



SPES

SAMENWERKINGSPROJECT
EXPERTPOOL STADSLOGISTIEK



Environmental zone vs. zero-emission zone

Summary of the similarities and differences

SPES (a pool of experts in urban logistics) collaborates with municipalities on introducing urban logistics zero-emission zones in 2025. This fact sheet explains the differences between an environmental zone and a zero-emission zone.

“A zero-emission zone can be introduced separately from, or alongside, an environmental zone, and is designated by a different traffic sign.”



ENVIRONMENTAL ZONE

GOAL: The goal of an environmental zone is to improve air quality in municipalities. Introduction of an environmental zone keeps old diesel vehicles out of the city and reduces the level of exposure to air pollution (NOx and fine particulate matter).

WHAT: Old diesel passenger cars, vans, trucks and buses are not permitted to enter the environmental zone. A new national policy with a single system for environmental zones came into effect on 1 January 2020. More information is available here: www.milieuzones.nl.

WHERE:

Each municipality has the power to determine the geographical boundaries of an environmental zone.

WHEN:

Formulating and adopting a traffic byelaw is the first step for establishing an environmental zone.

ENFORCEMENT:

Based on the vehicle's license plate (ANPR) or enforced stops to check vehicle details.

EXEMPTIONS & DISPENSATIONS:

More information about exemptions and dispensations is available here: www.milieuzones.nl.



More information:

Would you like more information about an environmental zone or a zero-emission zone? Browse to www.greendealzes.nl/gemeenten. You can also contact us via stadslogistiek@ce.nl.

ZERO-EMISSION ZONE



GOAL: The goal of a zero-emission zone is to make city centres more attractive by improving the quality of the living environment there, and start the transition to zero-emission mobility. For the time being, zero-emission zones focus solely on making urban logistics more sustainable; i.e. they apply to commercial vehicles used to make deliveries or collections

WHAT: Only trucks and commercial vans that do not emit CO₂ and/or other air pollutants from their exhaust may enter the zero-emission zone. In 2022, it will be decided whether municipalities may also impose the zero-emission requirement on other vehicle categories as of 2025 (e.g. taxis and buses).

WHERE:

The municipality is responsible for deciding the boundaries of its zero-emission zone. The Climate Agreement provides for the introduction of a medium-sized zone (city centre and surrounding districts).

WHEN:

The Climate Agreement states that municipalities shall start preparations for establishing a zero-emission zone as soon as possible. The sooner implementation starts, the better the business community will be able to gear investment decisions to the changed situation.

ENFORCEMENT:

Based on the vehicle's license plate (ANPR) or enforced stops to check vehicle details.

EXEMPTIONS & DISPENSATIONS:

More information about exemptions and dispensations is available here: www.greendealzes.nl/qa.



toegestaan
nul-emissie

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