



YOLO COUNTY BUILDING DIVISION

292 W. Beamer Street | Woodland, CA 95695 | (530) 666-8775 | Fax (530) 666-8156

www.yolocounty.org

Building.Division@yolocounty.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Scott Doolittle, Plan Check Engineer
DATE: August 10, 2018
SUBJECT: Procedures and Construction Standards for Shipping Containers

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an informational guide to the County's procedures and construction standards for permitting shipping containers, also known as sea-land cargo containers or conex boxes. The Chief Building Official has authority to render interpretations of the County Code, and shall enforce such rules and regulations to ensure compliance with *California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Building Standards Code*.

Shipping containers used solely for storage of materials and equipment with no connection to any utilities are not subject to permitting requirements. Containers used for any other use or occupancy, including propagation, cultivation, drying, trimming or packaging shall require permitting. This applies to both temporary and permanent uses. Once occupied or identified for a specific use, the shipping container is a structure subject to the building code requirements for that use.

A building used seasonally may be removed and replaced to the same location without additional permitting. However, changing the location of containers on the site or adding additional containers shall require additional permits for the new locations.

The permitting construction documents shall include:

- All required setbacks shall be met, including buffers.
- All requirements of the Fire Protection District shall be met.
- Permit fees shall be based upon the current building permit fee schedule approved by the Board of Supervisors using ICC Building Valuation Data.
- Shipping containers in flood hazard areas shall comply with the County's Flood Protection ordinance.
- Permanent uses require anchoring on concrete foundations capable of withstanding all imposed vertical and horizontal loads. A minimum anchoring is to provide one pier at each corner of the container that is 18" diameter by 24" deep with a minimum 560 pound hold down.
- Documents shall include a Site Plan drawn to scale and dimensioned showing all structures, driveways, wells, septic systems, electrical services, propane tanks, greenhouses, and fire access.
- Documents shall include a Floor/Foundation Plan drawn to scale and dimensioned showing all exterior dimensions; location, size, and hardware used for the egress door; utility connections and use.
- If the containers will be modified or connected to another structure, the work shall be designed and detailed by an engineer or architect licensed in the State of California.
 - Exception: The modification is a simple opening to insert the required egress door and ventilation.