**Overview**

In 2015, the City of Boston began requiring all contractors to install *side guards, cross-over mirrors, and decals* on motor vehicles weighing over 10,000 lbs. And semi-trailers with a total weight exceeding 26,000 lbs. These devices are proven to reduce the severity of crashes with pedestrians and cyclists, as well as help prevent crashes from occurring. This policy is a key element in the City’s Vision Zero program committed to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries from our roadways.

**Requirements**

1. **Lateral Protection (Side Guards)**
   - Device must not increase width of vehicle
   - Device is rigid and securely mounted
   - Tool boxes must meet dimensional and strength specs.

2. **Mirrors (Cross-over & Convex)**
   - Objects can be seen down the full length of the vehicle
   - Objects can be seen 3ft. above the ground from the bumper to where direct vision is possible

3. **Blind Spot Safety Decals**
   - “Safety Yellow” in color displayed on rear, left, and right sides of the vehicle

**Dimensional & Strength Specifications**

Diagrams Courtesy of USDOT Volpe Center

www.volpe.dot.gov/our-work/truck-side-guards-resource-page

More Information at Boston.gov/VisionZero
ARE YOUR TRUCKS COMPLIANT?
The City of Boston Truck Side Guard Ordinance

Off-the-shelf Products
Airflow Deflector
https://airflowdeflector.com
Tackler
http://www.taklerusa.com/vision-zero
WalkerBlocker
http://walkerblocker.com

Additional specifications for rail-style guards

USDOT-VNTSC-OSTR-16-05

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Common Questions

**What types of vehicles does this ordinance apply to?**
All large vehicles over 10,000 lbs and semi-trailers used by City of Boston vendors within the City of Boston

**Do I need an inspection sticker before I start work?**
Yes, and inspections are good for a two-year period

**Can tool boxes work as side guards?**
Sometimes, but only if they meet all the specifications and are not recessed from the vehicle’s edge or leave large gaps.

**Do subcontractors with trucks regularly working on a job need to be inspected and permitted?**
Yes, remember, this is about safety

**What about deliveries to a job site?**
The City does not view a subcontractor that simply delivers materials or goods to a job site or to a City Department to be a “Vendor” subject to the ordinance.

**If I typically rent trucks for a job, do those need to be inspected and permitted?**
Yes

**Does the City offer inspection for larger fleets at a location other than 1010 Mass Ave.?**
Yes, call to schedule your inspection

**What is the penalty for non-compliance?**
$100/vehicle for first offence, $150/vehicle for second, $200/vehicle for third, and then a termination of contract