TRUCK INCENTIVES AND USE RESTRICTIONS

Description
Truck incentives encourage freight operators with a financial incentive to change the time, manner, or route for deliveries. Use restrictions place regulatory limits on the time, location, and manner in which truck traffic can access certain areas or routes for deliveries. The goal of these incentives/restrictions is to shift truck traffic off crowded facilities and out of peak periods to improve truck flow and better accommodate passenger travel.

Techniques include:
- Restrictions on delivery to non-peak daytime or nighttime hours.
- Truck access fees/tolls during peak periods.
- Free passage during non-peak or nighttime hours.
- Access improvements (to shift freight to another mode).

Restrictions may also prohibit on-street truck parking (freeing a turn lane) or prohibit left turns where no turn lane exists.

Target Market
- Major streets serving industrial and passenger traffic.
- Dense urban areas with narrow rights-of-way.
- Freeways with high truck volumes.

Downtown or densely developed areas that experience heavy traffic worsened by drayage, delivery, or construction vehicles can use truck incentives and use restrictions. These restrictions also work in areas with narrow rights-of-way, neighborhood streets, or areas with high truck turning volumes.

How Will This Help?
- **Improves safety** by eliminating heavy truck traffic from tight or crowded areas.
- **Improves traffic flow and travel times** for both commuters and freight trips.
- **Increases the effective delivery range** for freight.

Massachusetts
- Both Boston and Cambridge instituted **limited delivery hours in downtown areas except for designated routes or for emergency response**.

California
- The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach used the **PierPASS OffPeak program** to encourage greater use of container terminals from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m.
- About 30 percent of container cargo traffic shifted to the off-peak hours.

Implementation Issues
Truck restrictions and after-hour deliveries can place a heavy burden on local businesses and delivery companies. They must extend employee hours or work around the schedule. Industry, public, and local business cooperation is crucial to successfully implement this strategy. Local and state agencies must be able to provide enforcement to ensure the effectiveness of the strategy.