



City of Vancouver *Planning - By-law Administration Bulletins*

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SOLID WASTE STORAGE FACILITY DESIGN SUPPLEMENT

Authority - Director of Planning

Effective July 7, 2010

1 Introduction

The *Solid Waste Storage Facility Design Supplement for Developments and Redevelopments* (hereafter referred to as the *Supplement*) is part of the Waste Management initiative under the City's Green Building Strategy. The *Supplement* is intended to be used as a clarification tool to assist applicants with the design of solid waste storage facilities for new and retrofitted buildings.

The *Supplement* contains general requirements for the design of solid waste storage facilities, as well as information on storage containers for different waste streams and different building uses. By providing adequate and proper storage facility for common waste streams (garbage and recycling), waste diversion can be increased and environmental impacts can be reduced. The *Supplement* can be viewed at: <http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/solidwaste/index.htm>.

2 Using the *Supplement*

Waste disposal companies are responsible to provide collections services once a building is operational. However, at the design development stage, the building designer and the developer have the greatest influences on the design to make the collections safe, efficient, and environmentally sound.

Development permit applications (DE's) are reviewed by both the Planning Department and the Engineering Department and include the examination of solid waste storage facility and loading area designs on DE drawings to ensure City standards are met (to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning in consultation with the General Manager of Engineering Services). The *Supplement* will assist in preparation of submissions and help prevent delays due to omissions or errors on drawings.

For more information on how to use the *Supplement* or to discuss alternate proposals, please contact the Development Services Branch in the Engineering Services Department.

3 General Requirements

In addition to the reviews by Planning and Engineering, the development, design, and construction of solid waste facilities is also subject to the applicable provisions within the Vancouver Building By-law (VBBL). In general, all solid waste storage facilities should be equipped with, but are not limited to: concrete pads, drainage, door(s), electrical, lighting, hose bib, and ventilation.

The *Supplement* outlines general requirements for solid waste storage facilities within the following categories, and includes such points as:

Location

- (a) at-grade preferred, but no more than one level down;
- (b) garbage and recycling containers should not be mixed together;
- (c) easy access for users to enter facility and use all containers within; and
- (d) separate facilities for different users in mixed used buildings.

Collection Vehicle Access

- (a) adequate clearance (height, turning radius, straight approach) required; and
- (b) design to minimize backing-up.

Designated Collection Area

- (a) loading area no higher than 0.6 meters above driveway levels and must be relatively flat;
- (b) adequate clearance (height, turning radius, straight approach) required;
- (c) area located with minimal interference to pedestrian traffic and other vehicular access; and
- (d) loading pad able to withstand a 28 tonne collection vehicle.

Physical Features

- (a) built according to Vancouver Building By-law Section 3.6.2.6 for Combustible Refuse Storage;
- (b) height clearance to allow opening of lids;
- (c) signage to ensure material goes into correct container; and
- (d) secured with locked doors.

More information on each of these categories can be found in the full *Supplement* document, obtainable at the Enquiry Centre, 2nd Floor, East Wing, City Hall or online at: <http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/solidwaste/index.htm>.

4 Solid Waste Container Allocation

In addition to general requirements, the *Supplement* also contains tables that provide minimum solid waste storage space allocation for a range of building types such as multi-family residential, office, retail, food service, and large venue. The *Supplement* also provides detailed information on how to calculate the number of containers required and lists some of the most commonly used waste containers (compactor, front end bin, cart etc) for various applications such as garbage, recycling, and future diversion (organics).

5 Permit Application Requirement

As part of the development permit application, plans submitted should include:

- (a) number of dwelling units and total floor area proposed in the development;
- (b) dimensions and layout of the proposed solid waste facility;
- (c) type, size, and number of containers being proposed;
- (d) discussion/calculation on the proposed number of containers required at full occupancy;
- (d) access routes for waste collection vehicles (include turning radius and access clearance) ;
- (e) loading area (include dimensions and loading clearance); and
- (f) all solid waste facilities as shown on the approved Development Permit drawings must also be shown on the Building Permit submission.