

Standards

There are many standards that apply to solid waste storage and collection. Compliance with each standard is required, unless a design departure or engineering deviation is approved by the City. It is important to understand that not all standards are eligible for a departure or deviation.

Shoreline Municipal Code

The [Shoreline Municipal Code](#) (SMC) addresses solid waste in several places as noted below.

SMC [12.15.030.D](#) states that permitted uses of the right-of-way shall not further physically disturb the existing or planned public use of the right-of-way nor obstruct, hinder, jeopardize, injure, or delay the use of the right-of-way for its primary functions: vehicular and pedestrian travel.

SMC [13.14](#) – Solid Waste Code

- Drop-box container is defined as an all-metal container with 10 cubic yards or more capacity.
- The placement of solid waste containers, other than drop-box containers, is to be placed for collection in a convenient, accessible location off the sidewalk as near as possible to the curbside in a way that doesn't block or interfere with vehicle use or use of the sidewalk, as follows:
 - For properties with level planting strips, in the planting strip or driveway within five (5) feet of the curb; or
 - For properties with sidewalks but no planting strips, on the owner's property within five (5) feet of the curb; or
 - When the foregoing locations slope is at a grade making placement of a container difficult, a level area that is nearest to either of the previous locations; or
 - If the foregoing locations are not available due to dense shrubbery or extraordinary circumstances, then placement shall be at a location approved by Recology that does not interfere with vehicle use or use of the sidewalk.
- Drop-box containers shall be placed at a location that is agreed to by the customer and the authorized collection company that does not interfere with transportation or the use of the sidewalk.
- All walks, paths, and driveways from the waste container(s) set out location to the place of loading shall have an unrestricted overhead clearance of not less than eight (8) feet.

SMC [20.50.160.E](#) – Townhouse Storage Space and Staging Area for the Collection of Solid Waste and SMC [20.50.720.E](#) – Cottage Storage Space and Staging Area for the Collection of Solid Waste.

- The townhouse standards apply to all developments subject to the townhouse design standards, which is most, but not all, townhouse development within the City. These standards do not apply to townhouse developments in the R-4, R-6 and NB zones.
- The cottage standards apply to all cottage development in the City.
- The requirements for townhouse or cottage developments with up to nine (9) units are:
 - If the storage space is provided in individual unit garages, the space shall be its own dedicated area and can't overlap with space needed for required vehicle parking, and staging areas shall comply with one of the following:
 - Solid waste bins shall be placed in the amenity zone if there is adequate area and placement does not conflict with above-grade infrastructure or services, including, but not limited to, fire hydrants, electrical poles, mailboxes, and street trees; or

- Solid waste bins shall be placed within the front setback, provided the area needed to accommodate the bins does not preclude compliance with other codes and standards; or
 - Solid waste bins shall be placed along one side of the access drive, provided placement does not interfere with vehicular access and circulation, and the City's solid waste purveyor provides written confirmation it will service the location of the bins.
 - If the storage space and staging area are provided in a common indoor trash room or room(s) or a common outdoor enclosure or enclosure(s), it shall comply with all the following:
 - Access to and maintenance of the trash room(s) or enclosure(s), and financial responsibility, shall be addressed in a covenants, conditions and restrictions document to be recorded prior to development permit issuance;
 - The City's solid waste purveyor provides written confirmation it will service the location of the trash room(s); and
 - If the storage space is provided in an outdoor enclosure or enclosure(s), it shall be completely screened from pedestrian view from the public right(s)-of-way by a solid enclosure such as a fence or wall, or dense landscaping.
- The requirements for townhouse or cottage developments with ten (10) or more units are:
 - If the storage space is provided in the individual unit garages it shall be its own dedicated area and shall not overlap with space needed for required vehicle parking. Staging areas shall abut vehicle access drives, but shall not obstruct vehicle circulation, and shall comply with one of the following:
 - The vehicle access shall not dead-end, but provide a through connection to a public right-of-way; or
 - The site shall contain a turnaround that meets standard detail 208 or an alternate design approved by the Public Works Director.
 - If the storage space and staging area is provided in a common indoor trash room or room(s), or in a common outdoor enclosure or enclosure(s), it shall comply with the following:
 - Access to and maintenance of the trash room(s) or enclosure(s), and billing, shall be addressed in a covenants, conditions and restrictions document to be recorded prior to development permit issuance; and
 - The City's solid waste purveyor provides written confirmation it will service the location of the trash room(s); and
 - If the storage space is provided in an outdoor enclosure or enclosure(s), it shall be completely screened.

SMC [20.50.240.I](#) - Commercial and Multifamily Service Areas

- These standards apply to all apartments, nonresidential and mixed-use sites.
- The requirements are that the solid waste containers be:
 - Located to minimize visual, noise, odor, and physical impacts to pedestrians and residents;
 - Paved with concrete and screened with materials or colors that match the building;
 - Located and configured so that the enclosure gate swing does not obstruct pedestrian or vehicle traffic, nor require a hauling truck to project into public rights-of-way; and
 - Not visible from the street.

Engineering Development Manual (EDM)

[EDM](#) section 7.12 - Staging Area for Solid Waste or Detachable or Drop-box Containers

- The staging area for collection of detachable or drop-box solid waste containers shall be:
 - Located outside of public rights-of-way.
 - Located so that hauling trucks do not project into the public rights-of-way during collection.
 - Accessed in a manner that does not require trucks to back into or out of the public rights-of-way.

When placing individual containers that are collected/staged within the public right-of-way, it is important to understand what features will be placed in the amenity zone that may conflict or prevent solid waste collection from the amenity zone. In addition, it is important to be cognizant of pedestrian and vehicular sight distance triangles when placing solid waste containers.