

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM12.26	ACTION			Ward: All
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Mandatory Safety Test for All Province of Ontario Truck Drivers - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
** This Motion is subject to referral to the Government and Licensing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to request the Premier of Ontario and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation not to eliminate the mandatory written test on air brake systems, so that the current regulation requiring all Ontario Commercial Truck Operators to rewrite the air brake systems test when renewing their licence every 5 years remains intact.
2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to review the current licencing requirements to ensure that all Ontario Commercial Truck Operators undergo periodic safety training.

Summary

Recently the Ontario Member of Provincial representative of Brampton West, MPP Amarjot Sandu has submitted a Private Member's Bill requesting that the current Provincial Government eliminate the mandatory written test on air brake systems.

The retesting is currently required every 5 years when the truck operator renews their licence. The President of the Ontario Truck Driving School has been quoted to advise that "the air brake system is something very crucial", and that each operator must undergo a number of tests every 5 years in order to renew their commercial driver's licence which all are important to keep our roads safe. Taking away the regulation would not provide any assurance that drivers remain updated in order to keep our roads safe.

In light of all the work the City of Toronto is currently undergoing with Vision Zero and measures to slow down motorists it is not beneficial for the Province of Ontario to contemplate removing safety regulations for commercial truck drivers. If anything, we have seen an increase in accidents on our highways and local roads. The City of Toronto needs to send a strong message that we do not support the elimination of the mandatory written test on air brake systems.

https://www.cbc.ca/amp/1.5366640?_twitter_impression=true

This Motion is an urgent matter as a Private Member's Bill on this matter was recently submitted.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM12.26