

CITY OF WINDHOEK

HEAVY VEHICLE ACCESS & PERMIT SYSTEM

Information Sheet for Freight Operators



PERMIT SYSTEM GOES LIVE
1 SEPTEMBER 2026

CAMERA & SPOT-FINE ENFORCEMENT
1 OCTOBER 2026

What is changing?

The City of Windhoek is introducing a permit-based access system to manage heavy vehicles using the Windhoek urban road network.

For this initiative, vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of 9 tons or more are treated as heavy vehicles and are subject to the applicable access requirements.

THE CORE PRINCIPLE

Heavy vehicles merely passing through Windhoek must use the Bypass Road. Heavy vehicles with a legitimate need to enter the city for deliveries, collections or other authorised business will continue to be accommodated through the applicable access arrangements and permit system.

Why is the City introducing the system?

The growing number of heavy vehicles on Windhoek's urban roads contributes to:

- accelerated deterioration of road pavements and increased maintenance costs;
- congestion and disruption to traffic flow;
- road-safety risks, especially at intersections and in mixed-use areas;
- noise, emissions and other environmental impacts; and
- illegal parking and overnighing of heavy vehicles within the city.

With the Windhoek Bypass Road fully operational, transit freight has an appropriate alternative route that avoids unnecessary travel through the urban road network.

Who needs a permit?

TRANSIT FREIGHT (NOT Windhoek bound)	ACCESS BEYOND AUTHORISED ROUTES
Heavy vehicles with a GVM of 9 tons or more passing through Windhoek without a delivery, collection or other legitimate business requirement in the city. USE THE BYPASS ROAD There is no need to enter the regulated urban road network.	Heavy vehicles with a GVM of 9 tons or more that must deviate from the authorised routes shown on the attached approved route map. OBTAIN THE APPLICABLE PERMIT Access is subject to the approved route, conditions and permit requirements.

IMPORTANT

The City is not prohibiting freight vehicles from entering Windhoek. The aim is to ensure that vehicles enter the urban area only where there is a legitimate operational need, while through-traffic uses the Bypass Road.

Exempt vehicles

The attached framework identifies the following categories as exempt:

- military vehicles;
- emergency-response vehicles; and
- registered refuse-removal trucks.

Any other exemption or special authorisation must be confirmed in writing by the City.

Access to industrial areas (map attached)

The following routes may be used without a permit only for access to the identified industrial areas, subject to posted signs and route conditions:

- Sam Nujoma Drive (B6)
- Nelson Mandela Avenue
- Robert Mugabe Avenue
- Mandume Ndemufayo Avenue
- David Hosea Meroro Road

Heavy vehicles must remain on designated routes and avoid local streets, residential areas and non-designated roads.

When will the system start?

1 SEPTEMBER 2026 – INTRODUCTION PHASE

Operators may obtain the required permits and familiarise themselves with the new arrangements. September 2026 will serve as the transition and implementation period.

1 OCTOBER 2026 - CAMERA-BASED AND SPOT-FINE ENFORCEMENT COMMENCES

Traffic law-enforcement cameras at strategic entry and exit points will monitor heavy-vehicle movements and permit compliance. City Police will also conduct ad-hoc roadside checks.

2026/27 permit tariffs

The freight-permit charges are non-refundable. An application fee is payable for each permit application. Once approved, the relevant monthly permit fee must be paid before the permit disc is issued. The payable tariff depends on the vehicle's Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM).

PERMIT / VEHICLE CATEGORY	CHARGE BASIS	2026/27 TOTAL
Permit application fee	Per permit	N\$600.00
9t <= GVM < 15t	Per month	N\$120.00
15t <= GVM < 24t	Per month	N\$250.00
24t <= GVM < 32t	Per month	N\$350.00
GVM > 32t	Per month	N\$500.00

Note: GVM means Gross Vehicle Mass. The amounts shown are the total payable tariffs in the supplied fee schedule and should be read together with the applicable gazetted provisions and permit conditions.

How to apply

1. Obtain the application form

Collect it from the City of Windhoek Customer Care Centre or download it from the City website.

2. Complete and submit the form

Submit it in person at the Customer Care Centre or by email to the responsible City official.

3. Attach supporting documents

Include an identification document, proof of residential address and company-registration documents, together with any additional documents requested for the specific application.

4. Pay the applicable fees

Pay the application fee on submission. Pay the permit fee after approval and before the permit disc is issued. Payment may be made through City cashiers or by EFT.

5. Allow for processing

A complete application requires a minimum of two working days for verification and processing.

6. Collect the permit disc

Once payment has been confirmed, the City will issue the permit in the form of a disc for collection and display on the approved vehicle.

What should freight operators do now?

- Identify vehicles in the fleet with a GVM of 9 tons or more.
- Determine whether each trip is transit freight, will remain on authorised routes, or must deviate from those routes and require a permit.
- Plan transit trips via the Bypass Road.
- Use the September transition period to obtain permits for qualifying Windhoek-bound trips.
- Allow at least two working days for complete applications to be processed.
- Brief drivers on designated routes, peak periods, permit conditions and enforcement arrangements.

DISPLAY THE VALID PERMIT DISC

The permit disc will be issued for the vehicle identified in the approved application. It must be displayed on that vehicle in the position prescribed by the City and remain clearly visible for inspection.

Further information and applications

Customer Care Centre	City of Windhoek
Email	Zibo.Nawa@windhoekcc.org.na
Telephone	+264 61 290 2364
Website	windhoekcc.org.na
Office hours	07h30 – 16h00

CITY OF WINDHOEK

Managing freight movement for safer roads, efficient mobility and a more sustainable city.