



Highway Designations

Public Act 100-0343

Public Act 101-0328

November 18, 2019



Highway designations: key changes from recent legislation

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Caveat: The following slides describe important changes to the highway designation process. However, the designation process and size and weight regulations have many exceptions and special provisions.

Complete information about state regulations is available at [P.A. 101-0328](#) or in IDOT's [OPER 753](#) pamphlet (after 1/1/2020).

Public Acts 100-0343 and 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Current law
Truck tractor semitrailer combination vehicle lengths (non-designated highways)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 55 feet on all non-State highways• 55 feet on non-designated State highways	65 feet on non-designated highways
Design	---	State and local agencies shall not be required to widen or otherwise alter a non-designated highway constructed before January 1, 2018 to accommodate 65' vehicle lengths (emphasis added).

Public Acts 100-0343 and 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Current law
Cost recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State + local agencies• Damaged or destroyed roadway property, including road safety equipment and emergency equipment• Cost of repair or replacement• Depreciation not used as a factor	Same, except for newly authorized combinations >55': <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Damaged or destroyed highways, highway structures, or traffic control devices• Cost of repair or depreciated cost of replacement

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Authorized highway designations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class I• Class II• Class III• Locally preferred truck routes• Undesignated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class I• Class II• Undesignated
Class I and Class II highway vehicle lengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No overall length limitations• Semitrailer length may not exceed 53 feet.• Special circumstances may apply	No change

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Class I highway access for combination vehicles over 65 feet in length for loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest.	From Class I highway onto any street for a distance of one highway mile provided there is no sign prohibiting that access	Same

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Class I or II highway access for combination vehicles over 65 feet in length for loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest.	From Class I or Class II highway onto any state highway or locally designated highway for a distance of five highway miles.	From Class I or Class II highway onto any non-designated highway for a distance of five highway miles if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1691 801 2423 933">• there is no sign prohibiting that access;<li data-bbox="1691 953 2423 1159">• The route is not used as a thoroughfare between Class I or Class II highways

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Record-keeping for designated highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IDOT maintains and provides listings of designated highways• IDOT also maintains listings of designated highways under local-agency jurisdiction	Same
Local-agency responsibilities for designated highways	Local agencies shall report Class II highways under their jurisdiction and contact information.	Same, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a local agency has no Class II highways, they shall affirm that to IDOT.

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Signage for designated Class II highways	---	Signs designating Class II highways need not be erected, but such designations shall be reported to IDOT
Truck restrictions	IDOT and Local agencies may prohibit the operation of trucks or other commercial vehicles, and may impose weight limitations. These prohibitions and limitations must be signed.	Same

Public Act 101-0328

Issue	Prior law	Law effective Jan. 1, 2020
Record-keeping for truck restrictions	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local governments may report truck restrictions to IDOT• IDOT shall post these reported restrictions on its web site.

Changes in highway designation law

Key takeaways:

- New laws better align with municipal practice
- New laws will place greater importance on getting truck restrictions right
- With greater legal access for large trucks on local roads, there will be more importance on assuring those roads are structurally suitable for large trucks
- New investments for trucks may be increasingly important

Next Steps

- Review and implement O'Hare study within new legal environment
- Designate truck routes
- Update truck restrictions
- Identify capital improvements
- Coordinate implementation and investment programs and policies
- Improve regional truck data
- Periodically reevaluate truck route designations



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