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May 19, 2016

IE29.7 - Feasibility of Requiring Side Guards on Contractor Commercial Vehicles Operating in the City of Toronto

Dear members of City Council,

Cycle Toronto asks you to require mandatory side guards on all commercial vehicles operating under contract to the city.

Due to their overwhelming size and many blind-spots, large trucks are disproportionately responsible for too many people being killed or seriously injured on our roads. A measure as simple as side guards could help prevent lost lives and future tragedies, and also save many drivers from the trauma of being involved in these ghastly incidents.

We want to thank Mayor Chow for continuing to champion this cause.¹

We also echo the call from our Friends and Families for Safe Streets to make side guards mandatory for all trucks operated in Toronto, along with additional safety measures including direct vision cabs and proactive construction zone safety initiatives including mandatory signal people where these large trucks' drivers make turns.²

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michael Longfield
Executive Director

¹ <https://torontolife.com/city/olivia-chow-calls-for-guards-on-trucks/>

² <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2026/cc/comm/communicationfile-211435.pdf>

