

Owensville Road (Route 676) Through-truck Restriction Study: Summary

Albemarle County is evaluating whether to request a through-truck restriction on Owensville Road from US 250 (Ivy Road) to Garth Road (Route 692). The request would be submitted to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), which is responsible for decisions regarding implementing truck restrictions.

- According to Virginia Code § 46.2-809, “A through-truck is defined as any truck or truck and trailer or semitrailer combination, except a pickup or panel truck, that travels from one point to another and having no origin or destination along the route(s) traveled”. The CTB has the authority to ban all through-trucks or set a size limit on through-trucks.
- Owensville Road is classified as a Major Collector, making it eligible for a Through-truck Restriction.

Reasonable Alternate Route:

The CTB requires that a reasonable alternate route to the restricted route be developed for approval. Two alternate routes have been provided that can accommodate truck traffic and improve safety for road users in the area (see attached map).

	Current Route: US 250↔Owensville Rd ↔Garth Rd↔ Woodlands Rd↔ Earlysville Rd↔ Dickerson Rd↔Airport Rd↔US 29	Alternate Route 1: US 250↔I-64↔US 29/250↔US 29	Alternate Route 2: US 250↔US 29/250↔US 29
Length:	15.0 miles	29.1 miles	12.7 miles
Average Truck Speed:	32.0 mph	45.7 mph	33.5 mph
Total Travel Time:	28.0 min	38.2 min	22.7 min
Differential		Δ + 10.2 min	Δ - 5.3 min

- Alternative Route #1 would provide a “reasonable” option for Trucks traveling between US 250 and US 29. The total travel time for trucks would increase by 10.2 minutes, however, the roadway characteristics of US 250, I-64, and US 29 are far more compatible with accommodating truck traffic than the Current Route. The distance would be much shorter if trucks are connecting to/from I-64.
- Alternative #2 would provide a shorter route with a decreased total travel time of 5.3 minutes for trucks not restricted by the 13’2” bridge clearance at US 250 CSX Railroad overpass.

Character and Frequency Compatibility:

Safety

- Owensville Road maintains a crash rate of 157.02 crashes per 100 million vehicle-miles of travel north of Tilman Road and 229.15 crashes per 100 million vehicle-miles of travel south of Tilman Road. This exceeds the Culpeper District Average for 2-lane Rural Roads, which is 147.08.
- Eight of the eleven major curves on Owensville Road do not meet the current VDOT standard for curve radii on this type of roadway.

Traffic Counts

- Two-way Average Daily Traffic = 2,731 vehicles per day (vpd) north of Tilman Road; 3,398 vpd south of Tilman Road
- Total Trucks (Non-Pickup) = 93 vpd north of Tilman Road; 73 vpd south of Tilman Road

