

# CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE TRUCK PARKING STUDY



## WHY A STATEWIDE TRUCK PARKING STUDY?

### Study Outcomes

The study outcomes will include a prioritized list of geographies with the greatest need for additional truck parking spaces, including the needs of zero-emission trucks. A set of recommended policies, programs, and technologies for addressing these needs will be developed, as well as guidance on developing or expanding publicly-owned truck parking facilities.

### Partnering with commercially-owned truck parking operators

A unique aspect of this study will be an action plan for partnering with commercially-owned truck parking facilities. Truck drivers prefer to park at commercial truck stops that offer the fuel, food, and services they need while on break. Truck stops operators added more than 4,000 spaces throughout the United States in 2018. However, there are places where there isn't enough volume to justify the costs of a new facility, and other locations where these businesses would like to open, but they face high land prices, zoning regulations, and community opposition.

### We need your help identifying....

- » Truck parking needs in your community or within your industry
- » Ideas for addressing those needs
- » Champions for implementing solutions

### Study Purpose

In response to a shortage of truck parking across the State, Caltrans is analyzing data and gathering input to identify where and how much truck parking is needed for different purposes.



### CONTACT

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## WHY DOES TRUCK PARKING MATTER?

Imagine leaving work at 5 p.m. on a Friday for your normal commute home. You need to stop at the grocery store to pick up a couple things for dinner, and get your child from daycare by 5:30. **No problem.**

A minor accident ahead of you creates a small delay, but you aren't worried. Then you pull into the grocery store and don't see any place to park. Circling once, still nothing. You wait a couple minutes, but nobody leaves. Now time is getting tight. What do you do? Drive to another grocery store. What if traffic is bad? What if the next store is 10 minutes out of your way? Wait for a space. What if someone beats you to it? What if you have to wait a long time and that will make you late to pick up your child? Skip the grocery store. Do you have anything else at home? Can you afford takeout on a tight budget?

Imagine the stress, the anxiety. You planned as best you could, but things just aren't working out.

**Now, imagine facing this every day.**

Truck drivers work on tight schedules and low margins. They are often not in control of their own schedules, subject to the whims of warehouse operators, ports, etc., and every minute spent looking for a parking space or stopping before they need to is time they can't spend on the road, making money. If parking is not available, drivers often must choose between parking in undesignated locations (potentially getting a ticket), paying for parking, or continuing to drive beyond the federally mandated "hours of service" limits (potentially facing sizable fines).

Truck drivers are the backbone of our economy, delivering critical items to our stores, homes, and hospitals. But according to the FHWA Jason's Law Survey, California has fewer truck parking spaces per vehicle miles traveled than any almost every other state in the nation (ranking 48<sup>th</sup>). There simply aren't enough designated truck parking spaces in California in the locations drivers need them the most. Ensuring that sufficient, safe truck parking is available to drivers improves safety, preserves infrastructure, strengthens the economy, and enhances the quality of life of residents and truck drivers.

## Study Timeline



## CONTACT

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