

Public Litter Container Siting and Removal Criteria

Proposed or Existing Location

Individual(s) Requesting Action

Request Date

Response Due

Evaluate appropriate placement of or removal of City litter containers using these criteria:

- Site Assessment
- Outreach
- Analysis and Determination
- Follow-Up

SITE ASSESSMENT

Evaluate Quantities, Types, and Sources of Litter

Evaluate the quantities and types of litter (e.g., fast-food packaging, cigarettes, plastic film), when, where and how frequently the litter is generated and where the litter collects after it is left on the ground by a pedestrian. Is it possible to determine whether or not the trash is from pedestrians or moving vehicles? Determine from WMAC or Maintenance Services whether there are reports of illegally dumped household trash and where those items have been placed.

Determine Proximity of Litter Container to Premises that Generate Litter

Is the current (or proposed) City litter container within two or three blocks of locations with significant pedestrian traffic where litter is generated, e.g., fast-food restaurants, convenience stores, schools, bus stops, or BART stations?

Observe Pedestrian Traffic Patterns

Is the current (or proposed) City litter container convenient to the walking patterns of those who generate the litter?

Review Safety and Access

Review site safety and access to determine if a City litter container in the proposed location will be safe for WMAC drivers to service. The back-up distance should be no more than 150 feet. Confirm that the proposed location is not immediately adjacent to waterways or storm drains.

Consider Effectiveness

Evaluate whether:

- siting a proposed City litter container would result in illegally dumped trash or household trash by determining whether there have been instances of illegally dumped trash nearby and with what frequency; and

- siting a City litter container in the proposed location is an effective response to the situation. For example, if WMAC or Maintenance Services has confirmed reports of household trash dumped nearby, enlist their assistance to try to identify whether any personal mail is in any of the bags and issue a letter to affected parties advising that illegally dumped trash is a violation of City regulations and must be stopped.

OUTREACH

In addition to a site assessment, research any Planning permits on file for nearby businesses to evaluate the level of compliance with conditions of approval regarding removal of litter. Determine whether a courtesy notice or notice of non-compliance should be generated by Code Enforcement.

Evaluate the potential impacts siting a container might have on nearby businesses and residents in the immediate vicinity. Consider contacting affected parties to collect comments/concerns.

Staff consults with Water Pollution Source Control for any existing information resulting from visual trash assessments. Staff should also consider consultation with representatives from Maintenance Services and WMAC.

ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATION

The table on the following page is a reference to compile notes from the site assessment and any outreach activities. The Yes/No checkbox should be used to indicate the appropriateness of the proposed location.

A site assessment should include notes and photos. City staff will make a final determination based on the comments from the assessment and any outreach to residents and businesses.

GUIDELINES

Trash receptacles should be located according to the following guidelines:

- as near to corners as is practicable, but out of the required visibility triangle.
- near high activity generators such as major civic, commercial and transit destinations.
- a maximum of two trash receptacles per block face in the downtown and a maximum of one per block face outside downtown.
- a maximum of four trash receptacles may be provided at an intersection (one per corner).
- on streets with a large amount of pedestrian activity and streets where pedestrians may linger and enjoy the public realm, such as downtown, commercial food and beverage establishments, mixed-use areas, or parks.
- near bus stops.

Trash receptacles should be placed not less than:

- 18 inches from the outside edge of the curb
- 2 feet from any driveway or wheelchair ramp and 4 feet at the landings of the ramp
- 5 feet from any fire hydrant and 2 feet from a stand pipe
- 4 feet from any bus shelter

Additional considerations:

- consider car overhangs and door swings.
- should reduce streetscape clutter by consolidating containers with miscellaneous furnishings such as utility poles, news racks, mail boxes, etc. as much as possible.

REMOVAL OF CONTAINERS

Containers may be removed upon request if it is found that the container is causing negative impacts. Staff may determine that a litter container should be removed based on the types or frequency of illegally dumped trash next to City litter containers.

ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATION

Criteria	Comments	Yes	No
Quantities & Types of Litter		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proximity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety and Access		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effectiveness		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outreach		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FOLLOW-UP

Describe follow-up actions to be taken based on determination.