



Seattle Public Utilities

Director's Rule

Title Solid Waste Storage, Access, and Collection					
Doc. number	SW-420	Rev. no.	0	Supersedes	N/A Pages #4
Responsibility Solid Waste Line of Business					
General Manager/CEO signature			Approval date		
Office of City Clerk filing			Effective date		

A. PURPOSE

This Director's Rule sets conditions under the authority of Seattle Public Utilities in accordance with Seattle Municipal Code SMC 21.36, Solid Waste Collection and 21.36.018, Enforcement Authority, and SMC 23.54.040, Land Use Code, to supervise and manage the collection of solid waste for safe and efficient storage, access, and collection.

B. DEFINITIONS

Back yard exemption service. Special service for garbage, recyclables, and compostables for customers who demonstrate a need for assistance moving carts to the collection location as approved by the SPU designee.

Backyard pay service. Backyard collection service for single-family residential customers with cart services who pay a premium for backyard services as approved by the SPU designee.

Container Location Agreement (CLA). The agreed upon location, on public or private property, for storage, staging, and collection of containers as approved by SPU and the service provider after consultation with the customer.

Hybrid service. Recycling and/or food and yard waste containers and services that are shared by more than one dwelling unit as approved by the SPU designee.

On-site collection. Collection that requires service providers to collect containers from a designated location on private property, including trucks accessing private driveways or other paved areas.

Roll-out service. Service for dumpsters (sizes 3/4 cubic yard to 2 cubic yards) that must be rolled 25 feet or more and up to a maximum of 50 feet to the collection point at the curb or alley edge.

- Measurement begins from the middle of the dumpster at its storage location to the middle of the dumpster at the collection location.
- Per SMC 21.40, Solid Waste Collection Rates and Charges, a fee is charged for each container, at each location, for each collection.

C. SAFE ACCESS TO CONTAINERS

In accordance with SMC 21.36.080, containers must be directly accessible to collection contractors without moving other containers to access the container(s) to be serviced.

An AutoTurn, or equivalently engineered analysis using SPU-provided truck turning specifications, is required for new buildings to demonstrate access to and collection of dumpsters in no more than three (3) driving maneuvers/turns for dumpsters larger than 2 cubic yards or those that contain compacted materials.

Where access for service providers to the container storage space, staging area, or collection location, or other conditions do not meet requirements, SPU will determine the container type and quantity and the staging and collection locations after consultation with the service provider and customer.

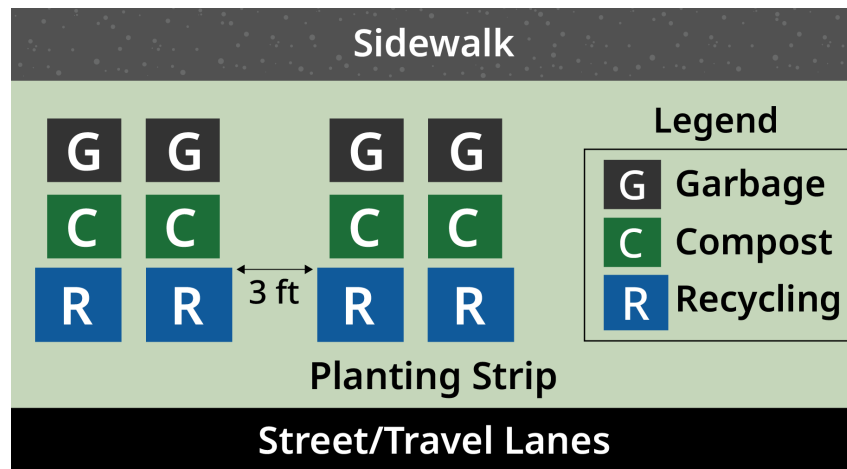
A minimum of 2 feet between dumpsters stored or staged adjacent to one another must be provided for maneuverability and safety.

A minimum of 6 inches is required between carts to be transported by collection contractors to ensure maneuverability.

An aisle a minimum of 3 feet wide must be provided when multiple sets of carts are set out for collection perpendicular to the curb or alley.

Diagram 1 illustrates an example of placement of garbage (G), compost (C), and recycle (R) bins for collection by contractors.

Diagram 1



Gates and doors used by service providers must open to a minimum of 6-foot width. Doors must remain open during service, either through an automatic or manual latch system.

A 60-inch turning circle is required in front of all containers for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards.

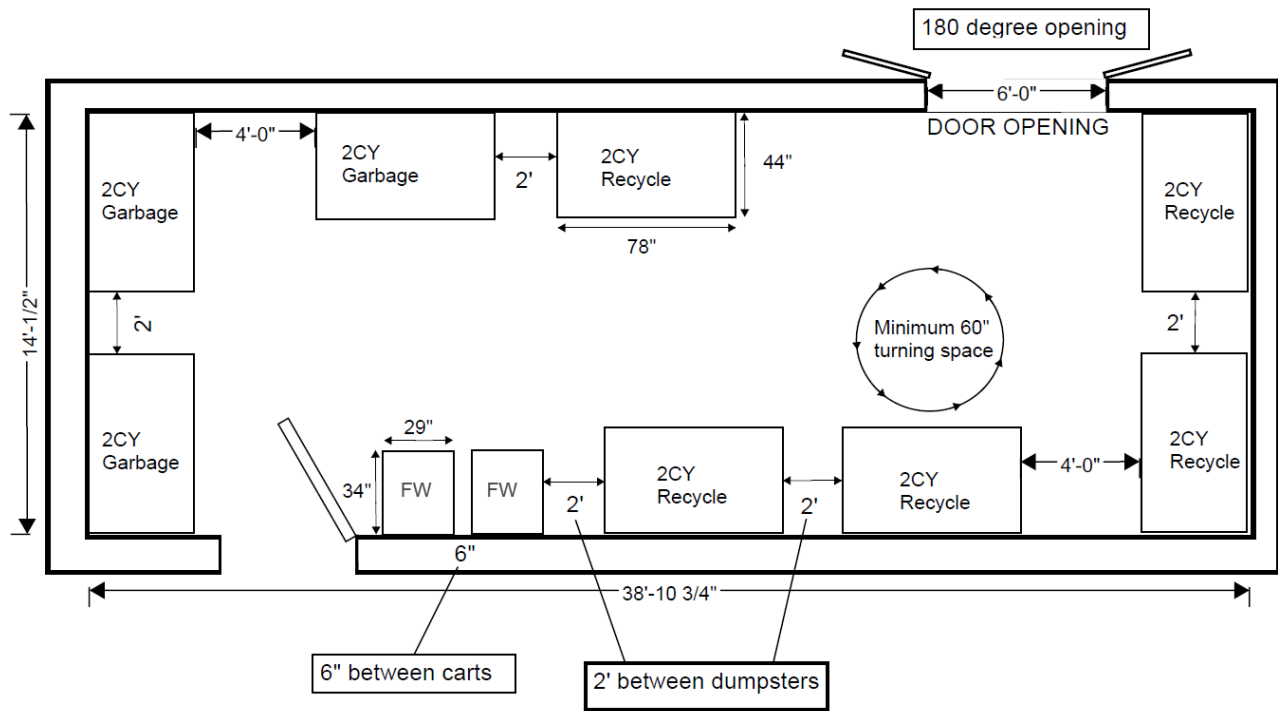
Gate tracks, thresholds, and other impediment may not exceed one-half-inch height. Impediments one-half-inch in height must be beveled per ADA standards.

DRAFT

Paths required to move carts to staging locations shall not include stairs or other impediments that make transport difficult, unsafe, or unreliable for users.

Diagram 2 depicts an example of minimum distances between containers in a storage space.

Diagram 2



**Minimum dimensions for solid waste storage are indicated in SMC 23.54.040, Table C.*

D. SERVICE EFFICIENCY

Solid waste collection trucks may access private driveways if the SPU designee determines that service from the street or alley cannot meet the standards outlined in SMC 21.36 and 23.54.040 and a Container Location Agreement (CLA) is established.

Containers must be staged for collection directly in front of, directly behind, directly adjacent to, or on the property that generates the materials stored in the containers.

SPU may designate Hybrid solid waste services and billing for either new or existing developments that are unable to meet the requirements of SMC 21.36 or 23.54.040.

E. SAFETY AND SANITARY STORAGE AND COLLECTION

To ensure the safe and sanitary storage and collection of solid waste, all commercial and residential garbage must be bagged and placed in carts or dumpsters.

Customers subscribed to bag services for recycling and/or garbage per SPU Director's Rule SW-406, Temporary Container and Bag Placement and Removal at Curbs and Public Alleys, are exempted from using carts or dumpsters.

DRAFT

Garbage “extras” placed for collection must be bagged and left next to the garbage container for service.

Per Director’s Rule SW-406, dumpsters stored permanently in the right of way or on private property in publicly accessible areas, will be kept lidded, locked with a city-provided lock, and the surrounding area kept clean.

Per the Seattle Department of Transportation, Right-of-Way Improvements Manual (Seattle Streets Illustrated), collection vehicles may back up a maximum of 50 feet where permitted by SDOT.

F. EXCEPTIONS

Buildings constructed prior to the effective date of this rule may be exempted from specific standards at the discretion of the SPU designee.

G. AUTHORITY/REFERENCES

- SMC Solid Waste Code 21.36.018, Enforcement Authority
- SMC Solid Waste Code 21.36.080.A, Placement of Containers
- SMC Solid Waste Code 21.40
- SMC Land Use Code 23.54.040
- SMC Land Use Code 23.50.040.E.F
- City of Seattle Standard Plans for Municipal Construction 2023
- SPU Director’s Rule SW-406, Temporary Container and Bag Placement and Removal at Curbs and Public Alleys
- Seattle Department of Transportation, Right-of-Way Improvements Manual (Seattle Streets Illustrated), section 3.3 Clearances
- Americans with Disabilities Act, 2010 Standards