

VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

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| Lawrence, Michigan | 2024-07 |
| DATE: July 18, 2024 | CONTACT: Bret Witkowski, Managing Director Van Buren County Road Commission Post Office Box 156 Lawrence, Michigan 49064 PHONE: (269) 674-8011, Extension 222 |
| RELEASE: Immediately | |

Van Buren County Road Commission Implements Weight Limit on 52nd Street Bridge Over the South Branch of the Black River, Columbia Township

THE ROAD COMMISSION WANTS YOU TO KNOW . . .

The Van Buren County Road Commission (VBCRC) will be implementing a reduced weight limit on the bridge that carries 52nd Street over the south branch of the Black River (between 24th Avenue and CR380), in Columbia Township. This new weight restriction will limit the weight of any vehicle crossing the bridge to **7 tons (14,000 lbs)**. Please see the attached graphic for weight clarifications. Weight limits will go into effect when the signs are posted on the bridge, which will happen sometime in the next 7 days.

The revised weight limit was put in place after a routine inspection revealed deterioration to the deck piling which supports the bridge deck. Road Commission Highway Engineer, Barry Anttila, stated, "The 46-year-old bridge carries around 145 vehicles over the Black River each day. The 14,000 lb weight limit will not affect most normal passenger vehicles, but heavier vehicles will need to find a new route. We will continue to work towards an interim repair and then will re-evaluate the restriction. Meanwhile, the weight limit will reduce strain on the bridge and ensure safe passage until more significant repairs can occur."

Vehicles heavier than the 14,000 lb weight limit should use the following detour: 24th Avenue West to CR215; North on CR215 to Main Street (CR380) in Village of Breedsville; East on Main Street (CR380) to 52nd Street.

For more information, please contact the Van Buren County Road Commission at 269-674-8011, or via email at vbcrc@vbcrc.org.

VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Truck Classifications



CRNL 2006-06535/1go

CLASS 1
6,000 lb & less

Minivan Utility van
Multi-purpose Full-size pickup

CLASS 2
6,001 to 10,000 lb

Minivan Utility van
Full-size pickup Step van

CLASS 3
10,001 to 14,000 lb

Walk-in Conventional van
City delivery

CLASS 4
14,001 to 16,000 lb

Conventional van City delivery
Large walk-in

CLASS 5
16,001 to 19,500 lb

Bucket
City delivery Large walk-in

CLASS 6
19,501 to 26,000 lb

Beverage Single-axle van
School bus Rack

CLASS 7
26,001 to 33,000 lb

Refuse Furniture
City transit bus Medium conventional

CLASS 8
33,001 lb & over

Dump Cement
Heavy conventional COE sleeper