



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
NEWPORT CITY HALL**

October 7, 2021 – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MAYOR:	Laurie Elliott	City Administrator:	Deb Hill
COUNCIL:	Kevin Chapdelaine	Supt. of Public Works:	Bruce Hanson
	Tom Ingemann	Fire Chief:	Steven Wiley
	Marvin Taylor	Asst. to the City Admin:	Travis Brierley
	Rozlyn Johnson	Law Enforcement (WCSO):	Bill Harrell

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. WATER/SEWER RATES
4. PARKS SURVEY
5. RESIDENTIAL PARKING ORDINANCE
6. ROW OBSTRUCTIONS
7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
8. ADJOURNMENT



MEMO

TO: Newport City Council
FROM: Deb Schulz, Accountant
DATE: August 24, 2021
SUBJECT: Summer sewer usage using winter water usage discount

Discussion: Council requested staff to review the summer sewer usage using winter water usage discount. For residents that go south for the winter, it appears that the City of Newport has approximately 40 households that leave their residents for most of the first quarter of the year. Of these households, most do not utilize high water usage. The residents that leave for the entire first quarter do not shut off the water to their homes and pay the base rates all year.

The City's utility billing software program will allow for zero water usage in the first quarter to revert to actual usage for the third quarter. If the usage is above zero, even 1 gallon, it would place the 3rd quarter sewer usage at 1 gallon. Of the 40 households that left for most of the first quarter of this year, only 12 had zero usage for the first quarter. Six of these are vacant properties.

The software will also allow average usage for sewer for the year. This would most likely result in higher sewer bills all year for residents who water frequently in the warm months.

Recommendation: Staff recommends changing the usage discount for residents that have zero usage in the first quarter to pay actual usage in the third quarter.

Memorandum

Date: September 30, 2021
To: Newport City Council
From: Mayor Laurie Elliott
Re: October 7, 2021 Council Workshop - Park Survey

BACKGROUND

The concept of using a park survey was discussed at the July 15, 2021 Council Workshop meeting and a contract with the Morris Leatherman Company was approved at the August 19, 2021 regular Council meeting. The Morris Leatherman Company is a professional survey firm used by a number of metro-area cities. Their offices are located in Minneapolis. Cities use professional surveys to get balanced feedback on community direction and projects similar this.

The contract includes contacting 250 random households to learn about the amenities Newport residents would support and use in our parks. This number of households is based on our overall population to assure statistical confidence in the data collected. The results will guide us in our future park planning and decision-making.

DISCUSSION

A group of six people worked with Peter Leatherman to draft the survey, including two representatives from the Park Board, two staff members, Councilmember Taylor, and myself. We met on September 13th for a brainstorming session and again on September 29th to review the first draft of the survey questions and make final changes.

The survey covers a variety of areas including current parks and usage, trails, ice rinks, pickleball, Frisbee golf, dog park usage, and a skate park. Survey participants will also be asked to make general comments on our parks. In addition, the survey includes questions about quality of life, household membership and City communications. They expect the survey calls to begin the week of October 11, 2021.

Attached is the final draft of the survey based on our group meetings for the Council's review and information.

The Morris Leatherman Company
3128 Dean Court
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416

City of Newport
Residential Study
REVISED SEPTEMBER 2021

Hello, I'm _____ of the Morris Leatherman Company, a polling firm located in Minneapolis. We've been retained by the City of Newport to speak with a random sample of residents about parks and recreation in the city. This survey is being taken because your city representatives and staff are interested in your opinions and suggestions. I want to assure you that all individual responses will be held strictly confidential; only summaries of the entire sample will be reported. (DO NOT PAUSE)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Approximately how many years have you lived in City of Newport? | LESS THAN TWO YEARS.....1
TWO TO FIVE YEARS.....2
SIX TO TEN YEARS.....3
11 TO 20 YEARS.....4
OVER TWENTY YEARS.....5
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....6 |
| 2. How would you rate the quality of life in Newport -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? | EXCELLENT.....1
GOOD.....2
ONLY FAIR.....3
POOR.....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
| 3. What do you like most about living in Newport? | |

4. In general, what do you think is the most serious issue facing the city today?

Let's talk about property taxes and city services for a moment...

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5. In comparison with neighboring areas, do you consider total property taxes in your community to be very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low? | VERY HIGH.....1
SOMEWHAT HIGH.....2
ABOUT AVERAGE.....3
SOMEWHAT LOW.....4
VERY LOW.....5
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....6 |
|---|---|

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 6. | How would you rate the value you receive, when you consider the property taxes you pay and the services you receive -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? | EXCELLENT.....1
GOOD.....2
ONLY FAIR.....3
POOR.....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
|----|---|--|

Turning to parks and recreation, specifically....

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 7. | How would you rate park and recreational facilities in the City of Newport -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? | EXCELLENT.....1
GOOD.....2
ONLY FAIR.....3
POOR.....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
| 8. | How would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of park and recreational facilities in Newport - excellent, good, only fair or poor? | EXCELLENT.....1
GOOD.....2
ONLY FAIR.....3
POOR.....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |

When you consider your quality of life in the city....

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 9. | How important are park and recreational facilities to you -- very important, somewhat important, not too important or not at all important? | VERY IMPORTANT.....1
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT.....2
NOT TOO IMPORTANT.....3
NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
|----|---|--|

The Newport Park system is composed of five main parks, for each park, please tell me if you or members of your household use that park. Then for each one you use, please tell me if you would rate that park as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	NOT USE	USE EXC	USE GOO	USE FAI	USE POO	DK/REF
10. Lions Park?	1	2	3	4	5	6

IF "NOT USED," ASK:

11. Why have you not used the park?

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

12. What changes or improvements could be made to the park to make it excellent?

	NOT USE	USE EXC	USE GOO	USE FAI	USE POO	DK/ REF
13. Loveland Park?	1	2	3	4	5	6

IF "NOT USED," ASK:

14. Why have you not used the park?

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

15. What changes or improvements could be made to the park to make it excellent?

	NOT USE	USE EXC	USE GOO	USE FAI	USE POO	DK/ REF
16. Newport Bailey School Forest Park?	1	2	3	4	5	6

IF "NOT USED," ASK:

17. Why have you not used the park?

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

18. What changes or improvements could be made to the park to make it excellent?

	NOT USE	USE EXC	USE GOO	USE FAI	USE POO	DK/ REF
19. Pioneer Park?	1	2	3	4	5	6

IF "NOT USED," ASK:

20. Why have you not used the park?

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

21. What changes or improvements could be made to the park to make it excellent?

	NOT USE	USE EXC	USE GOO	USE FAI	USE POO	DK/ REF
22. Busy Beaver Park?	1	2	3	4	5	6

IF "NOT USED," ASK:

23. Why have you not used the park?

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

24. What changes or improvements could be made to the park to make it excellent?

25. Do you or members of your household use city trails? (IF "YES," ASK:) How would you rate city trails - excellent, good, only fair or poor?

NO.....	1
YES/EXCELLENT.....	2
YES/GOOD.....	3
YES/ONLY FAIR.....	4
YES/POOR.....	5
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	6

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

26. What changes or improvements could be made to the trails to make them excellent?

27. Do you or members of your household use city ice rinks? (IF "YES," ASK:) How would you rate city ice rinks - excellent, good, only fair or poor?

NO.....	1
YES/EXCELLENT.....	2
YES/GOOD.....	3
YES/ONLY FAIR.....	4
YES/POOR.....	5
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	6

IF USED, ASK:

28. Do you use city ice rinks to play hockey, broomball or boot hockey?

YES.....	1
NO.....	2
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	3

IF USED BUT NOT EXCELLENT, ASK:

29. What changes or improvements could be made to the ice rinks to make them excellent?

30. Do you feel that the current mix of park and recreational facilities meets the needs of members of your household? YES.....1
 NO.....2
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "NO," ASK:

31. What additional park and recreational facilities would you like to see the City of Newport offer residents? (IF "YES," ASK:) What would that be?

32. Do you or members of your household regularly leave the City of Newport to use park and recreational facilities in other cities? (IF "YES," ASK:) What types of facilities are you using elsewhere?

IF A FACILITY IS MENTIONED, ASK:

33. What city do you normally go to use that park and recreational facility?

Moving on....

I would like to read you a list of park improvements the City could undertake. For each one, please tell me if you would strongly support the use of city funding for that purpose, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of city funding for it. If you have no opinion, just say so.... (ROTATE)

	STS	SMS	SMO	STO	DKR
34. Construction of a skatepark?	1	2	3	4	5

	STS	SMS	SMO	STO	DKR
35. Modernize playground equipment and bring them into ADA compliance?	1	2	3	4	5
36. Upgrades of sport courts for pickleball and tennis?	1	2	3	4	5
37. Construction of frisbee or disc golf course?	1	2	3	4	5
38. Construction of a dog park?	1	2	3	4	5

Now, I would like to briefly re-read the list.

39. Please tell me which one, if any, of those components you would place as the top priority?
40. Of the remaining components, which one would you rank as the second priority?
41. Is there any one component you are most opposed to? (IF "YES," ASK:) Which one?

	TOP	SEC	OPP
CONSTRUCTION OF SKATE PARK.....	1	1	1
MODERNIZE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.....	2	2	2
UPGRADES OF SPORT COURTS.....	3	3	3
CONSTRUCTION OF FRISBEE OR DISC GOLF COURSE.....	4	4	4
CONSTRUCTION OF A DOG PARK.....	5	5	5
ALL (VOL.).....	6	6	6
MULTIPLE (VOL.).....	7	7	7
NONE (VOL.).....	8	8	8
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	9	9	9

Moving on...

I'm going to read you a PAIR of statements. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement COMES CLOSEST to your own views -- even if neither is exactly right. (ASK AFTER INITIAL ANSWER) Do you feel strongly about that, or not?

- 42. A) I prefer to undertake passive park and recreation activities that don't require organization, such as walking; OR STATEMENT A/STRONGLY....1
STATEMENT A.....2
STATEMENT B.....3
STATEMENT B/STRONGLY....4
- B) I prefer to undertake active park and recreation activities that require organization, such sports leagues? DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5

Turning now to barriers for participation....

To what extent does each of the following considerations limit your usage in city park and recreation activities -- would you say it limits you a lot, somewhat, or not at all?

	ALT	SOM	NOT	DKR
43. Amount of time available?	1	2	3	4
44. Travel distance to city parks?	1	2	3	4
45. Personal health?	1	2	3	4
46. Lack of interest in activities offered?	1	2	3	4
47. Lack of information about the city's park and recreation activities?	1	2	3	4
48. Accessibility for the disabled?	1	2	3	4

Moving on....

- 49. What is your principal source of information about Newport city government and its services?

- 50. What is the most effective way for you to receive information about Newport city government and its services?

- 51. In general, how well informed are you about the City of Newport park system and its facilities -- are you very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not at all informed? VERY WELL INFORMED.....1
SOMEWHAT WELL INFORM.....2
NOT TOO WELL INFORMED...3
NOT AT ALL INFORMED.....4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5

Now just a few more questions for demographic purposes....

Could you please tell me how many people in each of the following age groups live in your household. Let's start oldest to youngest, and be sure to include yourself....

- 52. First, persons 65 or over? NONE.....0
ONE.....1
TWO OR MORE.....2
REFUSED.....3
- 53. Adults, between 36 and 64 year olds? NONE.....0
ONE.....1
TWO OR MORE.....2
REFUSED.....3
- 54. Adults, between 19 and 35 year olds? NONE.....0
ONE.....1
TWO OR MORE.....2
REFUSED.....3
- 55. Children, 13 to 18 years old? NONE.....0
ONE.....1
TWO OR MORE.....2
REFUSED.....3
- 56. Children, 12 years old or younger? NONE.....0
ONE.....1
TWO OR MORE.....2
REFUSED.....3
- 57. Do you own a dog? YES.....1
NO.....2
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "YES," ASK:

If the City were to construct a dog park....

- 58. Would you be willing to pay a fee to use the dog park? YES.....1
NO.....2
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
- 59. What is your age, please? 18-24.....1
25-34.....2
35-44.....3
45-54.....4
55-64.....5
65 AND OVER.....6
REFUSED.....7

60.	Do you live east or west of Highway 61?	EAST.....1 WEST.....2 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
61.	Finally, thinking about your household finances, how would you describe your financial situation, would you say that --	STATEMENT A.....1 STATEMENT B.....2 STATEMENT C.....3 STATEMENT D.....4
	A) Your monthly expenses are exceeding your income;	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5
	B) You are meeting your monthly expenses but are putting aside little or no savings;	
	C) You are managing comfortably while putting some money aside;	
	D) Managing very well?	

Thank you for your time. Good-bye.

62.	Gender	MALE.....1 FEMALE.....2
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Real People. Real Solutions.

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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 30, 2021
To: City of Newport Planning Commission
From: Harry Davis, City Planner
Nathan Fuerst, City Planner
Travis Brierley, Assistant to the City Administrator
Subject: Residential Parking Ordinance
Meeting Date: October 7, 2021

Applicant: City of Newport (City Council)

Request:

Review and feedback on draft ordinance changes to residential parking allowances.

Background:

City Council has discussed potential changes to the residential parking ordinance. The various options were in response to resident complaints and concerns. The Council directed staff to research neighboring communities regarding their residential parking ordinances and to the number of vehicles being allowed at a residential property.

Proposal:

The draft ordinance is being presented after staff researched the ordinances of Woodbury, Cottage Grove, St. Paul Park, and South St. Paul. The changes to the parking ordinance presented include changes to the traffic ordinance. Council has discussed and made changes to the draft ordinance as a result of several workshops, the referenced ordinances from surrounding cities, review and comments by the Planning Commission, and a year of citizen feedback and staff attention.

Staff Findings:

In response to Planning Commission and City Council feedback, staff drafted the attached ordinance changes. A summary of the changes are:

- Adding recreational vehicles to the definition of recreational equipment.
 - o Recreational vehicles must now follow the same rules as recreational equipment.
- Vehicles may not be parked on any residential street or right-of-way for longer than 24 hours.
- No more than four vehicles/trailers/etc. are allowed to be parked or stored outside on the property at any one time.
 - o No semi trucks/trailers/tractors are allowed on private property.
 - o Council has an option to either allow one vehicle:
 - Over 6,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or over 20 feet in length; or
 - Class V vehicle.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council consider the above feedback and move forward with calling a public hearing at a regular Planning Commission or City Council meeting.

Name: Parking Ordinance Amendment

Date: October 7, 2021

Page: 2

Attachments:

- Proposed Draft Ordinance
- FHWA Car Class Policy

Sec. 32-39. Residential zones.

- (a) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Recreational equipment includes, but is not limited to, operable and licensed, as required by the state, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, chassis-mounted campers, tent trailers, slide-in campers, airplanes, and converted buses; snowmobiles and trailers, boats/watercraft and trailers, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles and utility trailers. A fish house, boat, snowmobile or other recreational equipment when stored or kept on a trailer shall be considered as one unit. The term "recreational equipment" does not include a motor vehicle designed or used for off-road racing, off-road use or demolition derby.

Residential zone means all areas zoned for residential uses (R-1, R-1-A, R-2, R-3 & RE) and Planned Development District (PDD) areas in the city.

- (b) *Truck or bus parking in residential zones.* No person shall park, stop, or stand any vehicle licensed by any state at over 12,000 pounds for more than two hours upon any private property or public street in a residential zone. Parking, either on-street or off-street, of vehicles licensed by any state at over 12,000 pounds, except for deliveries and unloading, shall be prohibited in all residential districts on lots less than two acres in size.
- (c) *Equipment.* No person shall park, stop, or stand any trailer that weighs over 10,000 pounds (lbs), back-hoe, front-end loader, bobcat, grader, asphalt paver, asphalt roller, or related road machinery or equipment for more than 24 hours upon any private property or public street in a residential zone, except as permitted under subsection (d) of this section. No more than one such vehicle or piece of equipment shall be allowed on a single parcel of property.
- (d) *Construction parking.* In the event building construction or grading is to be performed in a residential zone, the clerk-administrator may grant permission for parking equipment restricted under subsection (c) of this section upon the premises for a reasonable period of time during construction. The permission shall be in writing, provided that the permission may at the clerk-administrator's discretion be endorsed on the building permit issued for the construction.

(e) *Length of parking.* A vehicle may not be upon any residential street or right-of-way in any one place for a longer continuous period than 24 hours.

- ~~(fe)~~ *Exemption for large parcels.* The provisions of this section shall not apply to parcels of two acres or greater, provided that such parcels may not be used as rental vehicle or equipment parking space. In addition, any vehicle permitted under this exemption shall be screened from view from any adjacent lot by trees, fencing, or a storage building as permitted by the underlying zoning requirements. In no case shall any vehicle permitted under this exemption be parked closer than 40 feet from any adjacent property line.

~~(f) *Exemption for recreational vehicles.* The provisions of this section shall not apply to recreational vehicles.~~

- (g) *Conditions and restrictions.* The city council may grant the privilege of truck parking in areas zoned for planned development district in the required conditional use permit for planned development districts, subject to conditions and restrictions as to truck use of the area.
- (h) *Recreational equipment storage.*
- (1) *Generally.* Except as provided or as specifically allowed within the specific zoning districts, all materials and equipment shall be stored within a building.
 - (2) *Exceptions.* Licensed and operable recreational equipment units may be parked or stored on property outside a building as follows:

-
- a. In the front yard, provided they are kept on an established driveway, and entirely on the equipment or vehicle owner's property. Recreational equipment may not be parked or stored on public property or an improved street right-of-way.
 - b. In the side yard abutting an attached or detached garage provided the recreational equipment is not closer than two feet from the side lot line. The area must be surfaced with asphalt, concrete or crushed decorative rock but shall not be placed within drainage and utility easements unless approved by the zoning administrator. Parking or storage of recreational equipment on the side yard abutting the principal building is prohibited.
 - c. In the rear yard not closer than five feet from the rear lot line, five feet from the side lot lines, and not within drainage and utility easements.
 - d. A property can only store recreational vehicles and equipment that are registered to or licensed by the owner or occupant of the property.

(Code 1997, §§ 910.01, 1300.14; Ord. No. 2017-8, 12-21-2017)

Sec. 36-163. Standards for residential districts.

- (a) *RE, R-1 and R-1A standards.* The following standards are applicable to the RE, R-1 and R-1A Residential districts:
 - (1) *Exterior storage and screening.*
 - a. All waste, refuse, garbage and containers shall be kept in a building or in a fully screened area, except as allowed before a scheduled collection.
 - b. All non-operating vehicles or equipment shall be kept within a fully enclosed building.
 - c. No exterior storage shall be allowed in the front yard, except parking of operable vehicles, subject to the following conditions and exceptions:
 1. All vehicles parked in the front yard shall be on concrete, blacktop, or similar durable hard surface free of dust.
 - ~~2. No more than three vehicles may be parked in the front yard at any one time, only one of which may be over 6,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or over 20 feet in length.~~
 3. Recreational vehicles and equipment stored outside of a fully enclosed building must conform to Se. 32-39(h)
 4. Vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment parked on a trailer shall by counted as one vehicle.
 - ~~3. Additional operable vehicles above the limit of three may be parked in the front yard on a temporary basis, for no more than 48 consecutive hours.~~
 - d. All exterior storage in the street side yard of a corner lot shall be fully screened from the street and adjacent properties.

e. No more than four vehicles, trailers, recreational vehicles, recreational equipment, truck, bus, off-road vehicles, or similar may be parked or stored in the front, side, and rear yard on a residential property at any one time,

1. Only one of which may be over 6,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or over 20 feet in length.

2. Semi trucks, semi tractors, and semi trailers are prohibited from being parked or stored on any residential property.

3. Off-road motor vehicles are prohibited from being parked or stored in the front yard and shall be screened from public view or parked or stored in an enclosed structure.

*****OR*****

e. No more than four motorcycles, passenger cars, and other two axle vehicles, trailers, recreational vehicles, recreational equipment, truck, bus, off-road vehicles, or similar may be parked or stored in the front, side, and rear yard on a residential property at any one time,

1. Only one of which may be a class V vehicle

2. Semi trucks, semi tractors, and semi trailers are prohibited from being parked or stored on any residential property.

3. Off-road motor vehicles are prohibited from being parked or stored in the front yard and shall be screened from public view or parked or stored in an enclosed structure.

Sec. 36-1. Definitions.

Motorcycle- All two or three wheeled motorized vehicles. Typical vehicles in this category have saddle type seats and are steered by handlebars rather than steering wheels. This category includes motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, motor powered bicycles, and three wheel motorcycles.

Passenger cars- All sedans, coupes, and station wagons manufactured primarily for the purpose of carrying passengers and including those passenger cars pulling recreational or other light trailers.

Other two axle vehicle- All tow axle, four tire, vehicles, other than passenger cars. Included in this classification are pickups, panels, vans, and other vehicles such as campers, motor homes, ambulances, hearses, carryalls, and minibuses. Other two axle, four tire single unit vehicles pulling recreational or other light trailers are included in this classification.

Class v vehicle- all vehicles on a single frame including trucks, camping and recreational vehicles, motor homes with tow axels and dual rear tires.

Off-road motor vehicle- motor vehicle designed or used for track racing, off-road racing, off-road use or demolition derby

Federal Highway Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590

202-366-4000

Policy and Governmental Affairs **Office of Highway Policy Information**

Traffic Monitoring Guide

Appendix C. VEHICLE TYPES

Motorcycles – All two or three-wheeled motorized vehicles. Typical vehicles in this category have saddle type seats and are steered by handlebars rather than steering wheels. This category includes motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, motor-powered bicycles, and three-wheel motorcycles.

Passenger Cars – All sedans, coupes, and station wagons manufactured primarily for the purpose of carrying passengers and including those passenger cars pulling recreational or other light trailers.

Other Two-Axle, Four-Tire Single Unit Vehicles – All two-axle, four-tire, vehicles, other than passenger cars. Included in this classification are pickups, panels, vans, and other vehicles such as campers, motor homes, ambulances, hearses, carryalls, and minibuses. Other two-axle, four-tire single-unit vehicles pulling recreational or other light trailers are included in this classification. Because automatic vehicle classifiers have difficulty distinguishing class 3 from class 2, these two classes may be combined into class 2.

Buses – All vehicles manufactured as traditional passenger-carrying buses with two axles and six tires or three or more axles. This category includes only traditional buses (including school buses) functioning as passenger-carrying vehicles. Modified buses should be considered to be a truck and should be appropriately classified.

In reporting information on trucks, the following criteria should be used:

- Truck tractor units traveling without a trailer will be considered single-unit trucks;
- A truck tractor unit pulling other such units in a saddle mount configuration will be considered one single-unit truck and will be defined only by the axles on the pulling unit;
- Vehicles are defined by the number of axles in contact with the road. Therefore, floating axles are counted only when in the down position; and
- The term "trailer" includes both semi- and full trailers.

Two-Axle, Six-Tire, Single-Unit Trucks – All vehicles on a single frame including trucks, camping and recreational vehicles, motor homes, etc., with two axles and dual rear wheels.

Three-Axle Single-Unit Trucks – All vehicles on a single frame including trucks, camping and recreational vehicles, motor homes, etc., with three axles.

Four or More Axle Single-Unit Trucks – All trucks on a single frame with four or more axles

Four or Fewer Axle Single-Trailer Trucks – All vehicles with four or fewer axles consisting of two units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit.

Five-Axle Single-Trailer Trucks – All five-axle vehicles consisting of two units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit.

Six or More Axle Single-Trailer Trucks – All vehicles with six or more axles consisting of two units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit.



































Five or Fewer Axle Multi-Trailer Trucks – All vehicles with five or fewer axles consisting of three or more units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit.

Six-Axle Multi-Trailer Trucks – All six-axle vehicles consisting of three or more units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit

Seven or More Axle Multi-Trailer Trucks – All vehicles with seven or more axles consisting of three or more units, one of which is a tractor or straight truck power unit.

Figure C-1 lists the 13 vehicle category classifications used by FHWA.

FIGURE C-1 FHWA 13 VEHICLE CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION

Class 1 Motorcycles		Class 7 Four or more axle, single unit	
Class 2 Passenger cars		Class 8 Four or less axle, single trailer	
			
			
			
Class 3 Four tire, single unit		Class 9 5-Axle tractor semitrailer	
			
			
Class 4 Buses		Class 10 Six or more axle, single trailer	
			
		Class 11 Five or less axle, multi trailer	
Class 5 Two axle, six tire, single unit		Class 12 Six axle, multi-trailer	
			
		Class 13 Seven or more axle, multi-trailer	
			
			
			

Source: Federal Highway Administration

Certain truck configurations utilize axles that can be lifted when the vehicle is empty or lightly loaded. The position of these axles — sometimes called lift axles, drop axles, or tag axles — affects the classification category into which the vehicle falls. To maintain consistency between visual and axle-based counts, the TMG recommends that only axles that are in the dropped position be considered when classifying the vehicle. While this promotes consistency, it may induce difficulty when interpreting summary classification statistics at certain locations. For example, a site may exhibit directional differences in vehicle classification even though the same trucks may be travelling one direction loaded (with axles down) and the other direction empty (with axles lifted).

Page last modified on November 7, 2014