

Local Planning Policy 2.6 Shipping Containers

VERSION 4

March 2026

town planning services

Version	Adoption	Comment
1	10 July 2007 Council Item DS001	Final – No objections received during advertising.
2	11 September 2007 Council Item DS044	Final – No objections received during advertising.
2	1 July 2011 Council Item SC001	Final – Readopted under the new City of Greater Geraldton.
3	15 December 2015 Council Item DRS242	Readopted under the new LPS No. 1.
4	31 March 2026 Council Item DS092	LPP updated following review.

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1.0 CITATION

This is a local planning policy prepared under the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* and the City of Greater Geraldton Local Planning Scheme No. 1 ('the Scheme'). It may be cited as the *Local Planning Policy No. 2.6 - Shipping Containers (LPP No.2.6)*.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The placement of a shipping container or other similar relocatable storage units on land requires the development approval of the local government as it is considered to fall within the definitions of 'building' and therefore, 'development' under the Scheme.

The purpose of this policy is to provide the development requirements to control the placement of shipping containers or other similar relocatable storage units to safeguard the visual amenity of the locality.

3.0 APPLICABLE DEVELOPMENT

This policy applies to all land which is zoned or reserved under the Scheme.

4.0 PLANNING POLICY

The objectives of this policy are as follows:

- a) To establish guidelines for the assessment of proposals to place shipping containers on land within the municipality.
- b) To ensure an acceptable standard of development is achieved that does not detrimentally affect the amenity of the locality.

5.0 DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Development approval is not required where the shipping container is being used for the temporary storage of plant, machinery or building equipment on a building site where a building permit is current and construction is taking place (12 months maximum).
- 5.2 When being used as an outbuilding in a Residential Zone, the shipping container will be assessed against the relevant provisions of the City of Greater Geraldton Planning Scheme No.1 and Local Planning Policy No. 1.2 – Outbuildings, in addition to this policy and the R-Codes.
- 5.3 Development applications for the use of shipping containers, must demonstrate that the structure will:
 - a) not result in a detrimental impact on the amenity of the land or any adjoining land or development;
 - b) be setback from the boundaries as required by the Scheme, the Residential Design Codes or any other relevant planning document;
 - c) not be in front of the primary street and/or secondary street setback or be visually prominent from any public road;
 - d) not compromise any associated approved development or use by:
 - i. impinging on any car parking bays required to satisfy the minimum car parking requirement for the associated approved development or use;
 - ii. being located within an existing service yard or bin storage area;

- iii. obstructing any existing access or visual truncation provided to an accessway, pedestrian or traffic;
- iv. be in good repair with no visible rust marks, a uniform colour to complement the building to which it is ancillary or surrounding natural landscape features; and
- v. be appropriately screened (vegetation or otherwise), where considered necessary by the local government, to meet a. above and the objectives.

6.0 CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Consultation with the adjoining landowners may be undertaken at the City's discretion.

7.0 DEFINITIONS

Shipping Container shall include other similar relocatable 'box-type' storage units. A shipping container modified for the purpose of human habitation is exempt from this policy but subject to the necessary approvals for a Repurposed Dwelling (e.g. R-Codes assessment and Local Planning Policy).