Digest Of Truck Regulations

I. Definitions

A. Truck. Any vehicle exceeding a maximum gross weight of seven (7) tons.

B. Restricted Street. All streets in the city except through and local truck routes.

C. Through Truck Route. Any street upon which the unrestricted use of trucks is permitted. Through truck routes are indicated as heavy lines on the reverse side map.

D. Local Truck Route. Any street upon which trucks with an origin and/or destination within the city may operate but only between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. These local truck routes become restricted streets between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Local truck routes are indicated as dashed lines on the reverse side map.

E. Destination or Destinations. Either a single delivery or several deliveries within “Multiple Delivery Zones” as shown on the reverse side map.

II. General

A. No truck shall be driven in any business district between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day except Sunday if its load extends more than three feet to the front or more than ten feet to the rear.

B. When appropriate signs are erected, no person shall operate, drive or cause or permit to be operated or driven, any truck on any restricted street except as hereinafter provided.

C. No truck shall enter or leave the city except on a through or local truck route. Entry-exit points are shown by circles on the reverse side map.

D. All trucks entering the city for destinations outside the city shall operate only over a through truck route.

E. All trucks entering the city for destinations in the city shall proceed only over a through or local truck route and shall deviate therefrom only by the shortest and most direct route between each destination and the nearest through or local truck route. Upon leaving each destination, a deviating truck shall return to the nearest through or local truck route by the shortest and most direct route except that it may go directly to the next destination by the shortest and most direct route without regard to truck routes, if it will result in a shorter distance being traveled on restricted streets.

F. All trucks on a trip originating in the city and traveling in the city for destinations outside the city, shall proceed by the shortest and most direct route to the nearest through or local truck route.

G. All trucks on a trip originating in the city and traveling for destinations in the city, shall proceed by the shortest and most direct route to the nearest through or local truck route and shall then deviate therefrom only by the shortest and most direct route between each destination and the nearest through or local truck route, except that it may go directly to the next destination by the shortest and most direct route without regard to truck routes if it will result in a shorter distance being traveled on restricted streets.

H. The interpretation of the above shall be as follows:

1. All trucks making deliveries or pickups east of Middlefield Road (assuming Middlefield to run north-south) must come from through or local truck routes east of Middlefield.

2. All trucks making deliveries or pickups west of Middlefield Road must come from through or local truck routes west of Middlefield.

3. All trucks making deliveries or pickups to the Middlefield Road Multiple Delivery Zone must use Oregon Expressway 24 hours a day. All trucks making deliveries or pickups to other sections of Middlefield may use any through or local truck route, but must remain on the through or local truck route to the point nearest to their destination.

4. All trucks making deliveries or pickups to Stanford Industrial Park must come from El Camino Real, Alma, or Page Mill Road or from Bayshore via San Antonio between Bayshore and Alma, without using any restricted street between Bayshore and El Camino Real.

III. Weigh-In. Any police officer shall have the authority to order any commercial vehicle not on a through truck route to a public or private scale to determine if it is in compliance with this section of the code.

IV. Exceptions

A. Trucks making pickups or deliveries on restricted streets can use restricted streets between the nearest through or local truck route and the specific address.

B. This section shall not apply to the following:

1. Passenger buses controlled by the P.U.C. and school buses.

2. Any vehicle owned or operated by a public utility, or by the city, or any vehicle used for the removal of refuse under contract with the city.

3. Any authorized emergency vehicle.

V. Grading Permits. Truck routes designated in permits issued under the provisions of the Excavation, Grading, and Fills Ordinance must be in compliance with routes established in this section.

This digest shall in no way change the legal interpretations or meaning of the Palo Alto Municipal Code.

Revised August 22, 2002