate a previously designated truck access highway (access highway for special dimension vehicles) should be submitted to:

Robert Limoges, Director
Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility
50 Wolf Road, POD 53
Albany, NY 12232

Trucks over 48 feet in length, for example 53' tractor trailers (special dimension vehicles), are only allowed to travel on roads designated as access highways for special dimension vehicles. The only time a special dimension vehicle is allowed to travel on a road that is not an access highway is if the road is within one road mile of a qualifying highway. There are no qualifying highways in the immediate vicinity of the City of Hudson. If a special dimension vehicle, such as a 53' tractor trailer, is traveling on a road or segment of road that is not designated as an access highway, then the driver risks getting pulled over by law enforcement. For instance, a 53' tractor trailer traveling on Route 9G / 23B to the L&B Products Terminal cannot travel north of the L&B Products Terminal. Similarly, a 53' tractor trailer cannot travel west of the Route 23B (Columbia Street) and Route 9 (Park Place) intersection or the Route 9 (Park Place) and Route 9 (Warren Street) intersection.

The segment of Route 9 carried through the city is technically not a State highway within the city limits. This segment of Route 9 (locally known as Worth Avenue, Warren Street, Park Place and Columbia Street) is a designated access highway and part of the City of Hudson truck route.

The City of Hudson has a signed truck route through the city. NYSDOT does not have the legal authority to route trucks under the Vehicle and Traffic Law (V&TL); that authority is limited to municipalities under V&TL 1640 and 1660, and they can establish truck routes by order, rule, ordinance, or regulation. NYSDOT is responsible for ensuring reasonable access to Special Dimension Vehicles and reviewing and administering the access highway program.

Thank you for your interest in and support for the transportation system. For further questions, please contact the Regional Traffic and Safety Group at (845) 437-3320 and reference T23-341.

NYSDOT Hudson Valley Region