

Land Transport Rule

Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Amendment 2015

Rule 41001/11

Draft for Urban Buses

*Land Transport Rules are law produced by the NZ Transport Agency for the Minister of Transport. This is the public consultation (yellow) draft of **Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2015 [Rule 41001/11]**.*

*If you wish to comment on this draft Rule, please see the information about making a submission in the accompanying explanatory material. The deadline for submissions is **2 April 2015**.*

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Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Amendment 2015

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Part 1 **Rule requirements**

Section 1 **Application**

1.1 **Title**

This Rule is *Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Amendment 2015*.

1.2 **Commencement**

This Rule comes into force on [1 July 2015].

1.3 **Principal rule amended**

This Rule amends *Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2002*.

Section 2 Amendments to Rule requirements

2.1 Road mass limits

2.1(1) After *clause 4.5(1A)*, insert:

“4.5(1B) An urban bus that is operating in accordance with a permit issued under 5.2A must not exceed the mass limits applicable to the axles and axle sets in Part C of *Schedule 2*.”

2.2 Permits for high-productivity motor vehicles

2.2(1) Replace the heading to *clause 5.2* with “**Permits for high-productivity motor vehicles, other than urban buses**”.

2.2(2) In *clause 5.2(1)*, after “high-productivity motor vehicle”, insert “, other than as an urban bus,”.

2.2(3) In *clause 5.2(7)*, after “A vehicle operating as a high-productivity motor vehicle”, insert “under 5.2”.

2.3 High-productivity motor vehicle permits for urban buses

2.3(1) After *clause 5.2*, insert:

“**5.2A High-productivity motor vehicle permits for urban buses**

“5.2A(1) In order to operate as a high-productivity motor vehicle, an urban bus must have a permit issued under this clause to allow the vehicle to exceed the mass limits applicable to the axles and axle sets in Part A of *Schedule 2*.

“5.2A(2) A road controlling authority may issue a high-productivity motor vehicle permit under this clause for an urban bus if:

- (a) the permitted axle loadings in Part C of *Schedule 2* will not be exceeded; and
- (b) the road controlling authority has duly considered:
 - (i) the safety of the vehicle; and
 - (ii) the safety of road users; and
 - (iii) the durability of roads and bridges on which the vehicle may operate.

- “5.2A(3) An urban bus operating as a high-productivity motor vehicle must comply with the following conditions:
- (a) the gross mass of the vehicle must not exceed the gross vehicle mass, gross combination mass, maximum towed mass, or brake code mass if any of these limits apply to the vehicle; and
 - (b) the vehicle must, if required under the Road User Charges Act 2012, have a current licence issued under that Act (including any licence required by section 12 of that Act); and
 - (c) the vehicle must not exceed the axle weight limits in Part C of *Schedule 2*; and
 - (d) the vehicle must operate as a high-productivity motor vehicle only on the roads specified in the permit; and
 - (e) a vehicle operating as a high-productivity motor vehicle must display a high-productivity motor vehicle sign that complies with 5.7.
- “5.2A(4) A road controlling authority issuing a permit under this clause may specify additional conditions under which the vehicle may be operated that the road controlling authority considers necessary to ensure the safety of road users, the protection of infrastructure, or to provide for compliance with the permit.
- “5.2A(5) A permit issued under this clause must:
- (a) be produced for inspection on demand to an enforcement officer, or an authorised agent of the Agency or a road controlling authority; and
 - (b) be carried in the vehicle for the period of travel covered by the permit.
- “5.2A(6) For the avoidance of doubt, the operator of a high-productivity motor vehicle issued with a permit under this clause does not have to comply with the requirements in *sections 6 and 7* while operating on the roads specified in this permit.”

2.4 Revocation of a permit

2.4(1) In *clause 5.6(2)*, after “under 5.2” insert “or 5.2A”.

2.4(2) In *clause 5.6(5)*, after “under 5.2” insert “or 5.2A”.

Section 3 Amendment to Definitions

3.1 New definition inserted

In *Part 2, Definitions*, insert in the appropriate place:

Urban bus means a heavy passenger service vehicle fitted with seating positions for 60 or more passengers operating as a public transport service that is identified in or under a regional public transport plan as defined in the Land Transport Management Act 2003.

3.2 Definition amended

In *Part 2 Definitions*, in the definition of “**High-productivity motor vehicle**”, *paragraph (c)*, replace “.” with “; or”.

In *Part 2, Definitions*, in the definition of “**High-productivity motor vehicle**”, after *paragraph (c)*, insert:

“(d) is an urban bus.”

Section 4 Amendment to Schedules

4.1 New Part C in Schedule 2 inserted

After Part B in *Schedule 2*, insert new Part C, *Schedule 2*:

[PART C MAXIMUM AXLE LOADINGS FOR URBAN BUSES]

[Ref 5.2A(2), (3) & (4)]

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1 Single standard tyred axle in any axle set | 6,000 kg |
| 2 Single large-tyred axle in any axle set | 7,200 kg |
| 3 Twin-tyred axle in any axle set | 8,800 kg |
| 4 Two axles in a tandem axle set comprising: | |
| (a) Twin-tyred axle with a single large-tyred axle and a 60/40 load share | 14,600 kg |
| (b) Twin-tyred axle with a single large-tyred axle and a 55/45 load share | 16,000 kg |