



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

Date: October 8, 2019

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board Of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California,  
Modifying the Existing Laughlin Road Restriction on Vehicles with Trailers or Semi-Trailers  
with Kingpin to Rear Axle Lengths Exceeding 38 Feet to Laughlin Road Between Postmile  
31.50 and Postmile 31.66, and Authorizing the Director of Transportation and Public Works to  
Install Associated Signage.**

**Whereas,** Under Section 35401(e) of the California Vehicle Code, the County may, in consideration of public safety, prohibit vehicles with trailers or semi-trailers exceeding 38 feet from the kingpin to the rearmost axle from using a portion of highway under its jurisdiction; and

**Whereas,** Section 32 of the California Vehicle Code authorizes the County to take such action by resolution; and

**Whereas,** Laughlin Bridge is a narrow one-lane concrete arch bridge spanning Mark West Creek with a severe curve at the immediate southern approach to the bridge; and

**Whereas,** on February 25, 2014, by Resolution No. 14-0066, the County prohibited vehicles with trailers or semi-trailers with kingpin to rear axle lengths exceeding 38 feet on Laughlin Road between River Road and Slusser Road in response to incidents where long vehicles were unable to negotiate the curve at the southern approach to Laughlin Bridge, which had resulted in damage to Laughlin Bridge, blocked traffic and safety concerns; and

**Whereas,** in the five years since the County imposed the vehicle length restriction on Laughlin Road, the Department of Transportation and Public Works has determined that while the restriction has achieved its goal of reducing the number of incidents on Laughlin Bridge thereby furthering the County's interest in public safety, the restriction has also impacted businesses located along relatively straight portions of Laughlin Road within the restricted area, which rely on vehicles above the restricted length for their business needs; and

**Whereas,** in light of both the positive impacts and unintended consequences of the Laughlin Road vehicle length restrictions, the Department of Transportation and Public Works has performed further analysis of the stretch of Laughlin Road between River Road and Slusser Road and determined the restricted area could be limited to Laughlin Road between Postmile 31.50 (North Laughlin Road intersection) and Postmile 31.66 (southeast of Laughlin Bridge), which would retain the same safety benefits without the unnecessary impacts on local businesses.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved,** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma hereby modifies the existing restriction and prohibits vehicles with trailers or semi-trailers with

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kingpin to rear axle lengths exceeding thirty-eight feet (38') on Laughlin Road between Postmile 31.50 and Postmile 31.66; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma hereby authorizes the Director of Transportation and Public Works to erect appropriate signage as required by the California Vehicle Code and California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

**Supervisors:**

Gorin:

Zane:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**