



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Letter of Determination

June 28, 2016

Richard Morell, CEO
PFL Spaces US LTD
2420 NE Sandy Boulevard, Suite 115
Portland, OR 97232

Site Address: N/A
Assessor's Block/Lot: N/A
Zoning District: N/A
Staff Contact: Eugenio Salcedo, 415-575-9139 or eugenio.salcedo@sfgov.org
Record No.: 2016-003093ZAD

Dear Mr. Morell:

This letter is in response to your request for a Letter of Determination regarding a number of bicycle parking systems developed by PFL Spaces. The request is whether seven bicycle parking systems developed by PFL Spaces, which include vertical, space efficient and high density bicycle racks, meet the design the standards of Zoning Administrator (ZA) Bulletin No. 9.

Any space efficient bicycle parking system that does not meet the specifications of ZA Bulletin No. 9 must be approved by the Zoning Administrator for determination of equivalency. ZA Bulletin No. 9 has minimum spacing requirements for "space efficient bicycle parking" systems. Space efficient bicycle parking systems are those that do not meet the clearance requirements established elsewhere in ZA Bulletin No. 9, but which "are designed in a way that would meet the basic requirements of an appropriate bicycle rack." Such minimum spacing requirements for vertical bicycle racks is set at 16 inches, measured from the mid-point of one rack to the mid-point of an adjacent rack. For double-decker lift-assist racks or other similarly designed space-efficient horizontal racks, the minimum spacing requirement between two racks' midpoints is 17 inches. Additionally, ZA Bulletin No. 9 explicitly states that in no case shall a bicycle parking space require lifting the bicycle's both wheels more than 12 inches off the ground.

Your request includes the following seven bicycle parking systems for consideration (also see attached table): 1) Pushbike Cradle; 2) Custom Steel Frame; 3) Sliding Cradle Frame; 4) Silver Bullet Frame; 5) Pushbike Track; 6) Pushbike Arc; and, 7) Pushbike Slide.

Four of the bicycle rack systems are vertical frame racks. The "Pushbike Cradle" frame and the "Custom Steel Frame" meet the minimum spacing requirements between racks as outline in ZA Bulletin No. 9. The rack spacing for the "Sliding Cradle Frame" is 14 inches when bicycles are parked; however, it features a sliding roller that allows racks to move laterally with relative ease, allowing users to easily place and remove their bicycles from the racks. The 4) "Silver Bullet Frame" features a dual-sided,

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

Richard Morell, CEO
PFL Spaces US LTD
2420 NE Sandy Boulevard, Suite 115
Portland, OR 97232

June 28, 2016
Letter of Determination
PFL Spaces: Alternative Bicycle Parking Systems

staggered design and while these racks are spaced 10 inches apart from each other, they face opposite directions, creating a spacing of 20 inches for racks facing in the same direction. **Given this information, it is my determination that these four vertical parking systems are acceptable types of vertical bicycle parking spaces and satisfy the design standards in ZA Bulletin No. 9.**

The "Pushbike Track" parking system features a dual staggering and rolling mechanism ideal for structures with low clearances. However, the higher stagger rack requires the lifting of a bicycle's wheels approximately 15 inches off the ground. **Given this information, it is my determination that this space efficient parking system's higher stagger racks do not meet the design standards in ZA Bulletin No. 9 and will not satisfy the required bicycle parking spaces per Planning Code Section 155.2.**

The "Pushbike Arc" parking system is a double-decker lift-assist rack that features spacing of 16 inches between rack centers. Although ZA Bulletin No. 9 establishes a minimum clearance of 17 inches between bicycles for double-decker lift-assist racks, all other requirements are satisfied by this design. **Given this information, it is my determination that this parking system design meets the equivalency of an acceptable space efficient bicycle parking rack outlined in ZA Bulletin No. 9.**

Lastly, the "Pushbike Slide" parking system is a high-density horizontal parking rack that features a sliding mechanism designed to move racks freely. The spacing between the racks' centers when parked is 12 inches. But when racks are moved, a circulation zone is created to allow enough clearance between racks. **Given this information, it is my determination that his parking system meets the space efficient bicycle parking design standards of ZA Bulletin No. 9.**

Please not that a Letter of Determination is a determination regarding the classification of uses and interpretation and applicability of the provisions of the Planning Code. This Letter of Determination is not a permit to commence any work or change occupancy. Permits from appropriate Departments must be secured before work is started or occupancy is changed.

APPEAL: If you believe this determination represents an error in interpretation of the Planning Code or abuse in discretion by the Zoning Administrator, an appeal may be filed with the Board of Appeals within 15 days of the date of this letter. For information regarding the appeals process, please contact the Board of Appeals located at 1650 Mission Street, Room 304, San Francisco, or call (415) 575-6880.

Sincerely,



Scott F. Sanchez
Zoning Administrator

Attachment: Summary Table - PFL Spaces - Bicycle Racks

cc: Citywide Mailing List
Eugenio Salcedo, Planner

Summary Table - PFL Spaces - Bicycle Racks					
Frame Type	Model	Spacing between Racks	Min. Spacing per rack per ZAB No. 9	Require Lifting?	Satisfy ZA Bulletin No. 9?
Vertical Bicycle Rack	1) Pushbike Cradle	16" (staggered) or 24" (single tier)	16"	Yes- less than 12"	Yes
Vertical Bicycle Rack	2) Pushbike Cradle - Custom Steel Frame	16" (staggered) or 24" (single tier)	16"	Yes- less than 12"	Yes
Vertical Bicycle Rack	3) Pushbike Cradle - Sliding Cradle Frame	14" parked; horizontal sliding for circulation zone	16"	Yes- less than 12"	Yes
Vertical Bicycle Rack	4) Pushbike Cradle - Silver Bullet Frame	10" centers; 20" every other rack	16"	Yes- less than 12"	Yes
Space Efficient Bike Rack	5) Pushbike Track	16"	17"	Yes- lower stagger approximately 4"; Yes- higher stagger approximately 15"	Yes for lower stagger; No for higher stagger
Double-decker Lift-assist Rack	6) Pushbike Arc	Single stagger: 12" Double stagger: 24"	17"	No	Yes
High Density Parking	7) Pushbike Slide	12" centers; 24" minimum clear circulation with slide	17"	No- lower tier; Yes- higher tier minimal lifting	Yes