

**RICHLAND TOWNSHIP
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 301

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RICHLAND, COUNTY OF BUCKS, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING AND REVISING CHAPTER 15 (MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RICHLAND, BUCKS COUNTY, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 15-201 (MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS ESTABLISHED ON CERTAIN STREETS) TO ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT OF 35 MPH ON RESERVOIR ROAD; SECTION 301 (VEHICLE WEIGHT LIMITS ESTABLISHED ON CERTAIN STREETS AND BRIDGES) TO REVISE THE MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT LIMIT FOR THE MORGAN CREEK BRIDGE ACROSS SOUTH OLD BETHLEHEM PIKE TO 15 TONS; SECTION 304 (TRUCK TRAFFIC RESTRICTED ON CERTAIN STREETS) TO PROHIBIT TRUCK TRAFFIC ON RESERVOIR ROAD, AND TO ADD SCHOOL BUSES TO THE LIST OF EXCEPTIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 304; AND MAINTAINING THE EXISTING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THOSE SECTIONS ENUMERATED IN CHAPTER 15.

WHEREAS, the Township of Richland adopted and enacted the Code of Ordinances of the Township of Richland (hereinafter referred to as the “Code”) on June 27, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Richland Township Board of Supervisors desires to amend the Code of Ordinances of the Township of Richland to revise and replace certain provisions of Chapter 15 relating to speed limits, weight limits on streets and bridges, and the imposition of certain truck restrictions on Reservoir Road within the Township of Richland; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §§4902(a) & (b) provide that local authorities may prohibit the operation of vehicles and may impose restrictions as to the speed of vehicles operating upon Township roads; and

WHEREAS, Gilmore & Associates, Inc. conducted and completed a Truck Restriction Study for Reservoir Road within Richland Township, entitled “Truck Restriction Analysis for Reservoir Road, Richland Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania – File No. 99-91019.06”, and dated November 2, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the conclusions stated in the aforementioned Study provide for the imposition of speed limitations and truck restrictions on the studied roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that there exist certain physical conditions of roadways, hazardous traffic conditions, and other safety factors that require the imposition of speed limitations and truck restrictions on Reservoir Road; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Richland desires to amend certain Sections of Chapter 15 (Motor Vehicles and Traffic), to prohibit the operation of trucks of any kind over and upon Reservoir Road (T-448), to establish a maximum speed limit of 35 MPH on Reservoir Road (T-448), and to provide an exception for School Buses on streets where truck traffic is restricted; as provided by the provisions of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Richland also desires to amend Section 15-301 to revise the maximum gross weight limit for the Morgan Creek Bridge over South Old Bethlehem Pike to 15 tons, in accordance with the inspection and study prepared by Pickering, Corts, & Summerson, Inc. with an inspection date identified as January 11, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Richland Township has determined that the imposition of the speed limitations and truck restrictions on the aforementioned roadway, along with the revised weight limit for the Morgan Creek Bridge, will be in the best interests of the Township and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Township has complied with all applicable pre-requisites and/or requirements, including the applicable engineering and traffic studies, under the law with regard to the truck restrictions and the installation of traffic devices; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §§4902(a) & (b) provide that school buses, emergency vehicles and vehicles making local deliveries or pickups may be exempted from imposed truck restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, 75 Pa.C.S.A. §4902(g) provides for penalties for any person operating a vehicle in violation of the restriction imposed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Richland, County of Bucks, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as follows:

SECTION 1. WHEREAS CLAUSES

The foregoing Whereas clauses are incorporated herein as if the same were fully set forth again at length.

SECTION 2. ENACTMENT

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to the authority conferred by the “Vehicle Code”, Act of 1976, June 17, 1962, No. 81, Section 1, effective July 1, 1977 (75 Pa. C.S.A. § 101 et seq.), as amended and is intended to include and be subject to all provisions of Section 4902 of the “Vehicle Code”, 75 Pa. C.S.A. §4902 and all Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regulations promulgated under the “Vehicle Code”, by way of illustration and not limitation, under Sections 4902 and 6103 (75 Pa. C.S.A. §4902 and 6103).

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to a Traffic Study prepared by Gilmore & Associates, Inc. conducted and completed for Reservoir Road(T-448), entitled “Truck Restriction Analysis for Reservoir Road, Richland Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania – File No. 99-91019.06”, and dated November 2, 2023; as well as an inspection and study prepared by Pickering, Corts, & Summerson, Inc. with an inspection date identified as January 11, 2023 regarding the weight limit for the Morgan Creek Bridge over South Old Bethlehem Pike.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 15, PART 2, SECTION 201

The Board of Supervisors has determined and hereby determines based on highway conditions, engineering studies and otherwise that Chapter 15, Part 2, Section 201 shall be, and is hereby amended to add a line to Section 201 and establish a maximum speed limit of 35 MPH on Reservoir Road (T-448) between West End Boulevard (S.R. 0309) and California Road (T-512).

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 15, PART 3, SECTION 301

The Board of Supervisors has determined and hereby determines, based on an inspection and study prepared by Pickering, Corts, & Summerson, Inc. with an inspection date identified as January 11, 2023 that Chapter 15, Part 3, Section 301 shall be, and is hereby amended to revise and set the maximum weight limit for the Morgan Creek Bridge on South Old Bethlehem Pike, between Tollgate Road and Paletown Road at 15 tons for all vehicles.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 15, PART 3, SECTION 304(1)

The Board of Supervisors has determined and hereby determines based on highway conditions, engineering studies and otherwise that Chapter 15, Part 3, Section 304(1) shall be, and is hereby amended to include Reservoir Road in Richland Township, within the Truck Traffic Restricted on Certain Streets provisions; as follows:

<u>Streets</u>	<u>Between</u>
Reservoir Road	State Route 309 and California Road

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 15, PART 3, SECTION 304(1)

Chapter 15, Part 3, Section 304(1) is hereby amended by adding the phrase “or school bus” after the term “emergency vehicle” in the last paragraph of Section 304(1).

SECTION 7. ERECTION OF SIGNS

The Township shall erect or cause to be erected and maintained truck restriction signs designating the restrictions at proper locations of the portions of roads restricted as provided in the Gilmore Study, and this Ordinance. In the case of a restriction on a road which has not begun or ended at an intersection with an unrestricted highway, the Township shall also place an advance informational sign at the intersection nearest each end of the restricted portion of the road which would allow drivers to avoid the restricted portion of road. The Township shall also erect the appropriate signs for the speed limit on Reservoir Road and the maximum weight limit for the Morgan Creek Bridge over South Old Bethlehem Pike.

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any sentence, clause, or section of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, or sections of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board of Supervisors of Richland Township that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid sentence, clause or section not been included herein.

SECTION 9. REPEALER

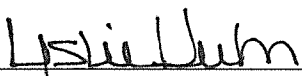
All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they may be inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE

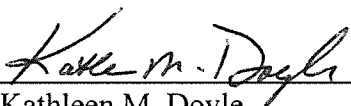
This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after enactment.

Attest

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Leslie Huhn
Township Manager



Kathleen M. Doyle
Chairperson