

Recycling Space Allocation Guide

March 1993

S T A T E O F C A L I F O R N I A

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Recyclable Materials in Development Projects**A-1



Introduction

On October 11, 1991, Assembly Bill No. 1327, Farr, (Stats. 1991, Ch. 842) was signed by the Governor. This bill added Chapter 18 (commencing with Section 42900) to Part 3 of Division 30 of the Public Resources Code. Chapter 18 is known as the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 (Act).

Chapter 18 requires the California Integrated Waste Management Board to develop, by March 1, 1993, a model ordinance for adoption by any local agency relating to adequate areas for collection and loading of recyclable materials in development projects. Local agencies are required to adopt the model, or an ordinance of their own, governing adequate areas for collection and loading of recyclable materials in development projects by September 1, 1993. If, by that date, a local agency has not adopted its own ordinance, the model ordinance adopted by the CIWMB will take effect and shall be enforced by the local agency.

This guide was developed to assist local agencies in developing a recycling space allocation ordinance. The provisions of several ordinances passed or proposed by local agencies along with information from various other sources have been isolated and categorized to form this guide. Reading through the guide will give you a general idea of the issues involved in writing a recycling space allocation ordinance and how other local agencies have addressed those issues.

Not all the ordinances from which this guide was derived were written in response to the Act nor are they necessarily complete as mandated by the Act. Several of the ordinances are still at the draft stage. Please keep these facts in mind if you are considering integrating language from this guide into an ordinance for your jurisdiction.

Applicability

The definition of “development project” is spelled out in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 42905:

“ . . . ‘development project’ means any of the following:

- (a) A project for which a building permit will be required for a commercial, industrial, or institutional building, marina, or residential building having five or more living units, where solid waste is collected and loaded and any residential project where solid waste is collected and loaded in a location serving five or more units.
- (b) Any new public facility where solid waste is collected and loaded and any improvements for areas of a public facility used for collecting and loading solid waste.”

This definition outlines the minimum types of development projects that each local agency must address in an ordinance relating to adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.

What follows are excerpts from passed or proposed local government ordinances outlining the types of development projects to which the ordinances apply. These excerpts may not meet the minimum requirements required by The California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 (Act) (Public Resources Code Sections 42900 through 42911). In the event that a local agency may want to require standards exceeding those required by the Act, the following excerpts are included in this guide for reference purposes only. Local agencies are advised to consult with their legal counsel to assure that their existing or proposed ordinances fulfill statutory requirements.

City of Sacramento

“Recycling and Trash Enclosures with receptacles of sufficient volume and number to meet the requirements . . . shall be required for the following types of new developments:

1. Multiple Family Residential with 5 or more units;
2. Any commercial, office, public/quasi-public project where garbage receptacle(s) are being used and the receptacle(s) are not stored wholly within the building;
3. Any industrial project where garbage receptacle(s) are being used and the garbage receptacle(s) are not screened by landscaping, fencing or a structure.

“Recycling and trash receptacles of sufficient volume and number to meet the requirements in . . . shall be required for every other new commercial, office, industrial, or public/quasi-public development.”

City of Santa Rosa

“In all zoning districts recycling and waste collection areas appropriate to serve all uses (except single-family and multiple-family dwelling groups under four units) are required.”

City of Sunnyvale

“All single family uses or multi-family uses of three units or less shall store containers for recyclable materials, trash and refuse in such manner that containers are screened from public view from the front of the property.”

City of Sunnyvale

“All multi-family uses of four or more units, and all commercial and industrial uses . . . approved after the effective date of this section, shall provide adequate and accessible enclosures for the storage of recyclable materials, trash and refuse in proper containers.”

City of Sacramento

“These regulations apply to:

1. Multi-Family Residential Uses with 5 or more units.
 - a. New developments of this type are required to submit a Statement of Recycling Information and meet the Volume Requirements and Design Guidelines for Enclosures and Receptacles.”
 - b. Existing developments of this type are required to submit a Statement of Recycling Information and meet the Volume Requirements and Design Guidelines for Enclosures and Receptacles. The property owner will be properly notified of the new regulations and must comply within a specified period of compliance.

2. Commercial, Office, Industrial, and Public/Quasi-Public Uses
 - a. New development of these types are required to submit a Statement of Recycling information and meet the Volume Requirements and Design Guidelines for Enclosures and Receptacles.
 - b. Existing developments of these types are required to submit a statement of Recycling Information and meet the Volume Requirements and Design Guidelines for Enclosures and Receptacles. The property owner will be properly notified of the new regulations and must comply within a specified period of compliance.”

County of Monterey

“Developments in excess of five dwelling units on a lot shall provide a trash enclosure area for the residents of the development.”

City of Palo Alto

“All new multiple-family residential development, including multiple-family residential development that is a part of a mixed used development, for which final Architectural Review Board approval is received on or after February 6, 1992, shall provide . . .”

City of Palo Alto

“This requirement shall only apply to multiple-family developments that utilize dumpsters rather than individual curbside pickup for trash collection.”

City of Concord

“. . . all existing facilities and development over ten thousand (10,000) square feet shall design and implement city-approved Source Reduction/Recycling Plans for white paper, computer paper, glass, cans, cardboard, polystyrene, paper products, and other recoverable materials in accordance with the Guidelines for Source Reduction/Recycling Plans on file with the Planning Division of the City of Concord.”

City of Concord

“All new development, new occupancies requiring City approval, and physical expansions of buildings or uses exceeding ten thousand (10,000) square feet shall submit a Source Reduction/Recycling Plan addressing white paper, computer paper, glass, cans, cardboard, polystyrene, paper products, and other recoverable materials in accordance with the Guidelines for Source Reduction/Recycling Plans on file with the Planning Division of the City of Concord.”

City of Concord

“Residential development which includes common facilities shall include a plan for recycling in the design of common areas.”

City of Concord

“The following are exempt from the requirements [to submit Reduction/Recycling Plans]:

- A. Single family dwellings and other uses which participate in the City-wide curbside recycling program.
- B. Individual tenants of multi-tenant buildings.

- C. New occupancies of existing development of ten thousand (10,000) square feet or less.”

City of San Diego

“Multiple-family residential projects with all zones and planned districts of the City of San Diego shall provide trash and recycling storage areas as hereinafter specified...”

City of San Diego

“Nonresidential uses and projects within all zones and planned districts of the city shall provide exterior trash and recyclable material storage areas as hereinafter specified.”

City of Sacramento

“A Statement of Recycling Information is required for each new commercial, office, industrial, public/quasi-public, and multi-family residential development consisting of five or more units prior to issuance of a building permit and each existing commercial, office, industrial, public/quasi-public and multi family residential development consisting of five or more units after proper notification and prior to the closing date for compliance.”

County of Fairfax, Virginia

“Major waste generators are business properties which meet any of the following thresholds:”

- (a) Single business operated for profit which generates an annual total waste stream of 100 tons or more.
- (b) Business complexes or institutions which generate an annual combined waste stream of 100 tons or more.
- (c) Office buildings and office complexes having an annual average occupancy of 200 persons or more.”

The following excerpts address the applicability of local government ordinances to modifications to existing development projects.

City of Palo Alto

“All new development for which final Architectural Review Board approval is received on or after February 6, 1992, including approved modifications that add 30 percent or more floor area to uses existing on or before to February 6, 1992...”

City of Palo Alto

“All new non-residential developments, and any modifications to non-residential uses which add 30 percent or more floor area to the existing floor area.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Any modifications to uses existing prior to the effective date of this section which add 30 percent or more floor area to the existing floor area shall conform to the [specified] requirements...”

City of Concord

“All new development, new occupancies requiring City approval, and physical expansions of buildings or uses exceeding ten thousand (10,000) square feet shall submit a Source Reduction/Recycling Plan addressing white paper, computer paper, glass, cans, cardboard, polystyrene, paper products, and other recoverable materials

in accordance with the Guidelines for Source Reduction/Recycling Plans on file with the Planning Division of the City of Concord.”

Recycling Areas/Enclosures

Design (materials and construction)

City of Sunnyvale

“Minimum requirement for construction materials are:

- 1) In residential zones, wood or masonry materials compatible with the main structure.
- 2) In commercial zones, masonry with exterior material that matches the main structure and a steel door.
- 3) In industrial zones, slatted chain link.”

City of Palm Desert

“Minimum construction standards shall be as designed in Exhibits A, B, and C of this ordinance . . . or approved by the Environmental Conservation Manager; provided that the enclosure shall be of adequate size, and shall be properly located for functional use by the user and the disposal company and shall be view-obscured from all sides and shall be built of approved materials compatible to the buildings, walls, and surroundings.”

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall be constructed of galvanized chain link fence material equipped with redwood slats, or a solid material, such as wood or masonry, matching the main structure may be used. Architectural Review and a Building Permit shall be required.”

City of Palo Alto

“The design and construction... of recycling areas and enclosures shall be subject to approval by the Architectural Review Board, in accord with design guidelines adopted by that board.”

Design (base, doors, walls, gates)

County of Ventura

“To prevent holes in the asphalt from developing as a result of bin impact, each enclosure should be built on a concrete slab with a thickness of six inches. Additionally, a minimum four foot wide, six inch thick concrete apron should be constructed in front of each refuse/recycling enclosure.”

County of Ventura

“To prevent accidental damage to the wall of the structure, a concrete curbing should set the structure’s wall six inches back from the bin.”

City of Salinas

“The walls of each recycling and trash enclosure shall be constructed of solid masonry material with an exterior surface finish compatible to the main structure(s).”

County of Ventura

“The walls of the enclosures should be six feet high.”

City of Sacramento

“The walls of each recycling and trash enclosure shall be constructed of solid masonry material with decorative exterior surface finish compatible to the main structure(s). Split face concrete block finish is recommended.”

City of Sacramento

“Each recycling and trash enclosure shall have decorative solid heavy gauge metal gates and be designed with cane bolts to secure the gates when in the open and closed positions.”

County of Ventura

“Each refuse/recycling enclosure shall have gates and should be designed with cane bolts to secure the gates when in the open position.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Gates should either swing outward or slide parallel to wall.”

City of Salinas

“Each recycling and trash enclosure shall have decorative solid heavy gauge metal gates.”

City of Sacramento, City of Salinas

“In cases where space for 2 three cubic yard bins is required (107" x 84" or 168" x 53.5"), the opening of any bin enclosure must be at least 84 inches (the size of a three cubic yard bin). This requirement applies to the amount of space exposed when the gate is fully opened.”

“The walls of each recycling and trash enclosure shall be a minimum of six feet in height.”

City of Sacramento

“A concrete apron shall be constructed either in front of each recycling and trash enclosure or at the point of receptacle pick-up by the recycling collection or waste removal vehicle to minimize damage to the surrounding asphalt paving. The minimum dimensions of the concrete apron for a two cubic yard receptacle shall be 10 feet wide and 20 feet long. Paving material shall consist of five-inch aggregate base rock and six-inch portland cement paving. Receptacles that are larger than two cubic yards shall require a larger concrete apron, subject to the approval of the City Building Inspection Division.”

City of Sacramento

“The concrete apron shall be increased to 15 feet wide and 20 feet long whenever a crane-lifted recycling receptacle will be used.”

City of Palo Alto

“The gate or door shall be an appropriate size to allow adequate access of the containers by the City’s collection contractor.”

City of Palo Alto

“The minimum required height of enclosure walls is six (6) feet.”

City of Palo Alto

“A concrete apron shall be constructed either in front of each enclosure or at the point of receptacle pick up by the collection vehicle.”

City of Palo Alto

“Each exterior recycling enclosure should be enclosed on four sides, one of which includes a gate or door.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Each recycling and trash container shall be enclosed on four sides, one of which includes a door, unless said containers are stored within a building.”

City of Sunnyvale

“The height of recycling and trash enclosures shall be a minimum of six feet.”

City of Sunnyvale

“A concrete pad shall be constructed in front of each enclosure and shall be oriented and of such dimensions that the vehicle rests on said pad when loading and unloading bins and containers to prevent damage to driveway.

(A) Pad shall have level surface (no slope) where rollout bins and containers are used.

(B) Paving material for concrete pad shall consist of five inch aggregate base material and six inch Portland cement paving or equivalent materials approved by the director of community development.”

County of Ventura

“The area directly in front of any rubbish or recycling bins should be less than a 2 percent slope to make manipulation of the bins as easy as possible.”

Interior Areas

City of Palo Alto

“Where storage areas are located in an enclosed area, such as a parking garage, arrangements may be made with the City’s waste hauler to have pickup occur outside the structure.”

City of Palo Alto

“Developers are encouraged to include recycling space or systems within each individual residence, such as roll-out drawers for recycling containers below the sink (recommended allocation is 3 cubic feet).”

County of Sacramento

“The recommended interior space allocation for storage of recyclable materials is three cubic feet per dwelling unit.”

County of Sacramento

“Developers are encouraged to include innovative interior and exterior designs and storage areas to make recycling and backyard composting more convenient and accessible to the occupant.”

City of Palo Alto

“Developers are encouraged to include recycling space or systems within each individual residence, such as roll-out drawers for recycling containers below the sink (recommended allocation is 3 cubic feet).”

County of Ventura

“Developers are encouraged to include recycling space or systems within each office or individual residence, such as roll-out drawers for recycling containers below the

sink (recommended allocation is 3 cubic feet). Recycling chutes, if they are used, should be fire-proof, cleanable, and secure.”

County of Ventura

“In multi-story buildings, the developer is encouraged to provide a space for recycling bins and rubbish disposal on each floor, in addition to a main collection area accessible for pickup of rubbish and recyclables.”

City of Palo Alto

“In multi-story buildings, the developer is encouraged to provide a space for recycling bins on each floor, in addition to a main collection area accessible for pickup of recyclables.”

City of Sacramento, City of San Carlos

“Residential developers and property owners are encouraged to include recycling space or systems within the residence; such as roll-out drawers below the sink for recycling receptacles; fire-proof, cleanable, secure chutes from the living space to the garage receptacles/containers, etc.”

Blending

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall be constructed to be as inconspicuous as possible.”

City of San Carlos

“The perimeter of the recycling and trash enclosure shall be planted where practical with drought resistant landscaping, including a combination of shrubs and/or climbing evergreen vines, wherever possible.”

City of Sacramento

“The perimeter of the recycling and trash enclosure shall be planted with landscaping, including a combination of shrubs and/or climbing evergreen vines.”

City of Salinas

“A 2 foot perimeter surrounding each recycling and trash enclosure, exclusive of access to the enclosure, shall be planted with landscaping.”

City of Palo Alto, County of Ventura

“The perimeter of the recycling enclosure should be planted with landscaping, such as a combination of shrubs and/or evergreen vines.”

City of Palo Alto

“The structure should be constructed of an opaque material and should incorporate the architectural features of the project.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Accessory uses [such as garbage areas, recycling areas, exterior storage areas, etc.] shall be integrated into the site design, and grouped together into “service yards” where feasible, in order to minimize on-site and off-site impacts.”

County of Santa Cruz

“[Recycling areas]...shall be architecturally consistent with the primary structures of the site and compatible with the surrounding area. Architectural consistency can be achieved by repeating building forms, materials, colors, or detailing.”

County of Ventura

“The bin enclosures should have minimize visual impact by, whenever practical, being located in such a manner as to not be visible from the street. Also, whenever possible, the gate of the enclosure should not open toward the street.”

County of Ventura

“The bin enclosures should be designed to be architecturally compatible with nearby structures and with the existing topography and natural vegetation.”

Safety

County of Monterey

“Adequate fencing to ensure safety of the residents and the public [is required].”

Screening

City of San Carlos

“The contents of the enclosure shall be screened from public view.”

City of San Diego

“If the exterior storage area for a residential project is located outside or on the exterior of any structure/building, the storage area for two to six (2-6) dwelling units shall be screened with a minimum four-foot-high solid enclosure, and projects of seven (7) or more dwelling units shall be screened with a minimum six-foot-high solid enclosure.”

City of San Diego

“If the exterior storage area [for a non-residential project] is located outside or on the exterior of any structure it shall be screened with a minimum six-foot-high solid enclosure.”

City of Sunnyvale

“All single family uses or multi-family uses of three units or less shall store containers for recyclable materials, trash and refuse in such manner that containers are screened from public view from the front of the property. Recycling and trash containers may remain in public view for purposes of collection as provided...”

City of Palo Alto

“The enclosure should fully screen recyclable containers and materials from view.”

City of Sunnyvale

“The enclosure shall fully screen trash and recyclable containers and materials from public view.”

City of Santa Rosa

“Screening of collection areas from public view [is required].”

County of Santa Cruz

“[Recycling areas] which may be visible from public streets and adjacent properties shall be screened. Acceptable methods of screening include wood fencing, masonry walls, dense hedges, landscape earth berms, or a combination of these devices. Chain- link fencing will usually not be acceptable.”

County of Santa Cruz

“When landscaping is required to screen views of a site or site uses, the plant materials shall be appropriately sized and spaced so that a dense screen grows in a short period of time and views of object on the opposite side are effectively screened.”

County of Santa Cruz

“A fence or wall, when required as a screening device, shall be of solid wood or masonry, or other material, modulated and landscaped where appropriate to provide visual relief from continuous wall or fence surfaces.”

Security

In some areas where theft of recyclables is a concern, it may be necessary to address the issue of security. The security of a recycling area should never be in conflict with fire codes.

City of Sacramento

“The recycling and trash enclosure and receptacles may be secured to prevent the theft of recyclable materials by unauthorized persons yet the enclosure shall be accessible for disposal of materials by authorized persons.”

Access/Clearance

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures should be easily accessible to collection vehicles and collection personnel.”

City of Sacramento

“The recycling and trash enclosure shall be designed to allow 18 feet of overhead clearance whenever crane-lifted dome recycling receptacles will be used.”

City of Palo Alto

“Driveways or travel aisles shall provide unobstructed access for collection vehicles and provide a minimum clearance of 15 feet vertical clearance.”

City of Palo Alto

“In loading areas, minimum overhead vertical clearance shall be 20 feet.”

County of Sacramento

“Enclosures shall be properly located for functional use by occupants and by the disposal and hauling company(ies) providing collection services.”

County of Fairfax, Virginia

“It is not required, but **highly recommended** that design of recycling systems for ...[multi-family buildings] provide the capability to facilitate source separation and collection of principal recyclable materials in addition to newspapers. Additional materials may include, but are not limited to corrugated cardboard, color sorted container glass, aluminum beverage cans, steel food cans, PET soda bottles and HDPE milk jugs.”

County of Fairfax, Virginia

“Apartments, condominiums, and multi-family dwelling units shall be designed to facilitate the separation of newspapers from solid waste, provide for the storage of newspapers to be recycled and provide ease of access for collection from the storage areas.”

Receptacles

County of Sacramento

“The solid waste container and recycling container shall be of a size sufficient to provide adequate storage for solid wastes and recyclable materials generated by the development.”

City of San Carlos

“Location, type and placement of bins and containers shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Department.”

City of Sacramento

“Location, type, and placement of receptacles shall be subject to approval by the city.”

City of Sunnyvale

“An adequate number of bins and containers shall be supplied for each enclosure, as determined by the director of community development and under the advice of the solid waste program manager.”

City of Palo Alto

“An adequate number of bins and container to allow for storage of source separated materials collected through the City recycling program, including but not limited to newspapers, cans, glass, PET (plastic soda bottles with the CA REDEMPTION VALUE markings), corrugated cardboard, and white and computer paper, shall be supplied for each enclosure, as advised by the Public Works Department.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Containers cannot block each other.”

City of San Bruno

“Receptacles containing recyclable materials for multi-residential complex, commercial and/or institutional locations shall be of a size and serviceability agreed to by the authorized recycling agent and thereafter placed at the designated collection location.”

City of Sacramento

“[Recycling areas] shall use receptacles that are constructed and maintained with durable waterproof and rust proof material, covered when site is not attended, secure from unauthorized entry or removal of material and shall be of a capacity sufficient to accommodate materials collected and collection schedule.”

City of Sacramento

“Receptacles shall be clearly marked to identify the type of material which may be deposited...”

City of Davis

“As of the effective date of this ordinance, existing communally serviced residences, as defined in ...this chapter, consisting of ten (10) or more units, shall make carts available for use by tenants and shall be required to provide and maintain space on site for recycling carts. The city’s waste removal entity shall supply the recycling carts.”

City of San Carlos

“Location, type and placement of bins and containers shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Department.”

City of Sacramento

“The property owner is responsible for supplying and maintaining adequate receptacles for recycling and waste disposal.”

City of Scotts Valley

“Recyclable material must be free of contamination which would inhibit the recyclability of the material. For this purpose, only the specific recyclable materials for which bins are provided by the handler shall be placed in those bins. No other materials may be placed in said bins.”

City of San Bruno

“Receptacles containing recyclable materials for residential units shall be placed at curbside for collection by the authorized recycling agent; but shall not be placed at curbside earlier than 12 hours prior to the date and time for scheduled collection, nor left remaining at curbside longer than 12 hours following the date and time for scheduled collection.”

“Pursuant to the terms and conditions of any exclusive contract between the City of San Bruno and the authorized recycling agent, each residential unit shall be provided with suitable and sufficient receptacles to store segregated recyclable materials to be made available for curbside pick-up. The color, style and markings of such receptacles shall be mutually agreed upon between the City of San Bruno and the authorized recycling agent.”

City of San Bruno

“Initial provision of residential receptacles shall be made at no charge to persons participating in the San Bruno Recycling Program. All such residential receptacles shall be and remain the property of the authorized recycling agent, and shall not be used for any purpose other than the segregation and curbside placement of recyclable materials. Participating persons relocating out of the City of San Bruno shall leave all residential receptacles at the premises.”

City of San Carlos

“The property owner shall supply (through the local waste removal/recycling entity) and maintain adequate bins and containers for recycling.”

Protection From the Elements

San Diego Association of Governments

“Rain can damage most paper and cardboard products decreasing the market value and making it difficult to transport. Wet material can also damage other dry material in the collection vehicle. Covering the exterior waste collection area may be a requirement for outdoor storage of recyclable materials. Covering techniques can include completely enclosing the area, partially enclosing the area (roof only), or consist of utilizing waterproof containers that can be placed outdoors.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Provisions shall be made to protect recyclable materials from the rain by covering the storage area, or by the use of covered receptacles.”

Signage

City of Salinas

“Signs shall be conspicuously posted on each recycling and trash enclosure giving instructions on the use of the recycling bins and containers.”

City of San Carlos

“Signs shall be posted on each container listing which material shall be disposed of in that container.”

City of Sacramento

“Signs shall be permanently posted or painted on each receptacle listing which material shall be disposed of in that receptacle. General instructions about how to recycle shall be posted within the recycling and trash enclosure or near the receptacle area and shall be visible to the enclosure/ receptacle users. The name and phone number of the person responsible for maintenance of the enclosure or receptacles shall be posted. Any sign visible from outside the enclosure shall be no larger than 4 square feet.”

City of San Diego

“One sign identifying each exterior trash and recycling storage area is required. Each sign shall not exceed one-square-foot and shall be posted on the exterior of the storage area adjacent to the access point.”

City of Palo Alto, County of Ventura

“The international recycling logo shall be placed on the exterior of each enclosure where recycling containers are located.”

County of Ventura

“A permanent placard with the phrase ‘Recycling saves resources, reduces pollution, and saves landfill space. Thank you for recycling.’ should be placed on the exterior of all recycling enclosures.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Signage attached to buildings shall relate to the building design by being an integral part of that design or by use of compatible materials and colors.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Freestanding signage shall be an integral part of the site or landscape design, or shall be similar to, or consistent with, the design of the proposed building(s).”

Location

One of the main issues that must be addressed in a recycling space allocation ordinance is that of location. Some ordinances do not mandate a specific location where recyclables are to be collected and loaded, but rather leave that determination entirely up to the builder. Different ordinances give the builder discretion, but require review and approval by an office of the local government. In some ordinances, the location of the recycling area is specified in terms of distance from living units, while others simply state that the area must be convenient and not disrupt other site uses.

In order to make recycling convenient, many ordinances have specified that the recycling area be located adjacent to or in the same enclosure as the trash collection area. Others simply state that recycling areas must be at least as convenient as trash areas.

General Standards/Guidelines

City of Sacramento

“RECYCLING AND TRASH ENCLOSURE DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR EXISTING DEVELOPMENT: The following regulation shall apply to all existing development that is multi-family residential with 5 units or more, commercial, office, industrial, or public/quasi-public uses.

1. Existing Trash Enclosure:
 - a. If the existing development has an existing trash enclosure, then the required recycling receptacles shall, to the extent possible, be located inside the trash enclosure."
 - b. If it is not possible to locate the required recycling receptacles in the trash enclosure, the recycling receptacles shall be located adjacent to the existing trash enclosure. Any proposed modifications to the existing trash enclosure shall comply with the requirements listed.
2. No Existing Trash Enclosure: If the existing development does not have an existing trash enclosure, the required recycling receptacles shall be located adjacent to the existing dumpster or other receptacle. Any proposed recycling and trash enclosure(s) shall comply with the requirements listed.”

City of San Carlos

“Existing Development Regulations: The following regulation shall apply to all existing development that is multifamily residential, commercial, office, or industrial uses.

- “1. Existing Trash Enclosure: If the existing development has an existing trash enclosure, the required recycling containers shall be located inside the trash enclosure.
 - a. If it is not possible to locate the required recycling containers in the trash enclosure, the recycling containers shall be located adjacent to the trash enclosure until January 1, 1993, after which time the development must provide recycling enclosures pursuant to applicable provisions of this Chapter.
- “2. No Existing Trash Enclosure: If the existing development does not have an existing trash enclosure, the required recycling containers may be located adjacent to the existing dumpster or other trash container until January 1, 1992, after which time the development must provide a trash enclosure with recycling containers pursuant to [the applicable]...Chapters of this Code.”

City of Salinas

- “1. Existing trash enclosures. If existing development has an existing trash enclosure, the required recycling containers shall located inside the trash enclosure. If it is not possible to locate the required recycling containers in the trash enclosure, the recycling containers shall be located adjacent to the trash enclosure and shall be appropriately screened.
- “2. No existing trash enclosures. If the existing development does not have an existing trash enclosure, the required recycling containers shall be located adjacent to the existing trash facilities and shall be appropriately screened in

accordance with Subsection C.1...”

City of Santa Rosa

“In new development, recycling collection areas shall be placed alongside waste collection areas so as to provide convenience for users and promote recycling.”

City of Palo Alto, City of Sacramento, City of San Carlos, City of Salinas

“Whenever feasible, the recycling collection area and the trash collection area should be adjacent to one another in one enclosure.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Where possible, site trash and recycling containers in one enclosure.”

County of Sacramento

“Whenever feasible, the exterior recycling storage area and the trash storage area shall be adjacent to one another within the same enclosure.”

City of Palo Alto

“Recycling areas or enclosures shall be located so they are at least as convenient as the trash location.”

County of Ventura

“Recycling bins must be located in the same enclosure as rubbish bins whenever possible. If, because of space limitations, property configuration, or other considerations, the bins must be in separate locations, the recycling bins must be located so that they are as convenient as the rubbish bins.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Expansion plans should consider possible impacts to parking space, landscape and set-back requirements. Assess the adequacy of space adjacent to the waste collection area for the possibility of expansion. The area may have to be expanded into an existing parking space or landscaped area. This will depend on the local regulations in the specific jurisdiction.”

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall not be located nearer than 20 feet to streets or sidewalks, and shall be located to the rear of a building where possible.”

Inappropriate Locations

Certain areas are not appropriate sites for collection and loading of recyclable materials.

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall not be located nearer than 20 feet to streets or sidewalks, and shall be located to the rear of a building where possible.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“In some cases, the waste collection area will be located near or against the set-back line. The waste area cannot protrude into the set-back area.”

City of Sacramento

“Waiver of Setback Requirement: No recycling or trash enclosure or receptacle shall be located in any required setback area. Existing enclosures located in any minimum required setback may be enlarged in order to comply with the recycling design guidelines. The proposed addition shall not exceed 50 square feet in area.”

City of Sacramento

“With the [following] exception . . . for existing development, no recycling or trash enclosure or receptacle shall be located in any required parking space. In order to meet the required recycling volume requirement, an existing development may use one parking space for the location of the recycling receptacles, provided the enclosures or receptacles meet the design specifications . . . A parking space that has been converted to recycling receptacles area shall be marked for recycling and shall be adequately barricade by the installation of concrete wheel stops or other method to prevent use as a parking space.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Enclosures and containers shall not be located in any parking, landscape or setback area, except as may be approved by administrative use permit...”

City of Palo Alto

“Enclosures may not be located in any required parking, landscape, or setback area.”

City of Palo Alto

“Enclosures may not be located in alleyways or other City owned rights-of-way, where they may disrupt circulation patterns.”

County of Ventura

“Rubbish and recycling enclosures may not be located in alleyways or other publicly owned rights-of-way, where they may disrupt circulation patterns.”

City of San Diego

“Exterior storage area shall not be located in any required front yard, street side yard, street yard area, any required parking or landscaped areas, or any other area required by the Municipal Code to be constructed or maintained unencumbered according to fire and other applicable building and public safety laws.”

City of San Diego

“The exterior trash and recycling storage area may be located on the outside or the exterior of a structure, or in a designated interior area with access, excluding dwelling units or in rear yards and interior side yards.”

City of Salinas

“No recycling or trash enclosures shall be located in any front or corner side yard.”

City of Salinas

“No recycling or trash enclosures shall be located in any required parking space, except as provided for in this section.”

County of Ventura

“Rubbish and recycling enclosures may not be located in any required parking, landscape, or setback area. The Planning Director or the Planning Director’s designee may make exceptions to parking, landscape, or setback requirements where there are no other feasible placement alternatives.”

Proximity

City of Sacramento, City of San Carlos, County of Ventura

“Each recycling and trash [rubbish] enclosure within a multi-family residential development shall be no greater than 250 feet from the nearest point of each unit.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Enclosures within multi-family development shall be no greater than 250 feet from the nearest point of each unit, unless otherwise authorized by the director of community development.”

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall be located more than fifteen (15) feet from any front entrance to a structure.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Accessory uses shall be located and designed for ease of access by service vehicles and tenants, and in such a way as to minimize conflicts with circulation, parking, and other site uses.”

City of Salinas

“Waiver of parking, landscaping areas or open space requirement. In order to meet the required recycling and trash enclosure requirements, an existing development may use one parking space, landscaping areas or open spaces for the location of the recycling containers if the Community Development Director can find that the loss of the parking, landscaping area or open space areas will not have a deleterious effect on the need for such areas or the aesthetics of the existing development.”

Protection of Surrounding Land Uses

When locating an area for collecting and loading recyclable materials, it is important to take into consideration the affects it will have upon residents of the development it serves as well as neighboring properties.

County of Santa Cruz

“Accessory uses [such as garbage areas, recycling areas, exterior storage areas, etc.] shall be integrated into the site design, and grouped together into “service yards” where feasible, in order to minimize on-site and off-site impacts.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Reasonable protection for adjacent properties from noise may be achieved through site planning, building siting, building orientation, physical barriers such as masonry walls, landscaped earth berms, or setback/buffer areas.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Where noise will impact the building users, the building design shall incorporate buffering to reduce the interior sound levels.”

City of Santa Rosa

“Collection areas shall be sited to minimize nuisance impacts, particularly noise impacts on residential sleeping areas.”

Location Review/Approval

County of Monterey

“The location of and the design of the trash enclosure area shall be approved by the Director of Environmental Health and the Director of Planning and Building Inspection.”

City of Sacramento

“Location, type, and placement of receptacles shall be subject to approval by the city.”

County of Santa Cruz

“The exact size and location of the recyclables storage area shall be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account types and quantities of recyclable materials to be generated by the proposed land use and by the mode of collection.”

Plans

City of Santa Rosa

“Design review approval by the Design Review Board, Director of Community Development, or the Director’s designated representative, is required for all recycling and waste collection areas.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Plans shall be submitted to the director of community development showing the proposed design, size and location of recycling and trash enclosures, and the number, type and placement of bins and containers. The plans shall conform to the recycling and trash enclosure design and construction requirements...In addition to these requirements, plans shall conform to the plan submittal and content requirements for building, special development, use and design permits as appropriate.”

“The director of community development shall review plans for conformance with the recycling and trash enclosure design and construction requirements. The solid waste program manager shall advise the director of community development on the design, size and location of enclosures, and the number, type and placement of bins and containers needed in each development, and other requirements of this section. The Department of public safety shall advise the director of community development on fire safety and hazardous materials containment requirements. The director of community development may approve such plans, require modifications, or may impose additional requirements necessary for the safe and efficient collection of solid waste and recyclable materials.”

County of Monterey

“A plan showing the trash enclosure area shall contain the following:

- 1) A site plan of the overall development;
- 2) The location of the trash enclosure area;
- 3) Elevations of the design of the trash enclosure area;
- 4) Adequate fencing to ensure safety of the residents and the public;
- 5) Adequate area for the separation and holding of recyclable materials.”

County of Fairfax, Virginia

“1. A waste stream calculation shall be submitted to the Department of Public Works, Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling, for all commercial and industrially zoned sites to determine if the projected waste stream of the completed project will meet any of the...[specified] thresholds.

“2. If the project is determined not to meet any threshold, and is therefore not required to have a recycling system, the basis for this determination shall be provided by the architect or engineer or record, with a statement certifying that the project does not meet any threshold of the Business Recycling Plan and therefore, a Recycling System Plan is not required.

“3. If the project is determined to meet any threshold of the Business Recycling Plan, a Recycling System Plan shall be provided. This requires that the developer of

each project plan adequate provision for source separation, collection, handling, storage and transportation of the principal recyclable material.

“4. The following factors shall be noted in the Recycling System Plan Statement.

A. Source Separation of Recyclable Material

A statement regarding the following methods shall be employed to describe the methods by which the principal recyclable material will be separated from the waste stream, collected and stored to facilitate transportation of said material to a recycler:

- 1) Individual occupant/workstation collection containers.
- 2) Central collection containers at major points of generation within the building, to facilitate collection of office paper or other materials from individual workstations. Container locations shall be noted on plans.
- 3) Alternate Recycling Systems: If any alternative source separation and/or handling system is used for recyclable material, give a description of such system and note its location on the plans. Example: Office paper or apartment newspaper collection chute into dedicated collection containers in sprinklered central storage area.

B. Storage of Recyclable Material

- 1) Centralized storage rooms shall be noted on plans, meet all applicable fire prevention codes and be accessible to recycling vendor’s collection equipment. They shall provide adequate space for separation of recyclable materials from refuse requiring disposal.
- 2) Large, outside (commercial) containers, such as metal dumpsters or covered, wheeled bins or carts, which provide rodent proof, fire and weather resistant storage of principal recyclable materials
- 3) Alternate Recycling Storage Systems: If any alternative storage system is employed for recyclable material, give a description and note its location on the plans. Example:
 - a. Centralized cardboard compactor,
 - b. Centralized document destruction/baling area,
 - c. Centralized glass or can crushing area,
 - d. Hotel/bar/restaurant container glass storage area,
 - e. Used oil storage tank.
- 4) Where applicable, all site plans must show details of storage areas used for recycling, which meet all applicable fire protection, setback and screening requirements, indicating the number of units to use each recycling storage facility and the frequency and type of collection.

C. Collection

A statement regarding which of the following entities will provide collection of source separated recyclable material for transportation to a recycler.

- 1) County of _____, Division of Solid Waste Collection Recycling (applicable to County government facilities only).

- 2) Project developer/owner or property management.
- 3) Independent recycling contractor.
- 4) Private solid waste collector providing refuse collection will also provide recycling services.”

City of Concord

“All existing facilities and development over ten thousand (10,000) square feet shall design and implement city-approved Source Reduction/Recycling Plans for white paper, computer paper, glass, cans, cardboard, polystyrene, paper products, and other recoverable materials in accordance with the Guidelines for Source Reduction/Recycling Plans on file with the Planning Division of the City of Concord. The proposed Source Reduction/Recycling Plan shall be submitted for approval by the City at the time of filing a development application.”

City of Concord

“All new development, new occupancies requiring City approval, and physical expansions of buildings or uses exceeding ten thousand (10,000) square feet shall submit a Source Reduction/Recycling Plan addressing white paper, computer paper, glass, cans, cardboard, polystyrene, paper products, and other recoverable materials in accordance with the Guidelines for Source Reduction/Recycling Plans on file with the Planning Division of the City of Concord.”

City of Concord

“Residential development which includes common facilities shall include a plan for recycling in the design of common areas.”

City of Toronto

“As part of the Rezoning/Development Review process, all major development projects are now required to include waste reduction and recycling strategies as follows:

- (a) Submit a report, prior to the introduction of a bill in Council, on a Material Recovery and Waste Reduction plan satisfactory to the Commissioner of Public Works. The plan will address strategies for material recovery and waste reduction within the development; and
- (b) Design and construct the project to provide for material recovery and waste reduction in accordance with the report approved by the Commissioner of Public Works.

“The report required of the owner will include the following:

- (a) A description of the waste composition which shall be generated by the development and the expected quantity of each category of waste material;
- (b) A description of the policies, programmes, processes and equipment which will be put in place to carry out material recovery and waste reduction;
- (c) The provision of space required to store and process recovered materials;
- (d) The provision of loading and unloading area(s) for material vehicles, including adequate vertical, horizontal and longitudinal clearance for maneuvering of the vehicles;
- (e) Access routes for recycling vehicles; and

- (f) Separate accommodation for the recovery, safe storage, and disposal of hazardous waste, if any.

“The foregoing conditions will be secured in collateral agreements as part of the Rezoning/Development Review process.”

City of Sacramento

“A Statement of Recycling Information is required for each new commercial, office, industrial, public/quasi-public, and multi-family residential development consisting of five or more units prior to issuance of a building permit. A Statement of Recycling Information is required from each existing commercial, office, industrial, public/quasi-public, and multi-family residential use consisting of five or more units after proper notification and prior to the closing date for compliance. A Statement of Recycling Information shall include:

- a. Diagram to chart the flow of recyclable material from each portion of the development to the recycling and trash enclosure(s). Include location of receptacle(s), frequency of collection, and who is responsible for collecting and transporting recyclable materials. Identify specific materials to be targeted for recycling.
- b. Site plan to include the location and design specifications of the recycling and trash enclosure(s) and receptacle(s) that shall meet the Volume and Materials requirements...and the Design Guidelines...
- c. Construction Plan to specify any recycled material to be used in the construction of the proposed development. (For example, recycled brick, tile, or insulation made from recycled plastics).
- d. Demolition Plan to specify any proposed recycling of reusable or recyclable building material in the demolition of any structure on the subject site. Each demolition permit request shall be review by a Waste Reduction Coordinator or other designee of the Director of Public Works.
- e. Education/Public Relations Program to instruct users of the development about the benefits of recycling and how to recycle.

“A Statement of Recycling Information for new development that requires approval from the Planning Director or Planning Commission shall be reviewed by the Planning staff as part of the project application process. A Statement of Recycling Information for new development that does not require such approval shall be reviewed and approved by the Building staff as part of the Building Permit process. A Statement of Recycling Information for existing development shall be reviewed by Waste Reduction Coordinator or other designee of the Director of the Public Works Department.

“An area of the development, known as “Recycling Volume”, shall be indicated on the plans for the collection and storage of recyclable materials.”

City of Davis

“The owner or owner’s agent of each communally serviced residence shall submit a recycling collection site plan (hereafter “plan”) to the public works department for providing space for recycling carts. To the extent possible, the plans must comply with the goal of siting three (3) recycling carts within, or next to, each trash enclosure. A minimum of three (3) carts must be sited at each complex. Existing

trees or other significant landscaping features (grass is not considered a significant landscaping feature) and space currently designated for automobile or bicycle parking shall not be eliminated or reduced in size to accommodate recycling carts. Any plan that proposes to site fewer than three carts per trash enclosure shall submit written explanation as to the basis for requesting exemption from the goal.”

City of Los Angeles

“Prior to receiving a building permit, a Source Reduction and Recycling Plan for all projects shall be submitted based on projections of the waste stream by volume and weight based on the intended uses of the project at full occupancy. This calculation should also include projected yard waste, trimmings, and other wood waste. Using these figures, the project developer shall then develop an exterior and interior Source Reduction and Recycling Plan (SRRP). An attached site plan shall note the following locations:

1. Clearly marked waste and recycling collection and storage spaces by floor and by centralized locations for the entire complex.
2. Alternate recycling activities.

“If the following alternate sites are employed, the SRRP shall contain a statement describing how the complex will use them and the site plan shall note the location of these items.

1. Centralized cardboard compactor/baler.
2. Centralized can crushing area.
3. Hotel/bar/restaurant/container glass storage area.
4. Compost bin.

“The plan shall include a statement describing the methods by which the designated recyclables shall be separated from the waste stream, collected, and stored to facilitate transportation of said materials to a recycler or hauler providing such services. All storage and collection areas shall meet all applicable fire prevention codes, setbacks, visibility, and screening requirements and must be accessible for removal.

“In the case of a single family home, condominiums and multi-family complexes shall provide all tenants and occupants with the means to recycle and compost materials in a manner which is practical and accessible. This includes the design and allocation of collection and storage space in individual units or homes and a centralized waste collection and storage area for the entire development.”

City of Los Angeles

“A statement shall be included that instructs occupants about source reduction, recycling and procurement of recycled materials. This statement shall be incorporated into the ownership agreement, property management, and tenant agreement. This should include source reduction techniques, procurement of recycled products, and yard waste management techniques where appropriate.”

City of San Diego

“Within 90 days of the development’s occupation by a tenant, the owner of the development, or the owner’s representative, should prepare a Recycling Plan including identification of the following:

- a. Materials to be recycled.
- b. Method of transport from interior work stations or residences to final collection areas.
- c. Collection frequency of recycling service provider.
- d. Method for informing tenants/occupants about the recycling program.
- e. Contact person (or Recycling Coordinator) for the project.

“The Building Inspection Department shall not issue any ministerial permit for new construction unless it complies with this section. The applicant must provide a complete set of plans illustrating compliance with the regulations provided herein.”

City of San Diego

“The Planning Director or designee shall not issue any discretionary permit for new construction unless it complies with this section. The applicant must provide a complete set of plans illustrating compliance with the regulations provided herein.”

California Environmental Quality Act

City of Palo Alto

“**Negative Declaration:** The project has no significant environmental impact. No Environmental Impact Report is required. The reasons for a Negative Declaration are: Adoption of an ordinance requiring the provision of storage area for recyclable materials for all new multiple-family residential, and non-residential developments will not have an adverse impact on the physical environment. The spatial requirements of such facilities may be incorporated into the solid waste storage areas of such projects and will not add significantly to the size of such projects. The provisions of recycling storage areas will encourage recycling which will have a beneficial impact on the environment by reducing the amount of solid waste requiring disposal in landfills, and will contribute to a reduction in the use of non-renewable resources. Adoption of such an ordinance will support the City in achievement of the State mandate to reduce solid waste generation by 25 percent by 1995 and by 50 percent by 2000.”

City of San Bruno

“The City Council finds, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Administrative Code, Section 15378, that this ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that:

- A. It is not a project as provided by the Act, in that it does not have a potential for resulting in a detrimental physical change in the environment, directly or ultimately as provided in Title 14, Section 15378(a);
- B. In that it is further exempt under the definition of “project” in Section 15378(b)(3) in that it concerns general policy and procedure making;
- C. In that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect upon the environment pursuant to Title 14, Section 15061(b)(3); and
- D. In that the action taken is an action by a regulatory agency that will both enhance and protect the environment and thereafter categorically exempt pursuant to Title 14, Section 15308.”

City of Sunnyvale

“EXEMPTION FROM CEQA. The City Council finds, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15061 (b)(3) and 15378 (a), that this ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that it is not a Project which has the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. This action is further exempt under the definition of Project in Section 15378 (b)(3) in that it concerns general policy and procedure making. The Council therefore directs that a Notice of Exemption be filed with the Santa Clara County Clerk in accordance with Section 14 of the Sunnyvale Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA adopted by Resolution No. 193-86.”

County of Ventura

“The City Council/Board of Supervisors finds, pursuant to Title 14 of the California Administrative Code, Section 15378, that this ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that:

- a) It is not a Project as provided by the Act, in that it does not have a potential for resulting in a detrimental physical change in the environment, directly or ultimately as provided in Title 14, Section 15378(a);
- b) In that it is further exempt under the definition of a Project in Section 15378(b)(3) in that it concerns general policy and procedure making;
- c) In that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect upon the environment pursuant to Title 14, Section 15061 (b)(3).”

Accessibility

All areas designated for collection and loading of recyclable materials must provide access for those who deposit recyclables as well as those responsible for collecting and loading the materials. Some ordinances specify dimensions for recycling areas, while others simply assert that unobstructed access must be provided.

Driveways, Travel Aisles, Clearance

City of Sunnyvale

“Driveways or travel aisles leading to enclosures shall be a minimum of 16 feet in width.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Driveways or travel aisles shall provide unobstructed access for collection vehicles and provide a minimum of 15 feet overhead vertical clearance.”

City of Palo Alto

“Driveways or travel aisles shall provide unobstructed access for collection vehicles and provide a minimum clearance of 15 feet vertical clearance.”

City of Sunnyvale, City of Palo Alto

“Driveways or travel aisles shall provide unobstructed access for collection vehicles...”

City of Sunnyvale

“Where driveways do not extend from street to street, a turnaround area for collection vehicles shall be provided.”

City of San Diego

“In all cases where a lot or premises is served by an alley, all exterior storage areas shall be directly accessible to such alley.”

City of Sunnyvale

“In loading areas, minimum overhead vertical clearance shall be 20 feet for loading operations.”

County of Ventura

“If space is being allocated for a 20 or 40 cubic yard bin (288” x 120”), vertical clearance of 30 feet is required for a collection vehicle. Collection methods for other types of bins (e.g. front end loader for three cubic yard bins) require 25 feet of vertical clearance.”

County of Santa Cruz

“A recycling storage area at least 3 ½ by 6 feet in size, accessible for truck loading, shall be provided for the collection of recyclable materials.”

General Access Standards/Guidelines

City of Santa Rosa

“Adequate provision for access to the collection areas by reclamation/disposal agency equipment [is required].”

City of Sacramento

“Exterior enclosures should be designed to allow walk-in access without having to open the main enclosure gates.”

City of San Carlos

“Each recycling and trash enclosure shall be designed to allow convenient access by tenants without having to open the main enclosure gates.”

City of San Diego

“The storage area shall be accessible to all occupants and haulers.”

County of Ventura

“Where required by law, each refuse/recycling enclosure shall be designed in a manner that complies with the equal access requirements of Title 24 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).”

City of San Diego

“The storage area shall be accessible to all occupants and haulers.”

City of Sacramento

“For multi-family residential developments, each recycling and trash enclosure or receptacles shall be designed to allow the convenient disposal of recyclable materials and trash by residents without having to open the main enclosure gates.”

Accessibility Approval/Review

City of Palo Alto

“. . . accessibility of recycling areas and enclosures shall be subject to approval by the Architectural Review Board, in accord with design guidelines adopted by that board.”

Space Allocation

How much space is adequate for the collection and loading of recyclable materials? This is a hard question to answer due to the variability in development types and collection methods. Some ordinances allow for individual evaluation of each development while others provide specific guidelines. Specific space requirements may make enforcement of an ordinance easier, but may also provide for little variation in recycling systems and building design.

General Space Standards/Guidelines

County of Sacramento

“Exterior enclosures for solid waste and recycling shall be of adequate size to contain a solid waste container and a recycling container.”

County of Sacramento

“Exterior enclosures for solid waste and recycling shall be of adequate size to contain a solid waste container and a recycling container.”

City of Palo Alto

“...adequate and accessible interior areas or exterior enclosures for the storage of recyclable materials in appropriate containers [is required].”

City of Sunnyvale

“Recycling and trash enclosures shall be adequate in capacity, number and distribution to serve the development.”

City of Sunnyvale

“An adequate number of bins and containers shall be supplied for each enclosure, as determined by the director of community development and under the advice of the solid waste program manager.”

City of Salinas

“The property owner shall supply and maintain adequate bins and containers for recycling and waste disposal.”

City of Sunnyvale

“[The specified types of developments] shall provide adequate and accessible enclosures for the storage of recyclable materials, trash and refuse in proper containers.”

City of San Carlos

“Trash enclosures shall be of sufficient size to store trash receptacles. or trash bins, as specified by the local solid waste disposal company.”

City of San Carlos

“The enclosures shall be adequate in capacity, number, and distribution to serve the development’s recycling needs.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Recycling and trash enclosures shall be adequate in capacity, number and distribution to serve the development. An adequate number of bins and containers shall be supplied for each enclosure, as determined by the director of community development and under the advice of the solid waste program manager.”

City of Sacramento

“The enclosures and receptacles shall be adequate in capacity, number, and

distribution to serve the development.”

City of San Diego

“Dimensions of the storage area shall accommodate containers consistent with current methods of collection.”

City of Sunnyvale

“An adequate number of bins and containers shall be supplied for each enclosure, as determined by the director of community development and under the advice of the solid waste program manager.”

County of Santa Cruz

“The exact size and location of the recyclables storage area shall be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account types and quantities of recyclable materials to be generated by the proposed land use and by the mode of collection.”

City of Salinas

“Enclosures shall be adequate in capacity, number and distribution to achieve 50 percent recycling of the total recyclable wastes generated onsite.”

City of Santa Rosa

“Adequate space for source separation of recyclables and agency collection containers.”

City of Palo Alto

“Recycling areas or enclosures shall be adequate in capacity, number and distribution to serve the development.”

City of Palm Desert

“Solid waste and recycling enclosures shall be of adequate size to contain a solid waste container and a recycling container.”

City of Palm Desert

“Equal space within a solid waste and recycling enclosure shall be given to the recycling area and the solid waste area.”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Provide space in front of collection enclosure to stage container prior to collection.”

Specific Space Standards/Guidelines

County of Santa Cruz

“A recycling storage area at least 3 ½ by 6 feet in size, accessible for truck loading, shall be provided for the collection of recyclable materials.”

City of Palm Desert

“The normal solid waste and recycling enclosure area shall be a minimum of twenty-one feet six inches deep with a six-foot high decorative wall and sight-obscuring gate.”

County of Ventura

“When mixed commercial and residential land uses are allowed on one site, commercial space allocation criteria shall apply to the commercial portions of the site, and residential criteria shall apply to the residential portions of the site. When residential and commercial uses are combined in the same structure, residential space allocation requirements shall be applied.”

City of San Diego

“Residential Projects...

1. Internal Trash and Recyclable Material Storage Requirements. Each dwelling unit shall include an area with a minimum of five (5) cubic feet designed for the internal storage of trash and recyclable material. A minimum of two and one-half (2½) cubic feet shall be provided for the storage of trash and a minimum of two and one-half (2½) cubic feet for the storage of recyclable material.
2. Exterior Trash and Recyclable Material Storage Requirements.
... minimum exterior trash and recycling storage area requirements ... apply per building/structure.”

City of San Diego

“Non-Residential Uses and Projects...

... minimum exterior trash and recycling storage area requirements for nonresidential uses and projects ... apply per building/structure.”

City of Sacramento

“Recycling Volume shall be provided as specified ... for the use or uses to which the property is devoted. To determine the volume required and the suggested materials to be recycled for a land use:

1. Find the proposed use or uses in the first column.
2. Read the chart under “Recycling Volume Required” to find the minimum volume of receptacle capacity that must be provided to separate, store, and recycle materials. Read the chart under “Suggested Recyclable Materials” to find the suggested types of materials to be collected.
3. If there is more than one use, add the “Recycling Volume Required” for each use to find the total volume for the development.
4. Fractional Requirement: For volume required, fractional requirements up to one-half shall be omitted. One-half or over shall require additional volume.”

City of Santa Monica

“Space Requirements for On-Site Recycling

Type of Occupancy	Amount of Space Required Over and Above Standard Refuse Bin Requirements
Residential	
1–9 units	No requirements
10 or more units	100 square ft. for the first 10 units and 5 square ft. for each additional unit
Commercial	
Up to 10,000 sq. ft.	No requirements
10,000 sq. ft. and above	100 sq. ft. for the first 10,000 sq. ft. (gross) and 5 sq. ft. for each additional 1,000 sq. ft. (gross)”

San Diego Association of Governments

“Provide enough space to accommodate all containers and persons servicing the collection area.

Container Type	Dimensions	Square Feet
40 yard bin	8' x 20–24' / 8' deep	160–192
20 yard bin	8' x 20–24' / 8' deep	160–192
3 yard bin	4' x 3' / 3'–4' deep	12
2 yard bin	4' x 2' / 3'–3½' deep	8

Vehicle Type	Access Requirements/Concern
Front loader	25 ft. vertical clearance. Roll off 25–30 ft. vertical clearance. 60–70 ft. horizontal distance. The greater vertical clearance, the smaller horizontal distance required.
Stake bed	Access to containers only. Forklift access may be required.
Recycling vehicle/ Compartmentalized truck	Access to containers only.”

Deviation From Standards/Guidelines

In order to account for variability of development projects and collection methods, an ordinance containing specific space requirements for recycling areas may provide for a deviation from those requirements. This allows for flexibility , but may also increase paperwork and staff hours in the processing variances.

City of Palm Desert

“Deviation in size may be made by the Environmental Conservation Manager.”

Education

County of Ventura

“In multi-unit developments, at the time a lease or rental agreement is signed, the manager or homeowner’s association representative, or other appropriate agent of the owner or owners of each residence that is subject to this ordinance shall inform all new tenants of the availability of recycling, the location of the recycling collection site(s), and the materials that may be recycled.”

City of Davis

“At the time a lease or rental agreement is signed, the manager or homeowner’s association representative, or other appropriate agent of the owner or owners of each communally serviced residence that is subject to this section shall (1) inform all new tenants of the availability of recycling, the location of the recycling collection site(s), and the materials that may be recycled, and (2) provide all new tenants with a flyer describing the city’s recycling programs. The flyers shall be provided to the managers and homeowners association by the city’s waste removal and recycling entity.”

Maintenance

City of Sacramento

“[Recycling areas] shall be maintained free of litter and any other undesirable materials.”

City of Palo Alto

“Recyclable materials shall not be allowed to accumulate such that a visual or public health or safety nuisance is created.”

City of Sacramento

“Maintenance of each recycling and trash enclosure shall be the responsibility of the property owner.”

City of Sunnyvale

“Maintenance of each recycling and trash enclosure is the responsibility of the property owner. The recycling and solid waste contractors are responsible for maintenance of their respective bins and containers. The property owner shall be responsible for the cleanup of the interior of each enclosure.”

City of San Bruno

“It is the duty of every person participating in the San Bruno Recycling Program to maintain receptacles in a reasonable safe and secure manner; and all such receptacles shall be so placed and kept at the designated collection location so as to be readily accessible for removal and collection therefrom and placed such that they will not be a public nuisance or in any degree offensive.”

City of San Carlos

“Maintenance of each recycling and trash enclosure and the bins and containers shall be the responsibility of the property owners.”

Collection

County of Ventura

“The property owner is responsible for arranging the pickup of rubbish and recyclable materials. In cases where insufficient volume of recyclables is generated to merit a recycling bin, no recycling program is required. The allocated space, however, must continue to be preserved for the purpose in case a future use of that site merits a recycling bin.”

City of Palo Alto

“The property owner is responsible for arranging the pick up of recyclable materials.”

City of Palo Alto

“Recyclable materials shall not be allowed to accumulate such that a visual or public health or safety nuisance is created.”

City of Scotts Valley

[Collection schedules should] “prevent the occurrence of rodent and insect infestation or odor.”

City of Sacramento

“The property owner is responsible for contracting with the recycling broker(s) for regular pick-up of recyclable material. Recyclable materials shall not be allowed to accumulate such that a visual or public health or safety nuisance is created.”

Variances

City of Sacramento

“**For new developments**, if compliance with the volume requirement or the materials to be recycled results in an unnecessary hardship to the owner, a Variance may be requested...”

City of Sacramento

“**For existing developments**, if compliance with the volume requirement, the materials to be recycled, or the time period...[allowed to come into compliance] results in a practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship to the owner, a Variance may be requested.”

City of Santa Rosa

“In retrofitting existing developments, without recycling collection areas, the following exceptions may be permitted in order to achieve the recycling goals and objectives of the City.

1. Recycling collection areas will not be required to be screened from public view.
2. Recycling collection areas may occupy required parking spaces if no other serviceable location can be found on the site. Use of required parking spaces shall not render a development nonconforming with respect to parking under Chapter 20-04 of this Code. Prior to approval of a parking reduction, a public hearing shall be required.
3. Recycling collection areas may encroach into required interior side or rear yard setbacks. If no other placement alternative exists for the site, a

recycling collection area may be located in the front yard or exterior side yard setbacks, however, they must be screened from view.”

City of Sacramento

“If compliance with the Recycling Volume Requirement and the Design Guidelines results in an unnecessary hardship to the property owner of a new or existing development, a Planning Director’s Variance may be requested. A variance shall not be approved unless the following findings of fact are made by the Planning Director:

1. The project will not be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare nor result in a nuisance.
2. The project will provide adequate capacity, number, and distribution of recycling and trash enclosures and receptacles to serve the new or existing development.”

City of San Carlos

“The city recognizes the existence of hardships based upon the unique features inherent in each applicant’s complex that may interfere with the goal of siting the recycling containers at each trash enclosure. As such, the Planning Department will work with each applicant and the City’s recycling collection company to formulate an acceptable plan that allows for flexibility in the number of containers sited and their location(s). The City’s primary goal is to institute accessible recycling collection program at each complex while minimizing undue hardships for the owner(s). The Planning Director or his/her delagee shall approve trash/recycling enclosures if they are satisfied that the plan conforms to the requirements and intent of this section and may impose any additional conditions, or make exceptions to parking, landscape, or setback requirements where there are no other feasible placement alternatives, deemed necessary to meet the intent of this ordinance.

- a. The applicant shall be notified in writing of the action taken by the Planning Department. An approved plan shall be fully implemented within six months after approval date. Applicants shall resubmit revised plans within one month should a plan be denied.
- b. Any determination of the Planning Department may be appealed to the Planning Commission. Appeals shall be initiated only upon written request to the City Clerk for a hearing before the Planning Commission and shall be in accordance with San Carlos Municipal Code Chapter 18.132.”

City of Davis

“Any determination of the public works director may be appealed to the planning commission. Appeals shall be initiated only upon written request for a hearing before the planning commission. Such appeal shall specify with reasonable certainty the portion or portions of the public works director’s determinations with the applicant feels to be in error. Such appeal shall be accompanied by a fee set by resolution by the city council. In the absence of such request being filed within 15 days after the determination of the public works director, such determination is final.”

County of Sacramento

“Consideration may be given by the Zoning Administrator to allow flexibility on requirements for parking space and/or set-back requirements to facilitate the siting and provision of adequate space allocations for exterior recycling collection and storage areas.”

City of Davis

“The city recognizes the existence of hardships based upon the unique features inherent in each applicant’s complex that may interfere with the goal of siting three recycling carts at each trash enclosure. As such, the public works department will work with each applicant and the city’s waste removal entity to formulate an acceptable plan that allows for flexibility in the number of carts sited and their location(s). The city’s primary goal is to institute an accessible recycling collection program at each complex while minimizing undue hardships for the owner(s). The public works director shall approve the plan if the director is satisfied that the plan conforms to the requirements and intent of this section and that any additional conditions or requirements stipulated by the director and deemed necessary in the public interest have been or will be met.”

City of Davis

“The applicant shall be notified in writing of the action taken by the public works director. An approved plan must be fully implemented within six months after approval date. Applicants must resubmit revised plans within one month after a plan is denied.”

City of Santa Rosa

“No person shall use any established collection area for another purpose unless the director of Community development or the Director’s designated representative waives the requirements of this section under circumstances wherein it is necessary to prevent or lessen practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships inconsistent with the objectives of this section.”

City of San Carlos

“...the requirements of this Ordinance may be applied by the City Council or Planning Commission as a condition to the granting of a use permit or variance in any commercial, manufacturing, industrial, retail, planned community, or multi-family zoning district. The Director of Planning has the power to grant an exception to the requirement for a trash enclosure if it is determined that any use in the proposed structure will not generate enough trash to necessitate the use of a garbage can, trash bin, or number of trash receptacles to require screening and enclosure.”

Scavenging

City of San Bruno

“It is unlawful for any person to keep, deposit, bury, or dispose of any recyclable materials, except as in this chapter provided, in or upon any private or public property, street, alley, sidewalk, gutter, park, or upon the banks of any stream or creek in the City of San Bruno, or in or upon any of the waters thereof; and every person in the City of San Bruno who disposes of recyclable materials shall dispose of same only in the manner provided in this chapter.”

Composting

County of Ventura

“All development projects with landscaped area in excess of one fifth of an acre (8,712 square feet) must set aside an unplanted, unpaved area of at least ninety six square feet to enable on-site composting projects to be initiated. During the period in which no composting is taking place in this space allocated for composting, grass or other easily removable groundcover may be planted in this space.”

County of Sacramento

“The recommended minimum exterior space allocation for backyard composting is 1.5 cubic yards.”

Coastal Zones

City of San Diego

“This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on the thirtieth day from and after its passage, however, the provisions of this ordinance shall not be applicable within the Coastal Zone until the thirtieth day following the date the California Coastal Commission unconditionally certifies this ordinance as a local coastal program amendment. If this ordinance is not certified, or is certified with suggested modifications by the California Coastal Commission, the provisions of this ordinance shall be null and void within the Coastal Zone.”

City of San Diego

“In areas of the City of San Diego other than the Coastal Zone, no permits for development inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance shall be issued unless application therefore was made prior to the date of adoption of this ordinance.”

City of San Diego

“Within the Coastal Zone, no permits for development inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance shall be issued unless application therefore was made prior to the date the California Coastal Commission unconditionally certified this ordinance as a local coastal program amendment.”

Miscellaneous

City of Sacramento

“A parking space that has been converted to recycling receptacles area shall be marked for recycling and shall be adequately barricade by the installation of concrete wheel stops or other method to prevent use as a parking space.”

City of Palo Alto

“Recycling chutes, if they are used, should be fire-proof, cleanable, and secure.”

County of Santa Cruz

“Accessory uses shall be located and designed for ease of access by service vehicles and tenants, and in such a way as to minimize conflicts with circulation, parking, and other site uses.”

County of Fairfax, Virginia

“The developer of any commercial or industrially-zoned project which meets any threshold of the Business Recycling Plan shall provide all tenants and/or occupants

with the means to recycle the principal recyclable material comprising the greatest percentage of the combined waste stream in a manner which is practical, available, and accessible.”

City of San Carlos

“The area directly in front of any trash enclosure should be less than a 2 percent slope to make manipulation of the trash bin as easy as possible.”

City of Palo Alto

“The recommendation for the final approval of the design elements of any project remains with the architectural review board, pursuant to Chapter 16.48 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code. The architectural review board retains the authority to interpret guidelines on a project-by-project basis. If these guidelines are not followed, it will be necessary for the applicant to demonstrate how the project meets the objectives set forth in the guidelines.”

City of Scotts Valley

“It shall be unlawful to place recyclable material in garbage containers for disposal as refuse.”

City of Sacramento

“The property owner of each existing development shall have two years from notification by the City of Sacramento to implement the addition of the required recycling receptacles and the required modification or addition of the trash enclosure and screening.”

City of San Carlos

“Individually serviced residences when utilizing the local recycling program may place recyclables at curbside on the day of the week that garbage is collected on the once per week schedule. Each recyclable shall be separately containerized in containers provided by, and in the manner designated by, the Recycling Collection Company. Communally serviced residences shall make recycling containers available for use by tenants and shall be required to provide and maintain space on-site for recycling containers as specified...The City’s recycling collection company shall supply the recycling containers.”

City of Sacramento/City of San Carlos

“Restaurants, bars, and food establishments are encouraged to use reusable soda canisters whenever possible instead of individually packaged glass bottles and cans.”

City of Sacramento

“The use of balers to compact and bale cardboard, office paper, computer paper, and other products is encouraged. The sharing of balers among tenants within an office, commercial, or retail center is also encouraged.”

City of San Carlos

“Any violation or failure to comply with any of the requirements of this Ordinance shall be deemed a nuisance as shall be punishable as set forth in...the Municipal Code.”

City of San Carlos

“The City Attorney may seek legal, injunctive, or other equitable relief to enforce this Ordinance.”

City of San Carlos

“The remedies and penalties provided in this section are cumulative and not exclusive.”

City of Davis

“Issuance of a building permit for an existing communally serviced residence shall be conditioned upon provision of a recycling enclosure(s) that conforms to the standards set by the city for new development or an approved plan to accommodate recycling carts.”

Appendix A

Model Ordinance Relating to Areas for Collecting and Loading Recyclable Materials in Development Projects

Section I: Purpose

Cities and counties must divert 50 percent of all solid waste by January 1, 2000, through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

Diverting 50 percent of all solid waste requires the participation of the residential, commercial, industrial, and public sectors.

The lack of adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials that are compatible with surrounding land uses is a significant impediment to diverting solid waste and constitutes an urgent need for state and local agencies to address access to solid waste for source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. This ordinance has been developed to meet that need.

Section II: Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to the language contained in this ordinance:

- A. **Development Project.** Means any of the following:
 1. A project for which a building permit is required for a commercial, industrial, or institutional building, marina, or residential building having five or more living units, where solid waste is collected and loaded and any residential project where solid waste is collected and loaded in a location serving five or more living units.
 2. Any new public facility where solid waste is collected and loaded and any improvements for areas of a public facility used for collecting and loading solid waste.
 3. The definition of development project only includes subdivisions or tracts of single-family detached homes if, within such subdivisions or tract there is an area where solid waste is collected and loaded in a location which serves five or more living units. In such instances, recycling areas as specified in this ordinance are only required to serve the needs of the living units which utilize the solid waste collection and loading area.
- B. **Improvement.** An improvement adds to the value of a facility, prolongs its useful life, or adapts it to new uses. Improvements should be distinguished from repairs. Repairs keep facilities in good operating condition, do not materially add to the value of the facility, and do not substantially extend the life of the facility.
- C. **Floor Area of a Marina.** The floor area of a marina shall be defined as the space dedicated to the docking or mooring of marine vessels.
- D. **Public Facility.** The definition of public facility includes, but is not limited to buildings, structures, marinas, and outdoor recreation areas owned by a local agency.
- E. **Recycling Area (areas for recycling).** Space allocated for collecting and loading of recyclable materials. Such areas shall have the ability to accommodate receptacles for recyclable materials. Recycling areas shall be accessible and convenient for those who deposit as well as those who collect and load any recyclable materials placed therein.

Section III: General Requirements

- A. Any new development project for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after September 1, 1994, shall include adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.
- B. Any improvements for areas of a public facility used for collecting and loading solid waste shall include adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.
- C. Any existing development project for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after September 1, 1994, for a single alteration which is subsequently performed that adds 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of the development project shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.
- D. Any existing development project for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after September 1, 1994, for multiple alterations which are conducted within a 12-month period which collectively add 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of the development project shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.
- E. Any existing development project for which multiple applications for building permits are submitted within a 12-month period beginning on or after September 1, 1994, for multiple alterations which are subsequently performed that collectively add 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of the development project shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials.
- F. Any existing development project occupied by multiple tenants, one of which submits on or after September 1, 1994, an application for a building permit for a single alteration which is subsequently performed that adds 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of that portion of the development project which said tenant leases shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials. Such recycling areas shall, at a minimum, be sufficient in capacity, number, and distribution to serve that portion of the development project which said tenant leases.
- G. Any existing development project occupied by multiple tenants, one of which submits on or after September 1, 1994 an application for a building permit for multiple alterations which are conducted within a 12-month period which collectively add 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of that portion of the development project which said tenant leases shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials. Such recycling areas shall, at a minimum, be sufficient in capacity, number, and distribution to serve that portion of the development project which said tenant leases.
- H. Any existing development project occupied by multiple tenants, one of which submits within a 12-month period beginning on or after September 1, 1994 multiple applications for building permits for multiple alterations which are subsequently performed that collectively add 30 percent or more to the existing floor area of that portion of the development project which said tenant leases shall provide adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials. Such recycling areas shall, at a minimum, be sufficient in capacity, number, and distribution to serve that portion of the development project which said tenant leases.
- I. Any costs associated with adding recycling space to existing development projects shall be the responsibility of the party or parties who are responsible for financing the alterations.

Section IV: Guidelines for All Development Projects

- A. Where local standards exist, recycling areas should be designed to be architecturally compatible with nearby structures and with the existing topography and vegetation, in accordance with such standards.
- B. The design and construction of recycling areas shall not prevent security of any recyclable materials placed therein.
- C. The design, construction, and location of recycling areas shall not be in conflict with any applicable federal, State, or local laws relating to fire, building, access, transportation, circulation, or safety.
- D. Recycling areas or the bins or containers placed therein must provide protection against adverse environmental conditions, such as rain, which might render the collected materials unmarketable.
- E. Driveways and/or travel aisles shall, at a minimum, conform to local building-code requirements for garbage collection access and clearance. In the absence of such building-code requirements, driveways and/or travel aisles should provide unobstructed access for collection vehicles and personnel.
- F. A sign clearly identifying all recycling and solid waste collection and loading areas and the materials accepted therein shall be posted adjacent to all points of direct access to the recycling areas.
- G. Developments and transportation corridors adjacent to recycling areas shall be adequately protected for any adverse impacts such as noise, odor, vectors, or glare through measures including, but not limited to maintaining adequate separation, fencing, and landscaping.

Section V: Additional Guidelines for Single-Tenant Development Projects

- A. Areas for recycling shall be adequate in capacity, number, and distribution to serve the development project.
- B. Dimensions of the recycling area shall accommodate receptacles sufficient to meet the recycling needs of the development project.
- C. An adequate number of bins or containers to allow for the collection and loading of recyclable materials generated by the development project should be located within the recycling area.

Section VI: Additional Guidelines for Multiple-Tenant Development Projects

- A. Recycling areas shall, at a minimum, be sufficient in capacity, number, and distribution to serve that portion of the development project leased by the tenant(s) who submitted an application or applications resulting in the need to provide recycling area(s) pursuant to Section III of this ordinance.
- B. Dimensions of recycling areas shall accommodate receptacles sufficient to meet the recycling needs of that portion of the development project leased by the tenant who submitted an application or applications resulting in the need to provide recycling area(s) pursuant to Section III of this ordinance.
- C. An adequate number of bins or containers to allow for the collection and loading of recyclable materials generated by that portion of the development project leased by the tenant(s) who submitted an application or applications resulting in the need to provide recycling area pursuant to Section III of this ordinance should be located within the recycling area.

Section VII: Location

- A. Recycling areas shall not be located in any area required to be constructed or maintained as unencumbered, according to any applicable federal, state, or local laws relating to fire, access, building, transportation, circulation, or safety.
- B. Any and all recycling area(s) shall be located so they are at least as convenient for those persons who deposit, collect, and load the recyclable materials placed therein as the location(s) where solid waste is collected and loaded. Whenever feasible, areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials shall be adjacent to the solid waste collection areas.

Section VIII: Declaration of Severability

All provisions of this Ordinance are severable and, if for any reason any sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of the Ordinance.