

FACT SHEET

Shipping Containers

Do I need approval to have a Shipping Container on my property?

If you intend to place a shipping container on your property for more than 30 days, you will need to obtain **Building Approval** from a Private Building Certifier.



The application for **Building Approval** may also require referral to Council as a concurrence agency for assessment against the Mareeba Shire Council Planning Scheme 2016 and/or the Queensland Development Code.

Council may require the building application to be refused or may require conditions to be imposed on the **Building Approval**.

Council recommends prior to purchasing and subsequently locating a shipping container on your property, you make an enquiry with a Private Building Certifier to determine what is required.

This applies for the use of the shipping container as both a Class 10a non-habitable structure (shed, storage, or the like) or a Class 1a habitable structure (a granny flat, dwelling house extension or similar space).

Obtaining Building Approval

To obtain **Building Approval** you will need to engage the services of a Private Building Certifier. They are listed in the Yellow Pages under "Building Surveyors".

Your Building Certifier would typically consider the following for your **Building Approval**:

- **Structural Stability** of your shipping container. This may be provided by anchoring the container to a prescribed concrete foundation. The Building Certifier may require a design by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland, accompanied by a Form 15 Design Certificate.

- **Structural strength** of the container. The Building Certifier may require documentation from the manufacturer of the container or an assessment by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland accompanied by a Form 15 Design Certificate.
- **Provision of a roofed structure**, guttering, stormwater collection and connection to a legal point of discharge such as the kerb and channel or a rubble pit.

Note: If a development permit has been given, a copy of the decision notice must be given to the building certifier before building approval can be granted.

When must a Building Application be referred to Council?

Your Private Building Certifier will advise you if the building application must be referred to Council as a concurrence agency for assessment against the Mareeba Shire Council Planning Scheme 2016 and/or the Queensland Development Code.

Please be aware that the location of Council infrastructure (water, sewer, stormwater) in relation to the shipping container may also trigger assessment by Council under the Queensland Development Code MP1.4 – Building Over or Near Relevant Infrastructure.

Storage of a shipping container on the footpath

Approval must be obtained from Council to place a shipping container on a Council footpath. Applications are assessed on a case by case basis to ensure containers do not create a hazard for road and footpath users. They will not be approved over concrete pathways or on the roadway.

Application forms can be found by searching for 'road permits' on Council's website.
