

Fire Sprinklers in Trash Enclosures and Carports

Livermore Municipal Code Section 15.04.130 states that an automatic fire extinguishing system or other approved fire suppression system shall be installed in all occupancies and locations.

Trash Enclosure Guidelines

Covered* trash enclosures are required to have an automatic fire sprinkler protection system.

Exception:

A fire extinguishing system need not be installed in a covered trash enclosure when the enclosure meets all of the following additional fire resistive conditions:

1. The enclosure, including the cover and door, shall be constructed of non-combustible material.
2. The enclosure shall be a maximum 180 square feet in size.
3. The enclosure shall be a stand-alone structure, be a minimum 20 feet away from adjacent buildings and a minimum 10' from property line(s).
4. The trash enclosure shall be used exclusively for waste garbage contained within approved trash containers. No outdoor storage is permitted within the trash enclosure.

*Please note that regional storm water pollution control standards may require a roof cover on your trash enclosure, in order to divert rainwater from the enclosure.

Carport Guidelines

As with covered trash enclosures, carports also require automatic fire extinguishing systems.

Exception:

A fire extinguishing system need not be installed in a carport when the carport installation meets all of the following additional fire resistive conditions:

1. The carport shall be constructed of non-combustible materials. This includes the frame, roof decking and roof covering materials.
2. The minimum distance from any portion of the carport to a building shall be no less than 20 feet, measured from any portion of the carport to any portion of an adjacent building (including decks and overhangs).
3. The minimum distance from any portion of the carport to a property line shall be no less than 10 feet.
4. The carport(s) shall not be connected to a covered pedestrian walkway extending from a building. A minimum separation of no less than 5 feet shall separate a non-combustible carport from any covered pedestrian walkway.
5. If a covered pedestrian walkway extends from a building that has approved automatic fire sprinkler protection, it may connect to the non-combustible carport. Separation is not required. The carport shall also meet conditions 1, 2, and 3 above.
6. A non-combustible carport shall be no less than 10 feet from trash enclosures without automatic fire sprinkler protection.
7. Each non-combustible carport structure shall cover no more than 10 vehicle spaces, meeting the City of Livermore minimum size dimensions as specified in the Zoning Ordinance. Exceptions to the maximum size (10 vehicles) can be made if the carport was constructed under previous guidelines requiring fewer landscaping islands between parking spaces.
8. Multiple non-combustible carports shall be separated by no less than 5 feet. This is measured from any portion of one carport to any portion of the adjacent carport.
9. Carports provided with automatic fire sprinkler protection are not required to meet separation requirements, distance from adjacent buildings, property lines or size limitations noted above for non-combustible carports.
10. All carports are subject to the City of Livermore Development Code as well as the California Building Code, 2019 Edition, as Group U-Division 1 occupancy.