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**OPENING OF THE McCLEARY COURT COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE**

*(Regional Council at its meeting on June 25, 2009, noted that the opening dates referred to in the clause have been changed to July 2, 2009 for the official grand opening from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the official public facility opening is now scheduled for July 4, 2009.)*

**The Solid Waste Management Committee recommends:**

- 1. The presentation by Neil MacDonald, Manager, Solid Waste Management, be received; and**
- 2. The adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report dated May 28, 2009, from the Commissioner of Environmental Services.**

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- The following report be received for information by Committee and Council.

**2. PURPOSE**

This report provides an update on the opening of the Region's first Community Environmental Centre on McCleary Court in Vaughan.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The establishment of a network of Community Environmental Centres is a key element of the Region's Solid Waste Management infrastructure, as put forward in the Joint Waste Diversion Strategy and approved by Regional and Local Municipal Councils in Fall 2006.

The Region's network of Community Environmental Centres will provide members of the public with conveniently located points of access to solid waste management services and will ensure that materials received are dealt with in a manner consistent with an environmentally sound, integrated waste management hierarchy. These facilities will augment collection programs that exist within the municipalities by providing a method to deal with some materials that might not be easily accommodated by curbside programs

and also by offering users additional flexibility for access to waste management services (*see Attachment 1*). By providing this service to the public in a way that is readily accessible and easy to use, it is anticipated that the Community Environmental Centres will increase material re-use and recycling, thereby contributing to York Region's waste diversion objectives.

On September 22, 2005, Regional Council adopted Clause 3 in Report No. 5 of the Solid Waste Management Committee directing Regional staff to work with the City of Vaughan to identify a site for the construction of a Community Environmental Centre.

On June 21, 2007 Council authorized the acquisition of land on McCleary Court and subsequent construction of a Community Environmental Centre. On September 27, 2007, Council authorized implementation of the proposed business plan for the McCleary Court Environmental Centre including negotiation and execution of agreements with Goodwill Industries and Habitat for Humanity for operation and services at the Re-use centre and issuance of a Request for Proposals for provision of labour and haulage for the operation of the Community Environmental Centre. On November 20, 2008, Council authorized entering into a contract with National Waste Services for provision of labour and haulage for the operation of the facility.

#### **4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS**

Following the selection of the McCleary Court location for the development of the Region's first Community Environmental Centre, facility design was completed during 2007 and 2008. Construction of the facility began later in 2008 and completed in early June 2009. The Community Environmental Centre will be open to serve the public at the end of June 2009.

##### **Community Environmental Centre targeting LEED™ silver certification**

Consistent with the environmentally beneficial function of the Community Environmental Centres, the McCleary Court facility has been designed and constructed according to the sustainable development principles of the LEED™ (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design) program. Targeting achievement of the LEED™ silver level of certification, development of the McCleary Court facility focuses on energy and water conservation, use of recyclable and/or renewable materials in construction and enhanced stormwater management. Examples of several LEED™ features incorporated into the facility include:

- High efficiency heating and air conditioning system with a ground source heat pump;
- Energy efficient lighting;
- Cistern for recovery and use of rain water;
- Use of steel construction components for high recycled content;

- A bio-retention swale for stormwater; and,
- Groundwater recharge facilities.

### **Environmental public education and promotion is part of the facility's mission**

The McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre provides a locally-based, environmentally beneficial public service, and incorporates a conservation themed public education and information area. The public education and information area includes resource materials and displays about waste management, sustainable development and environmental conservation. Information related to local and Regional programs (i.e. Blue Box, Green Bin, Water for Tomorrow, etc.) is also available. The education and information areas may also be used for small on-site public promotional and awareness activities or events.

### **Partnering with socially-focused community re-use organizations**

An integral component of the facility is the participation of local charities. York Region is partnering with Goodwill Industries and Habitat for Humanity to operate and staff the on-site reuse building. In the past, the Region has successfully worked with these groups on diversion efforts. Materials collected by the charities will be directed back to their offsite retail operations for distribution across the Region.

These two well established, community focused, non-denominational charities are experts in their respective markets for re-usable materials. Goodwill is focused on receiving and re-direction of re-usable household goods to its retail outlets to generate jobs and revenue to support its social and employment re-training programs. Similarly, Habitat for Humanity receives and re-directs re-usable building and construction materials to generate revenue in support of its programs to develop affordable housing.

Environmental Services, under the direction of Legal Services has negotiated a tripartite agreement between York Region, Goodwill Industries and Habitat for Humanity for a five year term of occupancy of the re-use building to begin upon commissioning. The agreement includes:

- Payments to the Region for use of the shared-space as consideration against costs for operation of the facility
- Obligations for indemnification, insurance, staff training and supervision, operation and care of the facility in accordance with the Region's requirements
- Additional contributions in-kind by Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity for mutually beneficial advertising and promotion of the facility
- Provision of sufficient trained Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity staff to receive re-usable materials from the public during all hours of operation of the Community Environmental Centre

- Assistance by Goodwill to receive white goods and sell back-yard composters, blue boxes and green bins on behalf of the Region
- Diversion credit to York Region for tonnages of re-usable material received by Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity

The agreement represents fair value for the space provided by the Region, the services provided by the partner charities and the mutually beneficial relationship of the three parties participating in this initiative.

### **Celebrating the opening of the McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre**

The official grand opening of the facility will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2009. The event will be held from 2- 4pm and will include speeches, photo opportunities and tours.

It is anticipated that the grand opening media event will include an official ribbon cutting ceremony, facility placard unveiling, and a ceremonial tree planting, followed by site tours of the grounds and facility.

Official public facility opening is scheduled for Saturday June 27, 2009. On this day, staff will be on-site to answer any questions and hand out free reusable bags to the first 200 people who visit the facility.

### **Promoting the launch of York's first Community Environmental Centre**

Staff have developed an advertising campaign that includes a media kit, newspaper advertisements, brochure distribution, promotion at public events, a dedicated webpage, mobile signs within the City of Vaughan, a direct mail announcement to City of Vaughan residents, and a media release that will inform residents of the facility opening. The purpose of the campaign is to inform residents about the items accepted at the facility, including the benefits to the environment and its hours of operation.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding for the opening and promotion of the McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre is included in the 2009 operating and capital budgets.

## **6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT**

McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre will provide the public with local access to Regional waste management services. These services will augment existing curbside collection programs operated by the local municipality. The facility will also

serve as an educational hub where residents can learn about the Region's environmental based programs and Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design facility design.

Region staff continue to work with the local municipalities to develop a network of Community Environmental Centres to serve York Region residents.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre is reflective of the Region's sustainability strategy and commitment to an environmentally sound waste management hierarchy. By providing residents with convenient access to facilities to drop-off a broader set of re-usable and recyclable materials, Community Environmental Centres further enhance the already positive engagement of the public in waste diversion while improving access to waste management services. Additional waste diversion achieved through this facility will assist the Region in achieving its waste diversion objectives.

For more information on this report, please contact Laura McDowell, Director of Environmental Promotion and Protection at 905-830-4444, Ext. 5077.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

*(The attachment referred to in this clause is attached to this report.)*

# York Region's Community Environmental Centres



*Solid Waste Management Committee June 10, 2009*

# Agenda

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- ❑ Mission of Community Environmental Centres
- ❑ Design Considerations
- ❑ McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre
- ❑ Implementation Schedule

# Mission of Community Environmental Centres

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- ❑ Access to waste management services
- ❑ Encourage diversion
- ❑ Local community asset
- ❑ Promote conservation and sustainability

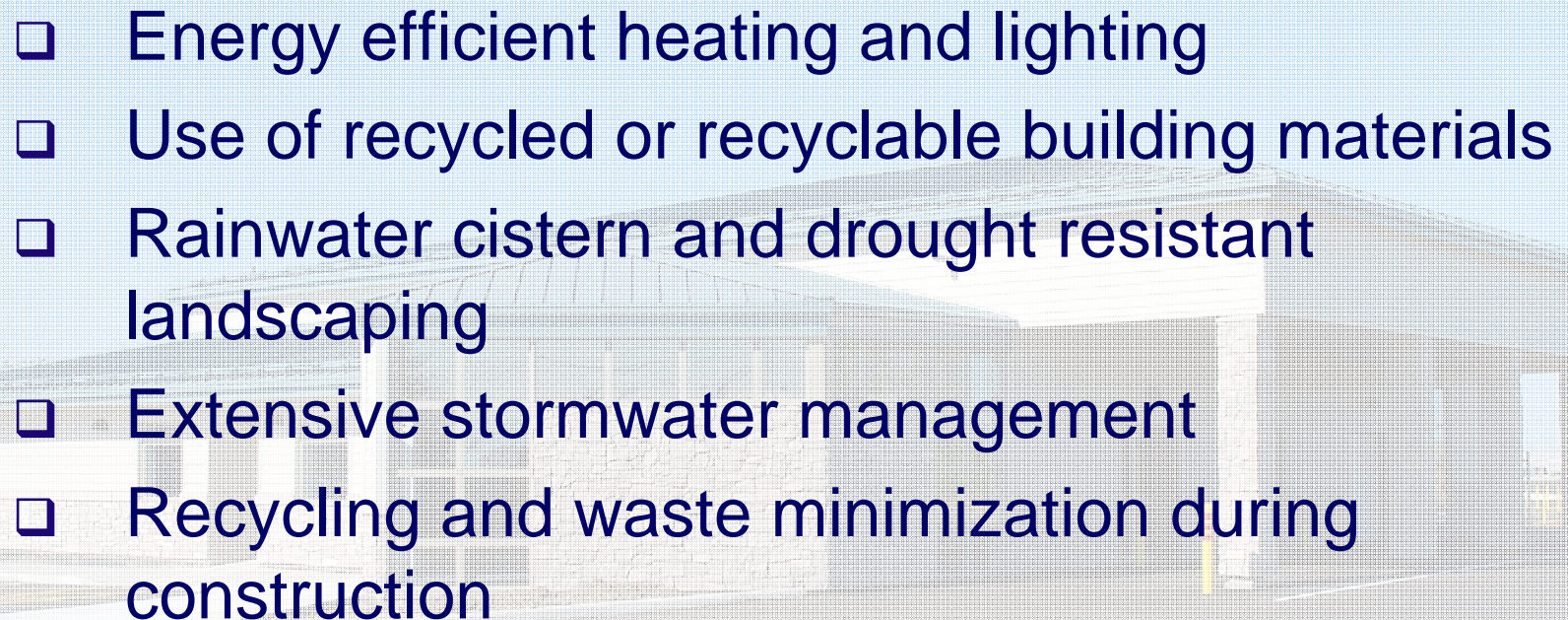


# Key Design Considerations

- ❑ Aesthetics
- ❑ Environmental and community mission
- ❑ Public education centre
- ❑ Site-specific factors
- ❑ Stormwater management
- ❑ Traffic
- ❑ Approvals
- ❑ Accessibility



# Conservation and Sustainability

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- Energy efficient heating and lighting
  - Use of recycled or recyclable building materials
  - Rainwater cistern and drought resistant landscaping
  - Extensive stormwater management
  - Recycling and waste minimization during construction

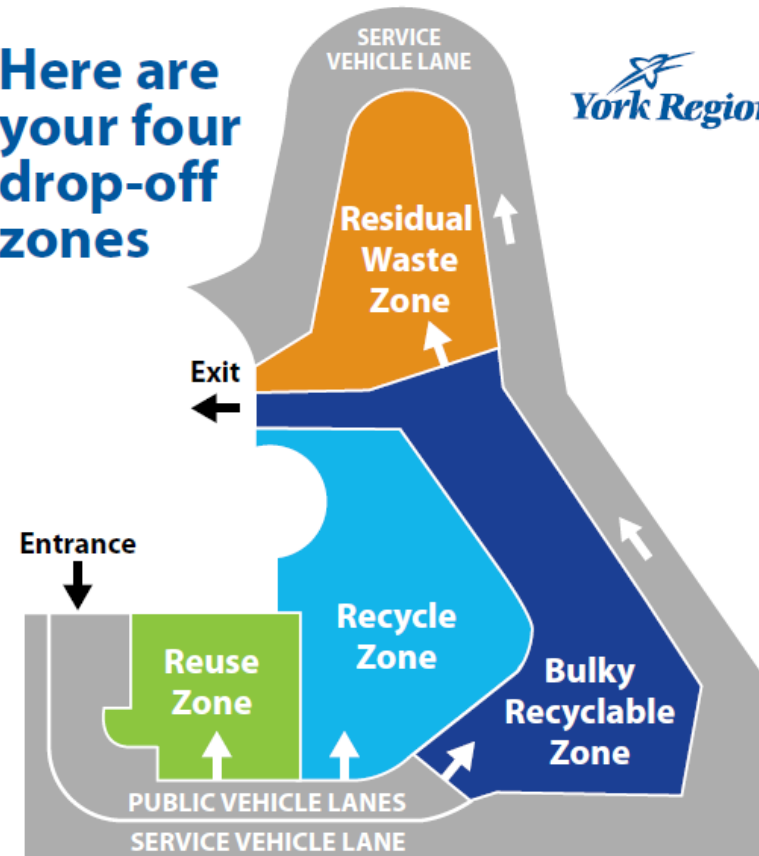
**Targeting LEED™ Silver Certification**

# Drop-off Zones

1. Reuse Zone
2. Recycle Zone
3. Bulky Recyclable Zone
4. Residual Waste Zone

## McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre

Here are  
your four  
drop-off  
zones



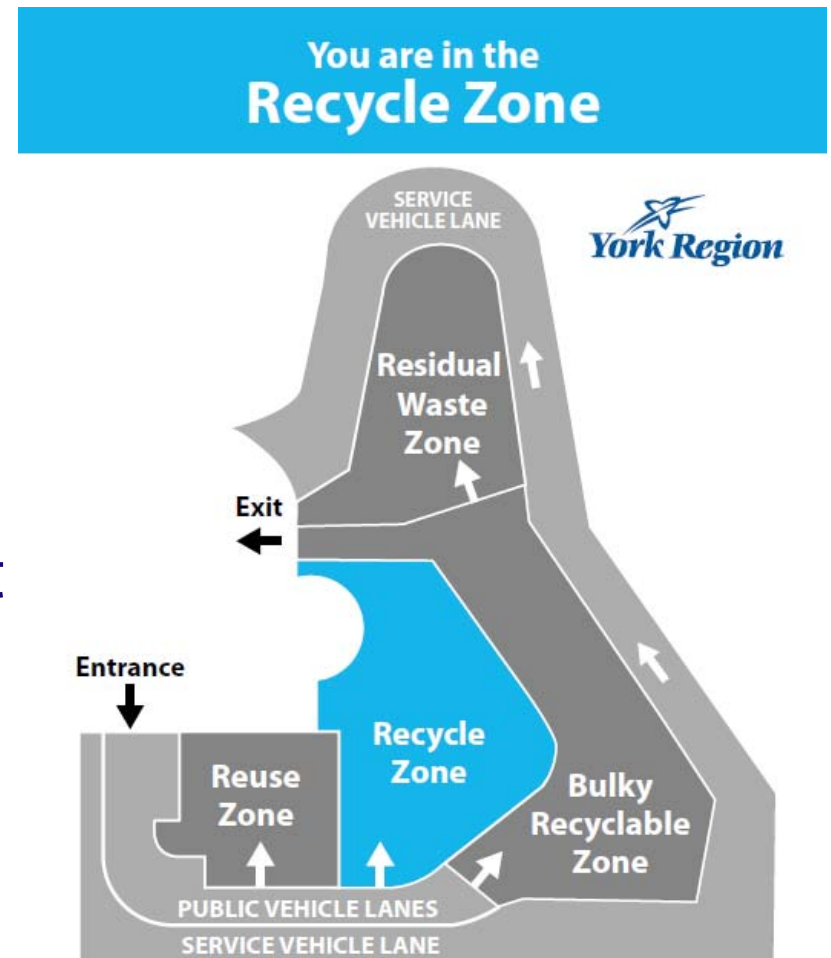
# Reuse Zone

- Operated by Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity



# Recycle Zone

- ❑ Acceptable Materials:
  - ❑ Blue Box
  - ❑ Shredded Paper
  - ❑ Small Batteries
  - ❑ Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs
  - ❑ Electronic Waste



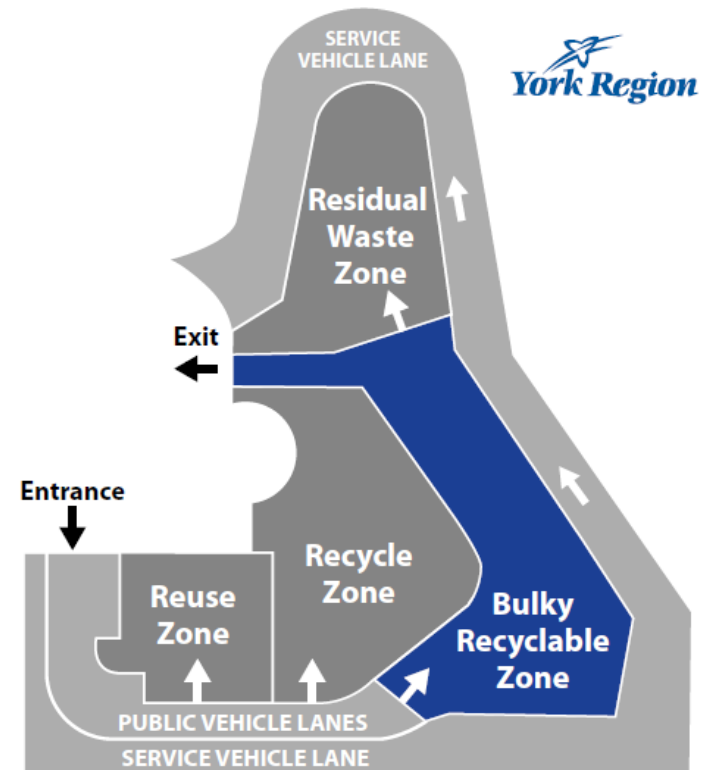
# Bulky Recyclables

## ❑ Acceptable Materials:

- ❑ Scrap metal
- ❑ Cardboard
- ❑ Drywall
- ❑ Polystyrene
- ❑ Wood
- ❑ Clean fill
- ❑ Clean concrete and rubble



## You are in the Bulky Recyclable Zone



# Residual Waste Zone

- ❑ Acceptable Materials:
  - ❑ Residual waste
  - ❑ Tires
- ❑ These materials are subject to fees

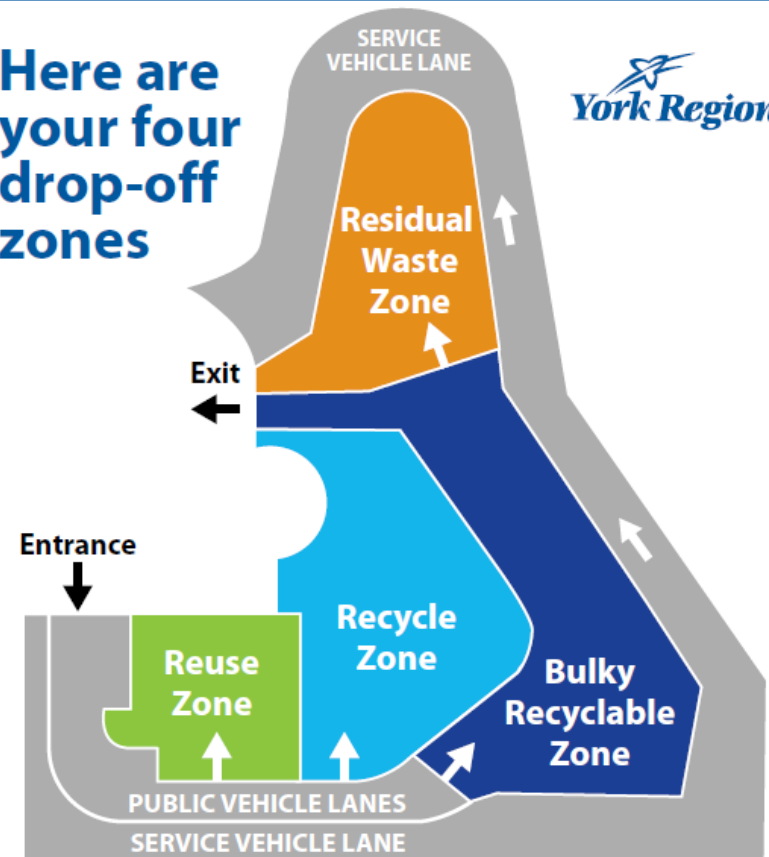


# Materials Not Accepted

- ❑ Organic waste
- ❑ Leaf & yard waste
- ❑ Hazardous waste
- ❑ Biological waste
- ❑ Liquids
- ❑ Industrial waste

## McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre

Here are  
your four  
drop-off  
zones



# Implementation Program

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- ❑ Grand Opening Ceremony for McCleary CEC June 23, 2009
- ❑ Georgina TS: Renovation upgrade - 2009/2010
- ❑ Richmond Hill: commencing planning & concept design - 2009
- ❑ CEC #4: commence planning & concept design - 2013
- ❑ CEC #5: commence planning & concept design - 2016
- ❑ CEC #6 & #7: commence planning & concept design - 2018

# York Region's Community Environmental Centres

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Questions?

**McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre**

Hours of Operation, Accepted Materials and User Fees

<b>Day</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Monday	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*
Friday	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**\*Note:** From April 1 to October 31, on Thursdays, the McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre will remain open until 7 p.m.

Acceptable Materials

- Small Batteries (e.g. watch batteries, AAA through D size batteries)
- Blue Box recyclables
- Building materials
- Clean fill
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Drywall
- Electronics (2 televisions, 4 computers and 6 other electronics)
- Furniture
- Garbage
- Household goods
- Large metal appliances
- Plastic film
- Scrap metal
- Shingles
- Shredded paper
- Styrofoam / expanded polystyrene
- Tires
- Wood (Recyclable wood only)

Material Type	Residents User Fee per Load	Small Business User Fee per Load
Residual Waste:		
• Car or minivan	\$7.00	\$25.00
• Car or minivan + small utility trailer	\$10.00	\$25.00
• Car or minivan + large utility trailer	\$20.00	\$25.00
• Pick up truck	\$30.00	\$35.00
• 12 foot or 14 foot cube van	\$89.00	\$90.00
Tires:		
• Car and light truck (off rim)	\$3.50 each	\$4.00 each
• Heavy truck (off rim)	\$25.00 each	\$25.00 each
Recyclable Blue Box Materials	No Charge	No Charge
Scrap Metal	No Charge	No Charge
Large Metal Appliances potentially containing CFCs	\$20.00 each	\$20.00 each
Large Metal Appliance with CFCs removed, with an approved CFC removal sticker	No Charge	\$10.00 each
Compact fluorescent light bulbs and electronic waste	No Charge	No Charge

\*Note: Vehicles larger than a 14 foot cube van must use the Georgina Transfer Station. The McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre cannot accommodate vehicles larger than a 14 foot cube van.