

FIRST READING _____

SECOND READING _____

PUBLICATION DATES _____

THROUGH TRUCK TRAFFIC ORDINANCE
CITY OF DAWSONVILLE GEORGIA
ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING HEAVY MOTOR VEHICLES FROM CERTAIN ROADWAYS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS; CREATING ALTERNATIVE ROUTES; DEFINING TERMS OF ENFORCEMENT; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; REPEALING CONFLICTING REGULATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

"This document has been approved as to its legal form and sufficiency by the legal counsel of the local government prior to its adoption."

WHEREAS, based upon the following and for other reasons justified by the City’s police power, the City of Dawsonville has determined that it is necessary to restrict heavy motor vehicle traffic on certain roadways within the municipal boundaries of the City of Dawsonville in order to protect the public safety and general well being of its citizens and to preserve its local street and highway infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville is constituted by a majority of residential zoning districts and streets, thereby creating roadways primarily used to connect those residential areas and for residential purposes. Additionally, those residential streets are occupied by children at play and general pedestrian traffic;

WHEREAS, the City finds that these residential areas are not suited or safe for large and heavy through vehicular traffic. Furthermore, the City finds it an imminent danger to the children and citizens within these residential areas to have large and heavy motor vehicles utilizing such streets as thoroughfares or cut through roadways;

WHEREAS, many of the streets within the City are not constructed in width or otherwise to adequately and sufficiently withstand the weight of heavy motor vehicles and use by such vehicles has caused and will cause significant and premature damage to the integrity of the City’s roadway system. It is thereby necessary to restrict the usage of the roadways to protect and preserve the integrity of the City’s roadways; and

WHEREAS, the present roadway system within the City limits includes certain roadways, as defined below, that are adequately constructed and designed for large and heavy motor vehicles and that provide for travel and connectivity in east/west and north/south directions so that such vehicles can and should utilize those roadways, pursuant to the following exceptions, in lieu of the other City roadways for the protection and preservation of the public safety and general well being of our citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ENACTED

Section 1. General.

No vehicle with a combined base and total load weight of 5 tons or more shall utilize any roadway within the City limits for travel and/or access through the City, unless such roadway has been designated as a truck route or alternative truck route by the City. However, vehicles meeting the restricted weight limit shall be permitted to travel on roadways not designated as truck routes only for the purpose of delivering or receiving goods and services to a specific destination along non-truck routes. If travel along non-truck routes is necessary for the above permissible purpose, then vehicles must use the nearest intersection for entering and exiting restricted roadways.

Section 2. Designated truck routes; alternate truck routes.

- (a) Vehicles meeting the restriction shall be permitted to utilize Georgia Highway 9, Georgia Highway 53, Shoal Creek Road or Perimeter Road as a means to travel through the City limits and shall be considered truck routes.
- (b) Truck routes shall be properly designated by signage in accordance with applicable laws and safety policies.
- (c) In the case that the designated truck routes do not provide sufficient access through the City, a written petition describing why the designated truck routes are insufficient and suggesting proposed additional or alternative truck route(s) may be submitted along with a certified traffic study for both the existing truck route and the proposed alternative truck route(s) to the Mayor requesting a designation of alternative truck route(s). Upon receipt of such petition, the Mayor or his designee shall consider such request and designate alternative truck routes if it is found necessary and proper. Alternatively, the Mayor or his designee may develop such alternative routes if the Mayor or his designee makes a finding on the City's own accord that such alternative routing is necessary and proper.
- (d) The City Clerk shall maintain an accurate and current list of truck routes and/or alternate truck routes.

Section 4. Exceptions.

This ordinance shall not apply to any police, fire, ambulance or other public safety vehicle; vehicles owned or operated by the City; or vehicles owned or operated by designated representatives or contractors of the City actively engaged in the repair, maintenance or construction of City streets, street improvements or utilities within the City's rights of way.

Section 5. Enforcement.

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the City Marshall, his designee or other sworn law enforcement officer(s).

Section 6. Violations and penalties.

Violations of this ordinance shall be punishable by the imposition of a \$50.00 fine for the first offense. Repeat offenders may be punished by the imposition of fines up to \$200.00 for each offense.

Section 7. Repeal Of Conflicting Ordinances.

All ordinances and resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are repealed.

Section 8. Effective Date.

These regulations shall take effect and be in force from and after adoption, the public welfare demanding it.

SO ADOPTED this _____ day of August, 2004.

Mayor, City of Dawsonville

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Attested: _____
City Clerk