



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 51

January 31, 2020

PROMOTING SAFETY AND PROTECTING THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE
BROOKLYN-QUEENS EXPRESSWAY

WHEREAS, the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE) is part of Interstate-278 – a critical interstate and inter-borough connector – where daily traffic now exceeds 150,000 vehicles, including more than 15,000 trucks;

WHEREAS, an evaluation by outside consultants hired by the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) concluded in 2016 that if the road is not reconstructed by 2026, weight restrictions may need to be added to the structure, including diverting all truck traffic to local roads;

WHEREAS, recent monitoring of trucks on the BQE showed that many trucks are operating in violation of existing weight restrictions;

WHEREAS, the BQE Expert Panel suggested that the BQE may “become unsafe and unable to carry existing levels of traffic within five years” and recommended that the City “immediately begin to enforce existing restrictions on overweight trucks;” and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to further coordinate the City’s range of efforts to promote driver safety and preserve the structural integrity of the BQE;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Development of Proposals to Mitigate Traffic and Reduce Overweight Trucks on the BQE. By February 20, 2020, DOT and New York City Police Department (NYPD) shall together, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor for Operations, develop and present to the Mayor specific proposals to promote safety on, and protect the structural integrity of, the BQE. DOT and NYPD shall consider proposals including but not limited to advocating for state legislation to automate enforcement of weight restrictions on the BQE, and to increase penalties for violation of weight restrictions on the BQE in alignment with the Governor’s increased

penalty schedule announced on January 30, 2020. DOT and NYPD shall identify which of their proposals may require actions outside of the control of the City, including but not limited to proposals that require action by the state legislature.

§ 2. Establishment of the NYPD BQE Truck Enforcement Task Force. There is hereby established an NYPD BQE Truck Enforcement Task Force (the "Task Force"). The purpose of the Task Force shall be to ensure that all existing weight restrictions on the BQE are strictly enforced. The Task Force shall begin enforcement on Monday, February 3, 2020.

§ 3. Agency Cooperation. City agencies shall cooperate with these coordination efforts as required.

§ 4. Effective Date. This order shall take effect immediately.



Bill de Blasio

Mayor