MODULAR TYPE RECYCLING STRUCTURES

ISSUE

Modular type recycling structures are commonly found in grocery store parking lots and are considered permanent structures as defined by the building code when they are placed at a particular location for more than 180 days, but should be considered equipment and treated similarly to cargo containers. They are typically about 15 feet by 20 feet and are designed to accept one or two large recycling containers (roll-offs) at the back of the structure. The structures are not intended for entry by the public, but they do provide access and maneuvering space for an attendant to transfer materials, empty and repair machines, and disburse redemption fees for cans and bottles. The modular type recycling structures, which are not pre-manufactured structures approved by the State of California, are individually designed and often assembled off site on a steel frame or “skids”. They are then delivered to the site in two or three parts for quick assembly. As permanent structures, the modular type recycling structures shall comply with the following conditions and requirements:

POLICY

1. Prior to the issuance of a miscellaneous permit (MP), approvals are required from the Fire Department, Department of Regional Planning and Coastal Commission (where applicable).

2. A plot plan drawn to scale showing property lines, the location of all existing structures on the lot, the size and location of the proposed structure with respect to those building(s), required side yards, fire lanes, and location of parking stalls.

3. The structure shall not be located so as to block, obstruct, or reduce any required exits, open spaces, windows, vent shafts and fire lanes.

4. The number of recycling type structures on a lot shall not be limited, unless otherwise restricted by the Department of Regional Planning.
5. These structures require access for the public (disabled or not) to use and drop off recycling materials.

6. Structures that have been designed with any electrical, heating, or air conditioning systems shall be reviewed and approved on site by a Building and Safety inspector. Plumbing shall not be installed.

7. Structures shall be setback from ascending or descending slopes in accordance with Section 1808.7.

8. Structures shall meet the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) provisions when installed in such designated areas.

9. A miscellaneous permit (MP) shall be issued for each structure (2 hour minimum inspection fee). Plan check fees shall be charged based on the time spent for review (minimum of 2 hours).

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