

August 8, 2022

City of Ottawa
Traffic Services

Re: Submission Regarding Proposed Heavy Vehicle Restriction on Bridge Street

The National Capital Heavy Construction Association represents the heavy construction industry – sewer and watermain contractors, road builders and aggregate producers – and suppliers to the industry in the national capital region. Our industry is a significant economic driver, with over 9,000 employees performing over \$1 Billion of infrastructure work annually.

NCHCA and its members appreciate the opportunity to provide input to the proposed implementation of heavy vehicle restrictions on Bridge Street from 11:00pm to 6:00am.

We understand that this restriction is proposed in response to noise complaints. Would you please confirm how many complaints are received annually related to the relevant timeframe of 11:00pm to 6:00am so that we can better understand the need for this restriction and change to a well-established truck route?

We understand that this change to a truck route can be made by Traffic Services without the approval of Council. Please confirm if we have misunderstood.

NCHCA and its members do not support a change to the current truck route or the implementation of the proposed restriction for the following reasons:

- Restrictions on this truck route will result in increased travel distances and, ultimately, additional costs to the City. There are only three crossings and they are not proximate.
- The proposed restrictions will restrict access to Mitch Owens Road, a major truck route.
- The impact on future projects is one consideration. The impact on projects that are already awarded is another matter and may result in claims for the unanticipated additional costs.
- The increase in travel distances will have a climate impact.
- The proposed restriction would impact on contractors' ability to work at night notwithstanding that there may be a requirement to work at night due to peak hour restrictions.
- There is no indication of whether this would be a permanent restriction, a seasonal one or a temporary one.
- Any such change must take into consideration the impact on other residents. Would you please confirm what efforts have been made to understand the impact on residents of alternate routes?

We strongly recommend that, if not already been done, traffic studies be undertaken to better understand the impact on projects requiring night work, environmental impacts, and impacts on residents along alternate routes.

Please let me know if you require additional information and we look forward to further consultation.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Sutherland, P.Eng., LLB, FEC