



City of Sunnyvale

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Gary Luebbers, City Manager 

Through: Hanson Hom, Director of Community Development 

Date: March 9, 2010

Re: Follow-up to Council Action Allowing Donation Centers in the C-1 Zone (RTC 08-223)

On July 15, 2008, the City Council adopted a zoning code amendment modifying the regulations to allow donation centers. As part of that action, staff was requested to return to Council after January 2010 to detail how the action affected the numbers of donation trailers in the C-1 zoning district.

The code amendments came about because of the donation trailer that was placed at Dick's Lakewood Village without permits. In order to permit the donation trailer at that site, the Zoning Code had to be amended to remove the prohibition on those uses in the C-1 zone. Council took the following actions:

Allow donation trailers in the C-1 Zoning District for sites of 4 acres or greater; delete the 1.5-mile separation requirement for donation trailers; modify the permit requirement for donation centers in commercial zones from a Use Permit to Miscellaneous Plan Permits; and, to adopt a Council Policy on Donation Centers;

The Council requested staff to return this year to provide an update on whether the code change resulted in additional donation centers in C-1 zones, and if the noticing and development standards for those centers resulted in problems or concerns in their review.

Donation centers are defined as follows:

"Donation center for used household goods" means a "trailer" or "semitrailer" as defined by California Vehicle Code Sections 630 and 550 respectively, or successor sections, used solely as a collection facility for public donations of articles of personal property other than commercially

recyclable component products such as metals, paper, glass, automobile parts or oil, building supplies, and similar materials.

To date, no permits have been made for additional donation centers (or trailers) in any zoning district.

Conclusion

To date, the change in zoning requirements has not had any affect on the number of donation centers in Sunnyvale.

cc: Trudi Ryan, Planning Officer
Andrew Miner, Project Planner