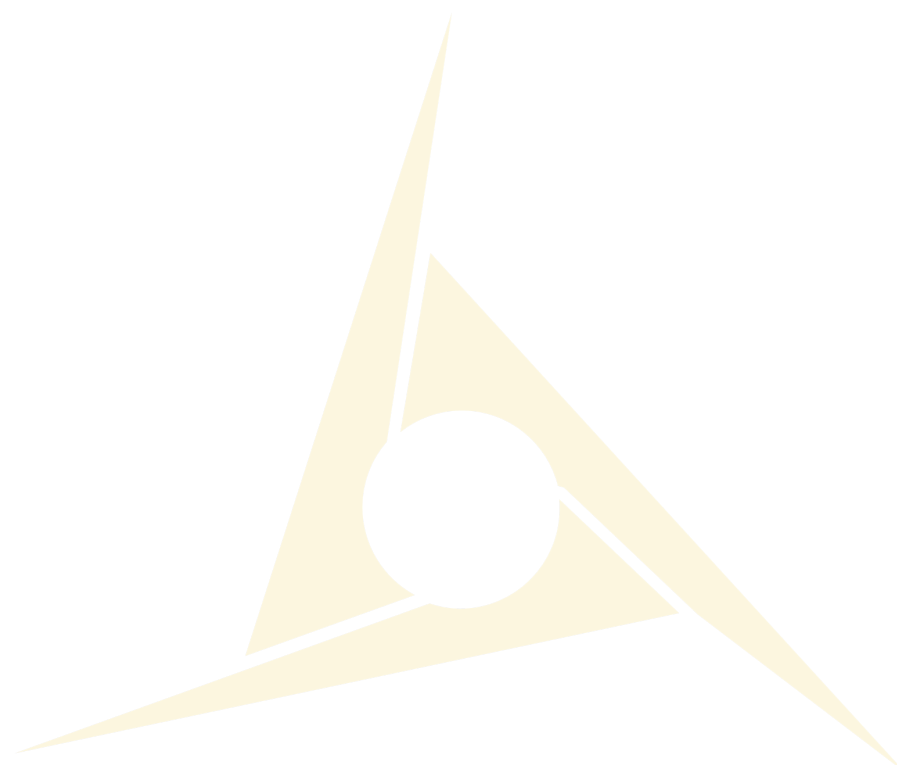


Vehicle Weight Safety Study Task Force Update (Assembly Bill 251)

June 26 – 27, 2025



About the Vehicle Weight Safety Study

Government Code Section 14527.3 (AB 251, Ward) directs the Commission to convene a task force to study the relationship between vehicle weight and:

- Injuries and fatalities to vulnerable road users;
- Degradation to roads;
- Cost-benefit analysis of imposing a fee based on vehicle weight; and,
- Equity considerations

Vehicle Weight Safety Study Timeline

DATE	MILESTONE
Now – October 2025	Monthly Task Force meetings
October 2025	Task Force findings finalized
Late 2025	Staff presents Task Force findings to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency Equity Advisory Committee; and, • California Transportation Commission
Late 2025	Public workshop on draft report

Vehicle Weight Safety Study Timeline Cont'd

DATE	MILESTONE
Late 2025 - Early 2026	California Transportation Commission staff prepare draft report based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force findings and, • UC Berkeley academic study
Early 2026	Public review period of draft report prepared by California Transportation Commission staff
Early 2026	Staff presents draft report to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency Equity Advisory Committee; and, • California Transportation Commission
Spring 2026	Staff presents final report to California Transportation Commission for approval
Spring 2026	Final report submitted to the California Legislature

Task Force Meetings Timeline & Topics

DATE	TENTATIVE TOPICS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
June 13, 2025	Kick-Off Task Force Meeting
July 16, 2025	Trends in Vehicle Fleet & Trends in Road User Injuries and Fatalities
August 20, 2025	Impacts of Vehicle Weight on Road Degradation
September 9, 2025	Consumer Behavior & Potential Policy Responses
October 29, 2025	Finalize Task Force Findings

Kick-Off Meeting Discussion Questions:

At the Kick-Off meeting, Commission staff asked Task Force members these questions:

- 1) What are the key factors the state should consider when evaluating potential policy solutions to improve safety for vulnerable road users?
- 2) What should the Commission and the State consider to ensure that equity is addressed in this study?
- 3) What perspective do you hope we take away at the conclusion of the Task Force meetings?

General Responses from Task Force:

What are the key factors the state should consider when evaluating potential policy solutions to improve safety for vulnerable road users?

- Identify and address the greatest needs as defined by the legislation, the Academic Study and the Task Force process
- Recommendations could consider safety improvements to vehicles, the built environment, education and training
- For any recommendations, assess and minimize financial and administrative burdens to those impacted, if any (e.g. cities, counties, certain industries, etc.)
- Identify improvements to State policies and functions

General Responses from Task Force:

What should the Commission and the State consider to ensure that equity is addressed in this study?

- Equity should be central to the academic research, the task force meetings, and recommendations in the Commission staff report
- Equity could also include those who stand to be disproportionately impacted by a vehicle weight fee such as contractors, large families, and others
- Study should evaluate all types of vehicles, such as electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, etc.

General Responses from Task Force:

What perspective do you hope we take away at the conclusion of the Task Force meetings?

- Acknowledgement that the causes of collisions are complex (i.e. variation in the built environment, distractions, etc.)
- Make the built environment safer for vulnerable road users, not just for the efficient use of automobiles
- Roadway degradation is costly and largely falls on cities and counties to maintain them
- Hold drivers to a greater level of responsibility, especially when driving a larger vehicle

Thank you

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