

PALLET STORAGE YARD REGULATIONS

Community & Economic Development Department

Land Use Committee

August 10, 2026



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BACKGROUND

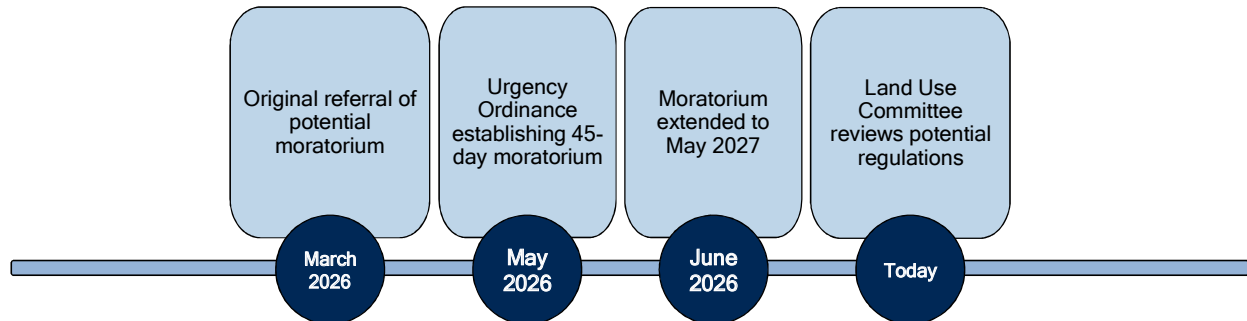
- **Zoning Code does not have specific regulations for pallet storage yards**
 - Treated as general outdoor storage (industrial use)
 - May require Minor CUP, depending on Zone
 - General standards for screening, lighting, landscaping, other site improvements apply
- **Storage of combustible materials must comply with Chapter 16.32 (Fire Prevention) and 2025 CA Fire Code**



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BACKGROUND



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DISCUSSION

- Improperly operated and unregulated pallet storage yards present specific public health & safety concerns
 - **Fire risk**
 - **Stacking hazards**
 - **Code compliance issues:**
 - Screening, circulation, landscaping, lighting, property maintenance



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FIRE RISK



February 2026
Source: Press-Enterprise



March 2026
Source: Raincross Gazette

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FIRE RISK



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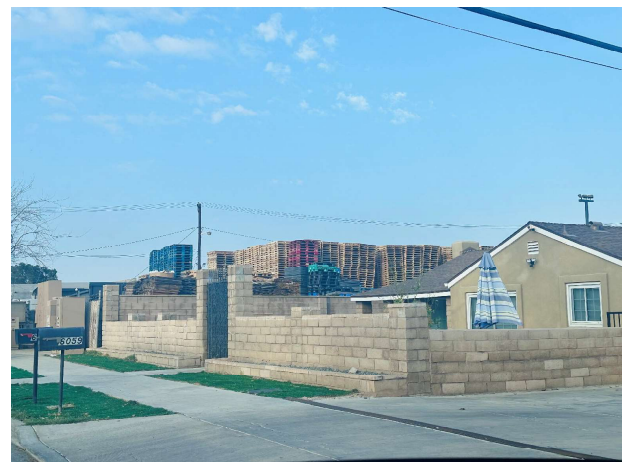
STACKING HAZARDS



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COMPLIANCE AND COMPATIBILITY



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OPTIONS FOR REGULATIONS



Source: Miami Drayage

1. No change

- A. Code remains as-is
- B. Enforcement/compliance efforts continue
- C. Title 16 and Cal. Fire Code regulations still apply

2. Use-specific regulations

3. Prohibition



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OPTION 2: USE-SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

1. Permissible Zones

Where should pallet storage be allowed?

2. Required permits/approvals

Who should approve them? What type of permit should be required?

3. Development Standards

Minimum separation requirements? Maximum stacking?
Enhanced screening, safety, fire suppression?



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OPTION 3: PROHIBITON



Source: Gruber Pallets

1. Retroactivity

Should prohibition apply to existing businesses or only new?

2. Amortization period

If retroactive, how long should existing businesses have to comply?

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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Land Use Committee review options for regulating the outdoor storage of wooden pallets and provide Staff direction to pursue one of the options presented.

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