

ORDINANCE NO. 190

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AMADOR, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH THROUGH-TRUCK ("THRU-TRUCK") RESTRICTIONS WITHIN CITY LIMITS CONSISTENT WITH CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE SECTION 35701

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code Section 35701 authorizes the City of Amador ("City") to adopt ordinances prohibiting the use of City streets by through-trucks exceeding a specific weight; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this ordinance is to enhance traffic safety, reduce roadway maintenance costs, and preserve the residential and historical character of its main street by prohibiting the use of Main Street by trucks exceeding 10,000 pounds or five (5) tons gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), consistent with the requirements of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans);

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of Amador City, a general law city of the State of California, does ordain as follows:

Enactment: Chapter 10 of the Amador City Municipal Code is amended and Section 10.06.010 is added, as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose.

The purpose of the regulations contained in this Ordinance is to accomplish the following goals:

- A. Increase safety for other vehicles, passengers and pedestrians in Amador City;
- B. Further the orderly conduct of traffic, the safety of the residents, the protection and preservation of the streets, and the general welfare of the community;
- C. Reduce the ambient noise level associated with heavy trucks;
- D. Reduce the wear and tear on local streets caused by heavy trucks that can lead to early road breakdown, and pose a hazard to nearby historical buildings and residences;
- E. Provide for improved quality of life for residents and visitors by carrying out the goals set forth in subsections A-D, above.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them:

- **"Commercial Vehicle" / "Truck":** Any motor vehicle, trailer, or combination of vehicles used or maintained for the transportation of persons for hire, compensation, or profit, or designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property, having a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of **ten thousand (10,000) pounds (5 tons)** or more.

- **"Through-Truck Traffic":** The operation of a commercial vehicle or truck passing through the City from an origin outside the City limits to a destination outside the City limits, without making a local delivery, pickup, or service stop.
- **"Restricted Street":** Main Street, from City limit to City limit

SECTION 3: THROUGH-TRUCKS PROHIBITED

Except as otherwise provided in Section 4 of this Chapter, it is unlawful for any person to operate, drive any Commercial Vehicle using Main Street to enter and exit City limits for a destination outside City limits.

SECTION 4: MANDATORY EXEMPTIONS FOR LOCAL ACCESS

The restrictions established in Section 2 of this Chapter shall not apply to any commercial vehicle performing the following activities:

- **Local Deliveries and Pickups:** Safely loading or unloading goods, merchandise, or property at a business or residence located on a restricted street.
- **Active Construction:** Delivering building materials or equipment to an active construction site holding a valid City-issued building permit.
- **Public Utilities:** Vehicles owned or operated by a public utility, political subdivision, or licensed contractor engaged in installing or repairing public infrastructure (e.g., electricity, water, internet).
- **Emergency Services:** Emergency response vehicles, including police, fire, and medical units.
- **Municipal Services:** Standard garbage, recycling, or street maintenance vehicles operated by or on behalf of the City.
- **Buses:** public transportation vehicles and schools buses.

SECTION 5: SIGNAGE REQUIRED FOR ENFORCEMENT

The City is to purchase and erect regulatory signs conforming to the **California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)**. Signs reading **"NO THRU TRUCKS"** shall be posted at all entrances to the City, including but not limited to the approach to Amador City from California State Highway 49, and to the approach to Amador City on Old Highway 49 in Amador County. No enforcement or citations shall be issued under this ordinance until such signs are completely installed.

SECTION 6: ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- **Weigh-In Authority:** Any peace officer or commercial vehicle enforcement officer having reason to believe a truck is operating in violation of this chapter may require the driver to stop and submit to a document check.
- **Fines:** Any violation of this chapter shall constitute an administrative infraction or traffic violation, punishable by a base fine of **\$500.00** for a violation.

SECTION 7: SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION 8. Effective Date and Notice.

This ordinance shall take effect sixty (60) days after its adoption. Within fifteen (15) days of its adoption, this ordinance shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Amador.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Amador this 14th day of June 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:

NEYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

City Clerk

Date

Mayor.

Date

City Attorney

Date