



October 27, 2021

RHODE ISLAND TRUCKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

660 ROOSEVELT AVENUE
PAWTUCKET, R.I. 02860-1008

Telephone (401) 729-6600
Fax (401) 729-5220
www.ritrucking.org

Mr. Carlos C. Machado, MBA
Division Administrator
U. S. Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration
Rhode Island Division Office
380 Westminster Street, Suite 601
Providence, RI 02903-3239

RE: Signage for Route 37 Weight Restriction/Closure

Mr. Machado:

The Rhode Island Trucking Association and its members have grave concerns over the contradictory signage related to a weight restriction on Route 37 East and West in Warwick.

The posting, which went into effect on Monday, October 11, restricts the weight to 16 tons for trucks travelling in both directions over the bridge transgressing railroad tracks between Jefferson Blvd. and Post Road. However, more updated and recent messaging posted on interstate signs on both northbound and southbound Route 95 communicates "NO TRUCKS" on this section of Route 37 – a clear contradiction to the 16-ton posting.

With a very high frequency of commercial vehicles under 16 tons operating on this section of Route 37 – much of which is servicing Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport - our local carriers need consistency and clarity in this messaging in order to maintain current or establish alternative routes while interstate traffic commands accurate weight restrictions rather than contradictory and broad-sweeping closures.

With our local and national supply chain state facing epic challenges, the trucking industry needs and deserves clarity and consistency to move our freight. These actions by RIDOT are impeding commerce and need to be addressed and corrected immediately for the sake of safety and efficient supply chain movement.

I can be reached at (401)729-6600 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Maxwell", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Christopher J. Maxwell
President & CEO
Rhode Island Trucking Association, Inc.

cc: Governor Daniel McKee
Colonel James Manni, RISP



EXCLUSIVE R.I. AFFILIATE