

# ORDINANCE NO. 6465

## AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, REDUCING THE PERMISSIBLE WEIGHT OF VEHICLES AND LOADS UPON BRIDGE 20C- 0368 ON SWEETWATER SPRINGS ROAD (#8902A) OVER PORTER CREEK AT POSTMILE 16.69.

---

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, ordains as follows:

### Section I. Findings and Declarations.

- A. On January 2, 2024, the California Department of Transportation issued a Record of Critical Findings, based on a load rating review, which has resulted in an assigned load rating of 4 tons per vehicle by the Sonoma County Department of Public Infrastructure (SPI).
- B. California Vehicle Code 35706 authorizes the Board to reduce the permissible weight of vehicles and loads on county bridges. California Vehicle Code Section 35710 requires the posting of weight limit signage upon county highways following the establishment of vehicle and load weight restrictions. California Vehicle Code 42030 establishes fines for violation of established vehicle and load weight restrictions.
- C. Pursuant to Government Code Section 25123, this Board may adopt an ordinance upon four-fifths vote for the immediate preservation of public safety and health, which contains a declaration setting forth the facts constituting the urgency and which shall be effective immediately. Further, pursuant to Government Code Section 25131, an urgency ordinance may be passed immediately upon introduction.
- D. This Board finds and declares that this Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, based upon the following facts: vehicles and loads greater than those established herein could cause catastrophic failure of the Sweetwater Springs Road Bridge over Porter Creek and loss of life and property.

Section II. Bridge Weight Restrictions. The permissible weight of vehicles and loads upon Sweetwater Springs Road Bridge over Porter Creek are hereby set at the following limit: 4 tons per vehicle, regardless of size.

Section III. Signage. The Director of SPI is hereby directed to post signage of the established weight restrictions in accordance with Vehicle Code Section 35710, and the Board hereby ratifies PI's prior posting of such signage as an emergency measure to protect public health and safety.

Section IV. Fines. Fines for violation of this ordinance shall be established in

accordance with Vehicle Code Section 42030.

Section V. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section VI. This Ordinance shall be and the same is hereby declared to be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage by a four-fifths (4/5) or greater vote. This Ordinance shall be published once before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after said passage, with the names of the Supervisors voting for or against the same, in *The Press Democrat*, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Sonoma, State of California.

In regular session of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, introduced and finally passed and adopted on the 27th day of February, 2024, on regular roll call of the members of said Board by the following vote:

**SUPERVISORS:**

Gorin: Aye      Coursey: Aye      Gore: Aye      Hopkins: Aye      Rabbitt: Aye

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0              Absent:              Abstain:

**WHEREUPON**, the Chair declared the above and foregoing Ordinance duly adopted and

**SO ORDERED.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors  
County of Sonoma

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
M. Christina Rivera,  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors