

COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT LOAD PERMITS GUIDELINES

An Oversize/Overweight Load Permit is required when the dimensions or weight of a vehicle(s) exceeds the normal limits in accordance with the Highway Traffic Act (HTA). The following guidelines are provided to assist with application submission requesting permission to travel on County of Wellington roads with an oversize/overweight vehicle. These guidelines applies only to Wellington roads and it is the responsibility of the owner and mover to obtain approval from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and/or appropriate road authorities where moves require travel on provincial highways and/or local municipal roads.

1. Types of Permits

There are two types of permits: Annual and Single Trip. Each oversize/overweight permit will have specific conditions attached and these must be strictly adhered to. The permit may be terminated for breach of any conditions and the permit holder may be subject to prosecution.

Permits must be carried and produced on demand by a police officer or an officer appointed for carrying out the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act. Permit holders accept responsibility for any and all damage that may be caused to overhead wires, structures, highways, encroachments, or railway right-of-ways. Permits may be terminated at the discretion of the County for breach of permit conditions. Prior to issuing a permit, the applicant must perform a route survey and ensure that they have not identified any constraints which would invalidate the proposed route including submission of route map with permit.

1.1. Annual Permit

An annual permit is used for repeat trips by oversize vehicles and/or loads and may be requested for a project to allow a contractor to move similar loads, objects, and structures over the same specified route. Annual permits are **not valid in construction zones** especially where the horizontal clearance has been reduced to less than 3.5 metres with the submission of single trip permit approval is required.

The maximum dimensions permitted on an annual permit are as follows:

Length:

- Single vehicle: length 12.50 metres, including a maximum rear overhang of 4.65 metres.
- Combination vehicle: length 23 to 26 metres, including a maximum rear overhang of 4.65 metres.

Width:

- 2.6 metres to 3.85 metres on all County roads.

Height:

- Under 4.26 metres.

Weight:

- In accordance with the Highway Traffic Act.

Moving Times

- Daylight Hours Only.

1.2. Single Trip Permit

A single trip permit is issued to facilitate an oversize/overweight move for a one-way trip along a specified route for a limited time period during the dates indicated on the permit issued. All loads exceeding maximum allowable dimensions on the annual permit must be presented under a single trip permit unless special permission is granted under the annual permit.

The following dimensions are permitted on single trip permits:

Length:

- Single vehicle: length 12.50 metres.
- Combination vehicle: length 23 to 45 metres.

Width:

- 2.6 metres to 5.0 metres on all County roads.

Height:

- Exceeds 4.15 metres and approval is required from utility companies.

Weight:

- Up to 75,000 kg.

Moving Times

- Daylight Hours Only – Monday to Friday.

Sufficient time should be provided when applying for a single trip permit and the carrier should apply at a minimum of 10 business days prior to the proposed move date to process the permit request.

Exceptional Dimensions and Loads:

When applying for a Single Trip Permit with exceptional dimensions over 5.0 metres in width and/or 45 metres or greater in length and/or 4.5 metres or greater in height and/or over 75,000 kg, a carrier should submit their application at least 45 days prior to the proposed move date due to the more involved approval process. Loads with exceptional dimensions required approval of all affected agencies. A signed exceptional load checklist must be obtained by all impacted agencies.

For gross vehicle weights in excess of 119,999 kg, the County may require the applicant to hire a designated consultant engineer to evaluate the bridges and roads along the route and submit the evaluation for approval.

A Traffic Management Plan is required, defining in detail all aspects of the intended move including:

- Detailed escort requirement and procedures identifying the responsibility of all units involved (police & private)
- Detailed route survey indicating all appropriate locations for road closures, pullover areas, emergency parking, fuel stops, significant turning movements and any anticipated roadside related activities such as restricting roadside parking
- Contingency plans for breakdowns

All documentation will be subject to review and approval by the County prior to the insurance of permits. Consideration will only be given to the move if it can be satisfactorily proven to be absolutely necessary.

2. Permit Fees

Annual Permit: \$500 or as described in the County's User Fees and Charges By-law.

Single Permit: \$125 or as described in the County's User Fees and Charges By-law.

3. Additional Considerations

3.1. Proof of Insurance

Provide valid certificate of insurance with a minimum of \$ 2 million automobile liability insurance and \$ 5 million general liability insurance and listing the County of Wellington as additional insured for the duration of Permit exclusive of interest and cost, against loss or damage resulting from bodily injury to or death of one or more persons and a loss of or damage to property.

3.2. Bonds

The County may require that a bond or other security sufficient to cover the cost of repairing potential damage to the highway be posted before issuing a permit.

Any of the following circumstances may be sufficient to warrant a bond being posted:

- Where loading on tires must exceed 11 kg per millimeter width,
- Where loading on axle must exceed 10,000 kg during reduced load period,
- Where total gross vehicle weight exceeds 119,999 kg subject to engineering analysis of bridge structures and geotechnical assessment of roadway structure,
- Where overweight vehicles must be routed over substandard bridge structures subject to engineering analysis of bridge structures, or
- Deemed to be warranted by the County

The value of the bond will be determined by the County and is not subject to negotiation. The carrier may be required to pay for the services of County-approved geotechnical and/or structural consultants to assess conditions and evaluate any real or potential damage.

3.3. Reduced Load Period and Bridge Weight Restrictions

Annual permits for moving heavy vehicles, loads, objects, **are not valid** on structures in excess of posted legal weight limits as per Bridge Restriction By-Law or any County Road during the annual reduced load period when the signs are displayed between March 1st and May 15th and for more information visit wellington.ca. Annual permits are **not** valid on designated reduced load highways, which are posted according to Section 122(5) of the Highway Traffic Act, under any circumstances.

3.4. Escort Requirements:

A permit may be issued on the condition that the permit holder provides an escort vehicle(s) either preceding or following the oversize/overweight vehicle or load. The applicant is responsible for arranging for any escort(s) and any additional police escort(s) as deemed necessary through the Highway Traffic Act. This may require further contact from the applicant with Wellington OPP.

A description of when an escort vehicle is required is as follows:

No escort required:

- For widths from 2.61m to 3.99m
- For lengths from 23.01m to 36.75m
- For heights from 4.16m to 4.86m

When a Private Escort Warning Vehicle is required:

Widths:

- From 4m to 4.59m: 1 escort vehicle required on two lane highways
- From 4.6m to 4.99m: 2 escort vehicles required on two lane highways

Lengths:

- From 36.76m to 45.74m: 1 escort vehicle required
- Rear overhang greater than 4.65m: 1 escort vehicle required at the rear of load

Heights:

- 4.87m and greater: 1 escort vehicle (pole car) required

When a Minimum of Two Police Escort Vehicles are required:

Width:

- 5m and greater

Length:

- 45.75m and greater

Weight:

- County requirement

Mobile/modular homes greater than 29.25m in length (This includes office and construction trailers and portable schoolhouse) are not permitted to travel in convoy and require two private escort warnings vehicles to accompany each load.

Caution: Escort vehicles do not have traffic control authority. The escort driver must obey all traffic laws and regulations.