

## **GARBAGE AND RECYCLE COLLECTION ENCLOSURE AND ACCESS POLICY**

Within the City of Lynnwood, waste hauling service is provided by private companies to commercial and multi-family customers. Each company has a designated geographic area that it serves. Both garbage and recycle collection are provided by the same company within its service area, using front-load collection trucks and containers for the vast majority of these services. **See the last page for the City and waste hauling company contacts.**

The size and type of collection containers and screened enclosures (necessary for any outdoor storage) may vary with each company's service area. Container size and type is also affected by the proposed location of the collection container enclosure, the number of multi-family units served and/or the size and nature of commercial business served. Properties that design for and use compactor units or roll-off container service may be subject to these standards, particularly those concerning access.

The standards outlined in this policy, particularly the inside dimensions and open gate clearances, have been proven to provide the most workable and efficient use of the enclosure area. In an effort to coordinate acceptable enclosure design and access with development projects, the City will review development projects for compliance with these standards. In the case where the applicant feels the typical size and access requirements don't work in their specific instance, the City will coordinate between the applicant and the service provider to reach an acceptable solution.

Properties will be reviewed for compliance with these standards upon receipt of a permit application for remodeling, change of use, or parking lot revision, any existing non-conforming garbage and recycle collection enclosures (or lack thereof) may be subject to evaluation for upgrades to this policy to the maximum extent feasible.

### **PROCESS**

When an applicant submits a permit application to the City for: any new commercial or multifamily project, remodeling or changing the use of existing commercial or multi-family project, a parking lot revision, the City shall review the project for compliance with these standards.

If the project requires land use approvals prior to submitting for building permits, the Planning Division will route the plans to the Public Works Department through their normal routing process. Site plans will need to show compliance with the standards shown in this document for both enclosure size and access needs. The Public Works Department will confirm compliance of the project with these standards and note any additional conditions or concerns that still need to be incorporated or resolved. In the case where an applicant would like to modify the typical standards due to specific site conditions, they should include with their application a request to meet with the Public Works Director's representative to review their proposal and reach a solution.

The enclosure layout and access plan approved with a land use permit is considered to be a condition of approval and must be complied with through building permit submittal and construction.

For projects that have already received their land use permit and are applying for a building permit, or for those projects that require a building permit only, the Public Works Department and the Community Development Department's Planning Division will be responsible for reviewing the layout and access

plan and enclosure details as part of their standard review of building permits. The approved layout and access plan and enclosure details for the garbage and recycling area is considered to be a condition of approval for the building permit that must be complied with through construction.

Inspection of the installed garbage and recycling areas will be the responsibility of the Public Works Department in coordination with their Engineering Division and the Community Development Planning Division.

## **ENCLOSURE DESIGN STANDARDS**

### **A. GENERAL**

The following basic standards shall apply to all enclosures:

1. Detailed drawings must be submitted for review and approval of all enclosures and shall meet the design and material standards described within this policy.
2. Rooms or areas designed within buildings for use as locations for collection containers shall be considered the same as enclosures (these rooms are a common design for projects that back up to an alleyway, for example).
3. **Enclosures shall be sized to allow for both garbage and recycle containers, at a minimum.**
4. Proposed location and orientation shall be depicted on the Civil, Architectural, and Landscape plans to avoid overlap of utilities, landscaping and to insure consistency between drawings.
5. **Enclosures, as defined by this policy, shall be for garbage, recycle or other waste containers only and shall not house mechanical equipment, electrical equipment or substations, gas meters, storm drainage catch basins, fire sprinkler equipment, etc.**
6. Bollards shall not be placed within the enclosure, unless adequate depth and width is maintained for container placement and movement.
7. Bollards shall not be placed outside the enclosure where they will create interference with gate operations, parking spaces, or create traffic hazards.
8. Enclosure surfaces shall be at grade with adjacent drive aisles and alleyways, or be provided appropriate curb cuts or ramps.

### **B. LOCATION**

1. Priority shall be given to locate enclosures along accessible alleyways, if the property abuts it; or, integrated into the building design with accessibility to an alleyway or street; or, in a parking area, preferably toward the back or side of the lot, in the most unobtrusive manner possible while maintaining proper service access and truck maneuverability.
2. Enclosures shall be readily accessible and convenient to both the hauler and building tenants and custodians.
3. No sight distance hazards shall be created.
4. Orientation of the enclosure has an effect on the collection service level efficiency and should be considered when siting the structure. Read more at Access.

### ***C. ACCESS***

1. Collection trucks need appropriate turning radii and approaches that minimize or eliminate the need for trucks to backup, especially onto a main street or road.
2. When front-load containers, sized at 4 cubic yards and larger, are to be used, they shall be provided a minimum direct approach of 70 feet for the collection truck. Direct front-load container service is the most efficient for any front-load container. However, smaller containers than 4 cubic yard can have wheels and may be rolled out to be serviced.

Please note: Businesses with continuous heavy and or wet garbage, such as restaurants, cafeterias, or bakeries may be required to have direct front-load container service or more frequent service if a smaller container is used and rolled out for service. If smaller containers are used, the smaller footprint that may apply must be agreed upon by the applicant, hauling company, and City reviewers.

3. Access to the enclosure shall be provided on the longest side of the enclosure, (i.e., the enclosure shall be wider than deeper) to eliminate garbage and recycle container interference.
4. Access gates shall be unobstructed, be able to open past 90 degrees at a minimum, and must be able to be secured in an open and closed position. A set of gates opening up to 180 degrees may be recommended or required in certain scenarios. Read more at Materials.
5. Gates for front-load type containers shall be a **minimum of 12 feet wide clear when gates are open. There shall be no permanent center posts within any gate openings.**
6. When the gate opening exceeds 12 feet in width, it is recommended that a 3-foot employee/tenant opening should be placed in an appropriate section of the enclosure for convenience. This opening need not be gated.
7. Offset gates are an acceptable option to allow tenant access, however the depth of the enclosure must be adjusted accordingly to insure adequate depth (offset gate design is shown in the included sample enclosure drawing.)
8. For collection areas located within a building and opening onto an alleyway, a roll-up type door is the most appropriate.

### ***D. SIZE***

1. Enclosures shall provide sufficient space for unrestricted movement of containers on casters/wheels and lifting of stationary containers while being serviced.
2. **Enclosures shall be sized to allow for both garbage and recycle containers, at a minimum.**
3. The minimum height of the required solid screening shall be 6 feet.
4. The minimum height of a collection area in a building shall be 8 feet, exclusive of lighting, sprinklers, etc.
5. Enclosures that will also be used to store waste containers for fats, oils and grease (some restaurants, donut shops, for example) **shall be sized larger** to accommodate those containers. The same principle applies with properties using commercial compost collection containers.

## Trash Enclosures

- The following minimum dimensions have been shown to provide the most workable and efficient use of an enclosed area to insure proper placement and movement of both garbage and recycle containers and the space for people to use them.

<i>MINIMUM ENCLOSURE SIZES FOR USE OF FRONT-LOAD CONTAINERS</i>	
<b>Number of Units or Type</b>	<b>Finished Inside Dimensions</b>
Multi-family 2-6 units	12 ft. deep x 10 ft. wide
Multi-family 7-12 units	12 ft. deep x 12 ft. wide
Multi-family 13-17 units	12 ft. deep x 14 ft. wide
Multi-family 18-29 units	12 ft. deep x 16 ft. wide
Multi-family 30+ units (may require additional enclosures)	12 ft. deep x 16 ft. wide (each site)
Retail/Office	See note below
Mixed Use (B/R-1)	See note below
Restaurant	See note below
Large Retail	12 ft. deep x 22 ft. wide
Public Schools	See note below
Other*	See note below
NOTE: Number of tenants, type of use, property location, etc., will need to be assessed to make a final minimum size determination. Use of compactor equipment for solid waste storage and frequency of collection are examples of other factors to consider.	

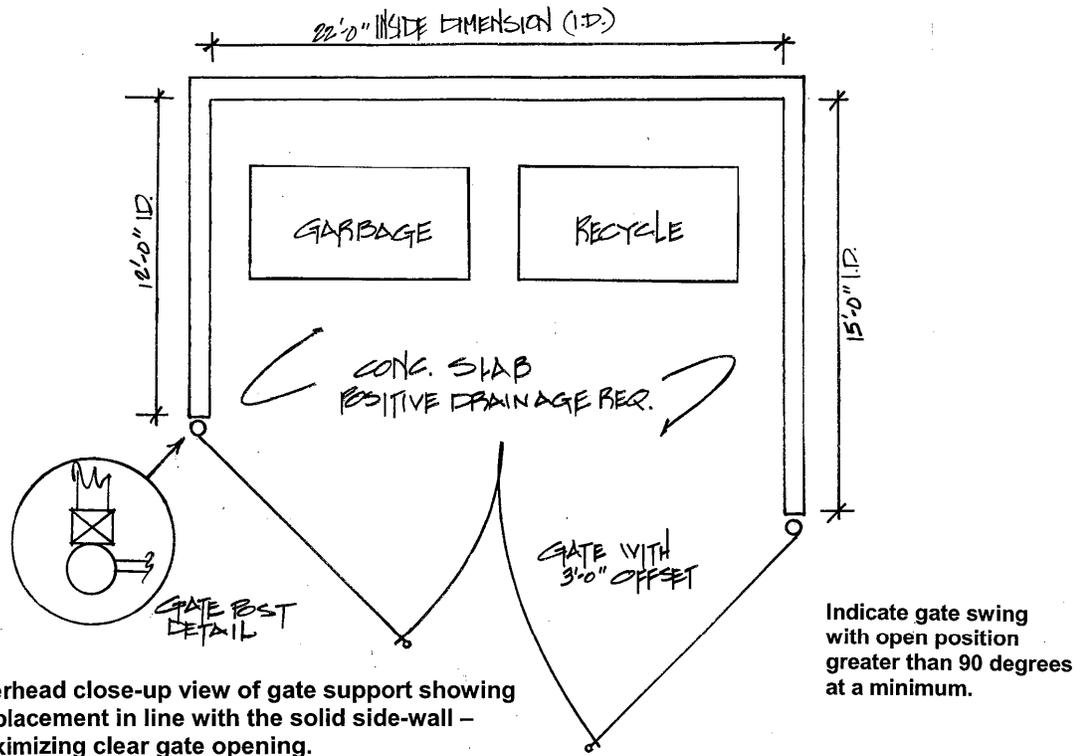
### ***E. MATERIALS***

- A concrete slab surface shall form the basis of the enclosure footprint, with positive drainage not exceeding a 2% slope.
- Enclosures shall be solid screen using wood, concrete masonry or compatible material to the site's main building (matching in color, material or both). No chain-link is to be used, **except** for gate sections.
- Gates may be of comparable material to the type of enclosure but shall not create a site hazard. It is recommended that chain-link, with inserted vinyl slats, be used for gates.
- Chain-link (with inserted slats) is approved for use as **gates only** and not for any other structural elements.
- Appropriate hardware, such as drop pins/pavement sleeves, are required to be used for securing gate sections in both open and closed positions. Securing devices need to be noted on the enclosure detail under the general design standards, along with the indication of each gate's fullest extension (swing).

**Trash Enclosures**

Sample drawing of a typical enclosure showing  
2 side by side / front-load / 4-cubic-yard or greater containers.

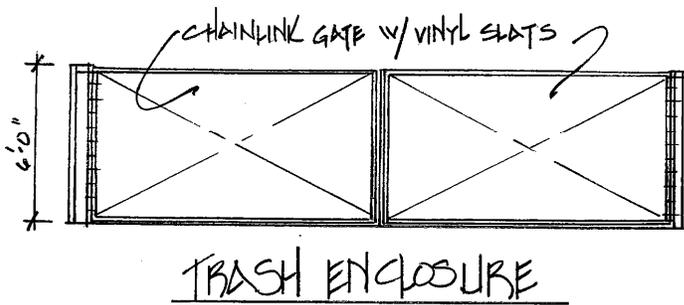
(shown not to scale and with a suggested offset gate design that offers convenient tenant access)

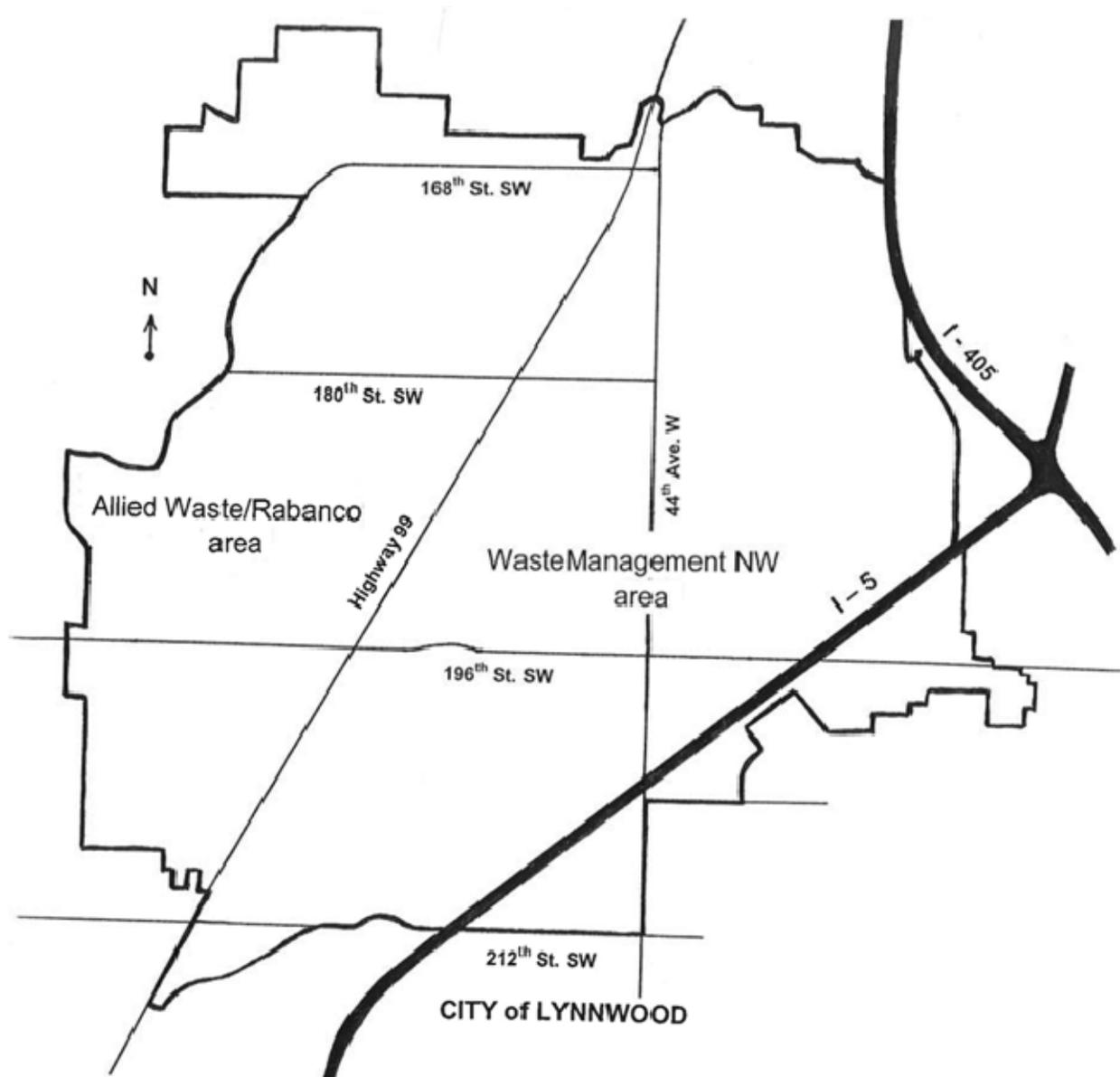


Overhead close-up view of gate support showing its placement in line with the solid side-wall – maximizing clear gate opening.

Provide the following notation with the drawing: *“Install lock pins on each gate and galvanized tubing at surface level to lock gates in the open and closed positions.”*

**NOTE:** Materials and finishes to match primary building. Solid sides of enclosure to be identical. Chain-link with vinyl slats only accepted for gate sections.





Contacts for the certified waste haulers serving the City of Lynnwood **regarding trash enclosure review:**

**Area WEST of Hwy. 99 – Republic Services**  
(formerly Allied Waste/Rabanco)  
**Wes Smith 455-646-2470**  
[wsmith3@republicservices.com](mailto:wsmith3@republicservices.com)

**Area EAST of Hwy. 99 – Waste Management**  
**Joey Pelleccia 425-420-1721**  
[jpellecc@wm.com](mailto:jpellecc@wm.com)

Contact for City of Lynnwood Public Works **regarding garbage and recycling enclosure review:**  
**Steve Fisher 425-670-5244**  
[sfisher@ci.lynnwood.wa.us](mailto:sfisher@ci.lynnwood.wa.us)