



# CARGO CONTAINERS AS AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE

City of Murrieta – Development Services Department  
1 Town Square, Murrieta CA 92562

## I. BACKGROUND / PROCESS

The Development Code lacked language/parameters on how to address this use. This was updated within the Murrieta Municipal Code (MMC) under the 5<sup>th</sup> Code Updates within **MMC §16.44.150.K (Cargo Containers As An Accessory Structure)** under Ordinance No. 574-22.



- Limited to **one (1) cargo container** for parcels between **one (1) and two (2) acres**. **One (1) additional container** may be proposed for parcels **greater than two (2) acres**.
- Limited to the **Rural Residential (RR)** and **Estate Residential 1 (ER-1) Zones** that are greater than one (1) acre or more. Verify your zoning designation to determine eligibility.
- Approval is specific to a location and shall not be transferable to other locations or property.
- Shall meet all requirements as set forth in the **California Building and Fire Code(s)**.
- Shall be limited to a “**Storage Occupancy**” as categorized under the **California Building and Fire Code(s)**.
- Shall be accessory to the primary use of the property for the storage of nonflammable, noncombustible, nonhazardous materials and supplies.
- Shall be modified in such a manner to match the main residential structure in terms of exterior colors, trim, and roofing style. On

**Documents Referenced in this Information Bulletin**

- [Ordinance No. 574-22](#)
- [Murrieta Zoning Map](#)

larger parcels, over two (2) acres or more, the modifications shall be limited to the paint color of the exterior in terms of matching the main residential structure.

- Structure setbacks shall be provided as noted in **Table 3-14**.
- The structures need to comply with and height and lot coverage thresholds as defined within **Rural Residential (RR)** and the **Estate Residential 1 (ER-1) Zones**.
- Landscape screening methods shall be provided on-site to the satisfaction of the Director or their designee.
- Existing cargo containers at existing residential properties can remain in place **18 months** from the effective date of the **ordinance, which will be November 7, 2023**. Prior to this sunset date, please obtain approval from the City.

Minimum Setbacks	
Front Setback	25 Feet
Side Setback	10 Feet
Min. distance from another structure / Rear Setback	8 Feet

