

Transportation Permit Special conditions for Loads and/or Vehicles Escorted by Pilot Car(s)

The following special conditions are applicable to all permits requiring escort by pilot car(s)

Equipment:

Failure to comply with all equipment requirements under law renders the permit void and the vehicle and/or load out of service until all necessary repairs or additional equipment are obtained to meet said requirements.

Location and Responsibility:

- 1) Single Pilot Car:
 - a) Precede on two or three-lane conventional roads.
 - b) Required on all loads over 12' wide the valley area, 10' wide in the mountain area.
- 2) When two pilot cars are required, one shall precede and one shall follow.
- 3) Pilot cars shall remain right of the centerline of the roadway at all times except when prevented by the physical limitations of the roadway. The use of a pilot car does not grant to the permittee the right to pre-empt the opposing traffic lane. When it becomes necessary because of the physical limitations of the roadway to use a portion of the opposing traffic lane, the permit move shall not occupy that lane until it has been advised by the pilot car that the lane is clear of all on-coming traffic. Opposing traffic is not to be stopped, except in extreme emergencies. It shall be the responsibility of the permit move to stop safely and wait until the opposing lane is free of traffic before proceeding.
- 4) Pilot cars shall maintain a safe distance from the escorted vehicle to allow both passing and warning for other traffic.
- 5) Two pilot cars shall be required when loads are over 14' wide in the valley area, 12' wide in the mountain area, and on all loads over 100' in length.
- 6) At no time shall a pilot car pre-empt opposing traffic.
- 7) A pilot car shall not tow another vehicle while escorting a load unless it is specifically stated on the face of the permit or permit rider.
- 8) STOP/SLOW sign paddles shall not be displayed from the window of a moving vehicle.
- 9) Pilot cars shall not stop opposing traffic except in extreme emergencies.
- 10) Pilot cars cannot escort more than one vehicle and/or load unless specified on the face of the permit or permit rider.
- 11) When necessary to post a flagger in order to warn and direct traffic, the flagging shall be done in accordance with Title 8, Sections 1598 and 1599 of the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Construction Safety Orders and Caltrans "Manual of Traffic Controls." Flaggers shall not be less than 18 years of age.
- 12) Moves on Saturday and Sunday when a pilot car is required will be allowed **only** when the entire move is to be done within the County. Moves on Saturday and Sunday when a pilot car is required, that also require a City or State permit will be prohibited.

The warning lights shall conform to Sections 810 and 818 of Title 13 of the California Administrative Code.

The following is a rule of thumb for determining the conformance to this Code. It is a guideline only and shall not be used for enforcement purposes.

1. If the warning light consists of:
 - (a) One or more amber sealed beam lamp(s) with the manufacturer's model number indelibly ink on the lens, the lamp is probably an acceptable lamp; and
 - (b) The housing is marked with the manufacturer's name and model number;
It is probably an acceptable warning light.
2. If the warning light consists of;
 - (a) A base identified with the manufacturer's name and model number; and
 - (b) A light source consisting of two or four clear sealed boom lamps or a gaseous discharge (strobe) tube or a quartz halogen bulb which are identified with the manufacturer's name and model number; and
 - (c) An amber outer lens with a smooth surface or an amber lens with a clear smooth outer lens identified with the manufacturer's name and model number;
It is probably an acceptable warning light.
3. If the light source consists of an incandescent bulb (such as 1156 single filament of 1157 double filament used in auto taillights), it is probably an unacceptable warning light.

The challenge of the adequacy of a warning light shall be done in accordance with Section 26100 or 26140 CVC.

Warning Signs

Section 27904.5. Subject to Section 25703.5, a pilot car shall display neat, clean and legible signs containing the work "OVERSIZE LOAD," "WIDE LOAD," or "LONG LOAD" may be substituted as applicable. The sign shall be a minimum of 48 inches above the ground and from the front or rear. The sign shall have a bright yellow background with a minimum projected area of 440 square inches. The lettering shall be black with a 1-inch minimum brush stroke width and a 6-inch minimum letter height

Removal or Covering of Warning Signs

Section 35783.5. Warning signs required by the terms of a permit shall either be removed from the vehicle or covered from the view of other motorists whenever the vehicle is operating without the load that required the permit.

Warning Flags

Section 28100. A pilot car shall display at least one red warning flag on each side of the vehicle. The flags shall be a minimum of 16 inches square, and shall be mounted so as to be visible from both the front and rear of the vehicle. The flags shall be removed or covered when the vehicle is not operating as a pilot car.

Additional Requirements

Section 28101. In addition to the lighting, sign, and flag requirements in Sections 25270, 27904, 27904.5 and 28100, a pilot car shall meet all of the following requirements;

- (a) Be a vehicle not less than 60 inches in width,
- (b) Be equipped with all of the following,
 - (1) One STOP/SLOW paddle,
 - (2) One orange vest, shirt or jacket.
 - (3) One red hand flag (24 inches square)
 - (4) One two-way radio communication device.

Vertical Clearance Measuring Device

Section 28102. Pilot cars equipped with vertical clearance measuring devices shall comply with Section 35252.

Weight

Section 35252. (a) A pilot car may operate a vertical clearance measuring device with a height in excess of 14 feet when escorting a permitted over height load. The pilot car may also operate the vertical clearance measuring device when surveying a route for a permitted over height load.

Penalty

Section 28103. It is unlawful and an infraction for any person to violate any provision of this article or to fail to have any required equipment in good working order.

Violation of Permit: Misdemeanor: Exception

Section 35784 (a)...(b)...(c)...(d)...(e)... A violation of equipments requirements contained in Division 12 (commencing with Section 24000), by any person operating pilot car shall not be considered a violation of any terms or conditions of a special permit under subdivision (a)...(f)...

PILOT CARS

The following sections of the California Vehicle Code are applicable to pilot cars required to accompany a load or vehicle by terms of a transportation permit;

Pilot Car

Section 472. A "Pilot car" is a motor vehicle, except a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, or motorized quadricycle, which is used to escort one of more other vehicles, when required, due to the vehicles' size or character or load, in accordance with conditions set forth in a permit issued by the appropriate State agency or by a local authority.

I. D. Placards

Section 27904. There shall be displayed in a conspicuous place on both the right and left sides of a pilot car a sign showing the name of the company, which owns or operated the pilot car. The name shall contrast with the background and shall be a size, shape and color as to be readily legible during daylight hours from a distance of 50 feet. Additional markings, which do not interfere with the legibility of the name, may also be displayed.

Warning Lights on Pilot Cars

Section 25270. Any pilot required by the permit referred to in Section 35780 or 35790 or any vehicle or combination of vehicles subject to the permit if specified in the permit, shall be equipped with flashing amber warning lights to the front, sides or rear. The pilot car and any vehicles required by the permit to have flashing amber warning lights while actually engaged in the movement described in the permit. The warning lamps shall be removed or covered with opaques material whenever the pilot car is not escorting the movement described in the permit.

Illegal Use of Light Bars

Section 27606. (a) No person shall own or operate a motor vehicle which is equipped with a light bar, or facsimile there of, to resemble a motor vehicle used by a peace officer of traffic officer while on duty within that jurisdiction for the primary purpose of enforcing Division 10 (commencing with Section 20000) of Division 11 (commencing with Section 21000) pursuant to Section 40000.

(a) For purposes of this section the following definitions apply:

- (1) A "light bar" means any light or device affixed to or mounted upon the roof of a vehicle and extending the width of the roof, or a substantial portion thereof, which emits amber, red, or blue, or any combination of those lights.
- (2) A "facsimile of a light bar" is any device designed or contrived to resemble a light bar regardless of the degree of light emission or lack thereof.

PILOT CAR

Defined SEC. 472

LONG LOAD

WIDE LOAD

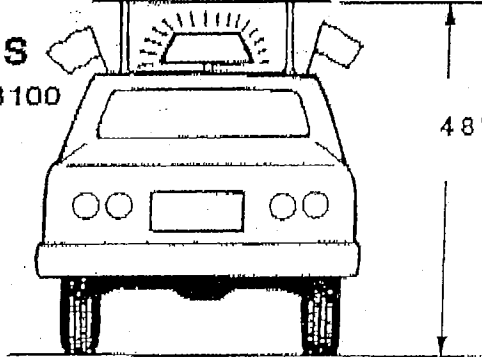
OVERSIZE LOAD

OVERSIZE

PREFERRED MESSAGE

FLAGS

SEC. 28100



48" ----- MINIMUM MOUNTING HEIGHT

REMOVAL OR COVERING
REQUIRED BY SECTION 35788.5

VEHICLE SIZE

60" MINIMUM

SEC. 28101(a)

LIGHT OR LIGHTS

SEC. 25270

TITLE 13 SECTION 810-818 CAC

SEE "RULE OF THUMB"

SHOULD BE TOP MOUNTED

REMOVAL OR COVERING REQUIRED

HEIGHT

SEC. 28102

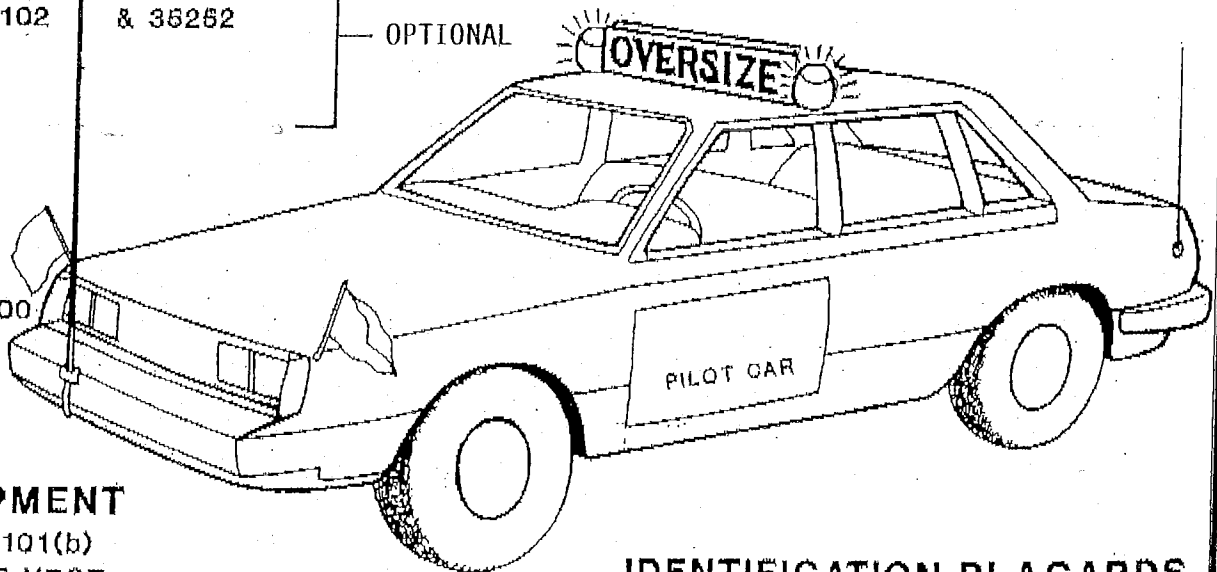
POLE

& 36252

OPTIONAL

FLAGS

SEC. 28100



EQUIPMENT

SEC. 28101(b)

ORANGE VEST

STOP/SLOW PADDLE

RED HAND FLAG (24" X 24" Minimum)

TWO-WAY RADIO

IDENTIFICATION PLACARDS

SEC. 27904

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