

# ARE YOUR TRUCKS COMPLIANT?

## The City of Boston Truck Side Guard Ordinance

### 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.

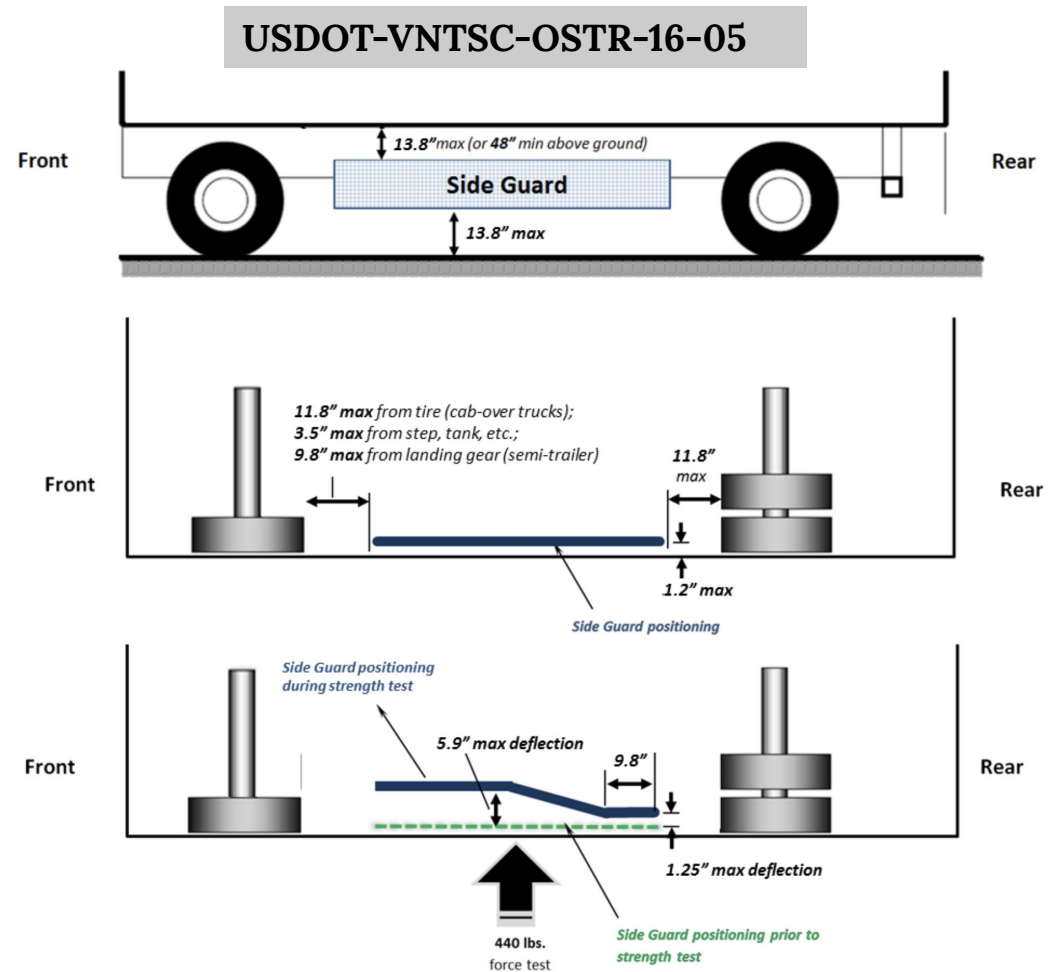
#### 2. Mirrors (Cross-over & Convex)

- ❑ 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](http://www.volpe.dot.gov/our-work/truck-side-guards-resource-page)

More Information at [Boston.gov/VisionZero](http://Boston.gov/VisionZero)



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### Off-the-shelf Products

Airflow Deflector  
<https://airflowdeflector.com>

Tackler  
<http://www.taklerusa.com/vision-zero>

WalkerBlocker  
<http://walkerblocker.com>

### Schedule a Mandatory Inspection

#### Inspectional Services Department

617.635.5300 | [ISD@Boston.gov](mailto:ISD@Boston.gov) | 1010 Mass. Ave.  
[boston.gov/departments/inspectional-services/weights-and-measures](http://boston.gov/departments/inspectional-services/weights-and-measures)

### 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?

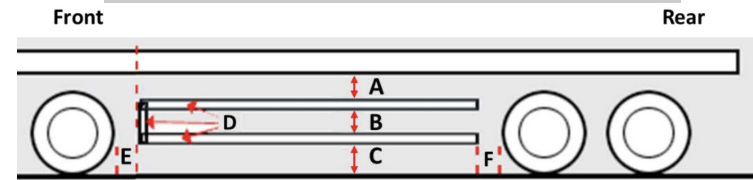
Sometimes, but only if they meet all the specifications and are not recessed from the vehicle's edge or leave large gaps.

#### Do subcontractors with trucks regularly working on a job need to be inspected and permitted?

Yes, remember, this is about safety

### Additional specifications for rail-style guards

#### USDOT-VNTSC-OSTR-16-05



A	13.8 inches max
B	11.8 inches max
C	13.8 inches max
D	4.0 inches min
E	11.8 / 3.5 inches max*
F	11.8 inches max

\*The gap between the side guard's leading edge and the wheel, wheel arch, or other permanent vehicle structure should not exceed **11.8 inches**. A **turned-in vertical bar** connecting the forward ends of the horizontal rails should be incorporated if the forward gap exceeds **3.5 inches**. The bar need not be turned in or can be omitted if the distance is less than 3.5 inches.

#### 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