

# Memo

**To:** Zoning Board of Appeals/City Council  
**From:** Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director  
**Date:** May 11, 2018  
**Re:** Temporary Car Ports

---

Due to the ongoing discussion of RV Parking and Accessory Structures, the Building Department has raised the issue of **temporary car ports**.

They are not permitted under our ordinance, other than through specific action by the Zoning Board of Appeals, yet a good number of residents have installed these structures. The Building Department has provided me with a list of approximately 20 addresses that are in violation of this ordinance.

Prior to giving these residents notice that the car port structure needs to be removed, or an appeal made to the ZBA, City Manager Guetschow asked me to give you a 'heads-up' about the issue. Some of these structures are quite cheap, and could be easily removed without much effect on the homeowner. However, others likely cost their owners in excess of \$1,000 to install, and these residents are likely to seek an appeal rather than remove the structure.

For those cases, the ZBA needs to consider in advance what the approach to any appeals will be.

Section 82-59 of the City Code directs the Board of Appeals to consider the placement of such structures with regard to size, anchoring, type of construction and appropriate setback. The ZBA is also required to determine an appropriate length of time that the temporary structure may be allowed, and may attach other reasonable conditions.

**Having a discussion about the standards or conditions you may want to apply prior to facing any actual appeals may be helpful preparation for the board.** You may want to focus especially on materials (steel vs. plastic), placement (do you want to allow them in driveways where they are most popular), and time, as these are assumed to be temporary.

I have included a couple pictures to show you the type of accessory structure we are talking about.

