

Temporary Construction Trailers

Temporary construction trailers refer to portable structures used to accommodate site offices, meeting rooms, dining facilities, storage of construction materials, and other construction related uses during active construction projects undertaken within the port authority's jurisdiction. The construction project that trailers are installed to support must have been reviewed under the port authority's Project and Environmental Review process.

This document outlines the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) criteria relating to construction trailers. Construction trailers cannot be installed or occupied without a VFPA Building Permit or Occupancy Permit, unless the following criteria can be met.

Criteria

To be exempt from the Building Permit Review process, construction trailers must meet all of the following criteria. Construction trailers shall:

- Be associated with a VFPA Project Permit;
- Utilize above ground utilities only (no connection to buried utilities);
- Be on site for no longer than 18 months, unless otherwise authorized by VFPA;
- Not be assembled or constructed on the project site;
- Be located at least 3 metres (10 feet) from the nearest other building;
- Be single storey, and not require an entire flight of stairs to reach;
- Be a single construction trailer, and not connected to other trailers, either directly, or with decking or a covered walkways;
- Be located within 45 metres (148 feet) of a fire department access route;
- Have portable fire extinguishers provided in accordance with the 2015 National Fire Code of Canada.

Shipping Containers

If shipping containers (also referred to as sea-cans or intermodal shipping containers) are to be used on site during construction, they must meet all of the following criteria. Shipping containers shall:

- Be used for the storage of construction materials only;
- Have a man door that swings on a vertical axis for egress;
- If used for storage of hazardous materials, they must be modified per the Fire Chief's Association of BC position paper "Intermodal Shipping Container Fire Safety" (<https://fcabc.ca/Files/FCABC%20Shipping%20Containers.pdf>).