

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WORKING GROUP**

Construction and Demolition Waste Management Working Group – Fifth Meeting

**October 4, 2024**  
**1:00 pm – 2:00 pm**  
**and**  
**October 16, 2024**  
**10:30 am – 11:30 am**  
Online meeting

ITEMS
<p><b>1. MEETING NOTES – <a href="#">July 26, 2024</a></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reviewed</li> </ul>
<p><u>Review of Recommendations - Miro board</u></p> <p><b>Accountability and oversight of C&amp;D waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Connecting projects to haulers and receivers – tracking system to determine how much waste is being generated by a certain building project and where the waste is going (if a project isn't producing the expected amount of waste that would raise flags)</li> <li>- Industry to develop a registry of the annual volumes reported out, validated through assurance from an independent third party. Common, confidential database so that we can measure reductions/increases – an independent industry platform               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Privacy concerns for this recommendation from the hauler and receiver industry (potential)</li> <li>- Because the industry is so competitive we need to be careful – for example ABC company is contracted but XYZ wants to compete – the competition could see this information if it was public and use it to undercut</li> <li>- Software (Green Halo for example) can limit access to information and we could include language about confidentiality</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Industry to develop a registry of supply volumes that is reported through an independent third-party to set up a common confidential database so we can measure reductions and increases               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Industry may be in the process of developing that technology (database that is not controlled by the industry or any association)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Consult on licensing and regulating haulers (as per San Francisco model)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is historically a contentious issue for haulers in the region</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



- Can the industry self-regulate to get the same results? The challenge when it comes to licensing and regulating is that it depends on how that is structured – if it limits competition and puts a lot of control into a government agency.
- Incentivizing source separation – seems that materials are best sorted on site
- Receiving facilities report out on the different types of materials, but this doesn't mean that all those materials get recycled
- Hyper regulation is not the answer, but effective regulation to act as a deterrent to not following the rules
- Fines are a good thing because it all comes down to money and money changes behavior
- Also needs to be enforcement, stronger tools and more power to enforce (right now the mandate is to keep as many facilities open as possible – facilities rarely get closed down)
- Start to regulate the materials that can't be reused or recycled.

**Facilitate markets for diverted, salvaged and surplus construction materials**

- Have a collection of reusable items at facilities for salvage, i.e. Separated before disposal
  - For example: Urban Repurpose, Whistler does this and has a permanent installation
- Make salvage easier
- Receiving facilities report out on the different types of materials, but this doesn't mean that all those materials get recycled. Look at metrics and definitions. Something to standardize communication and measurement of recycling rates.
- Certification of recycling facilities to ensure that recovery is taking place
- Improved infrastructure to combat greenwashing
  - Consultation: [Public consultation on the Competition Act's new greenwashing provisions \(canada.ca\)](https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-act/2019/05/public-consultation-on-the-competition-act-s-new-greenwashing-provisions.html)
- Embed the Zero Waste hierarchy and C&D waste embodied in the carbon hierarchy – include sourcing used/salvaged materials where possible. Encourage other organizations and departments to adopt Zero Waste tenets.
- Set up systems to address costs of materials storage (using public land, or other support and tools)
- Open up land use (for recycling)/zoning – protect land to be used specifically for this purpose instead of allowing development to take over
- Land zoned appropriately to support all the actions in the hierarchy with priority given to facilities that practice reuse and recycling
- Need to protect land to ensure space and low (accessible) cost
- Streamline regulation system to foster increased use of salvaged and diverted materials (i.e. Having to regrade lumber before use)
- Leverage NZWC or other entities to build regional partnerships
- Create an ecosystem that can handle all kinds of wood (King County as example)
- Virtual marketplace (RHEAPLY) to manage stock



- Industry to develop a reuse strategy with guidance from the government (Define “highest use”)

#### **Managing waste volume and surges**

- Public awareness campaigns regarding land use
- Work with organizations that make decisions on how to deal with increased waste during disasters (disaster debris) and make waste reduction a priority
- Framework developed where products that cannot be reused have an environmental fee (EPR)
- Toolkit for retrofits and renovations (land use charges and rezoning)

#### **Adoption of Zero Waste Hierarchy**

- Adopt a pollution prevention hierarchy
- Push for building codes to consider disassembly and repair, flexibility of use, deconstruction and embodied carbon
- EPR and environmental fees
- Produce and distribute specification templates for circular building procurement
- Support capacity building practices
- Review policies and publications for language that “assumes” waste generation. For example revise “demolition” to “building removal”, and “construction waste” to “Construction excess Resources”
- Have a pollution hierarchy such that pollution prevention is not undertaken at one level unless all feasible options for pollution prevention at a higher level have been taken – i.e. consider all options before considering disposal
- Push for building codes to consider disassembly, repair, flexibility of use, deconstruction, and embodied carbon.
- Require salvage reuse and recycled content in all MV’s owned building and infrastructure procurement – should apply to all municipalities and jurisdictions as well. Right now this is just based on individual municipality.
- Adopt the Zero Waste hierarchy
- Product design for reuse and recycle according to pollution hierarchy – Could product design become more modular? (Replacing certain parts instead of the entire system, i.e. HVAC)
- Phase out incineration of all materials including C&D work to recover materials instead.

#### **Next steps:**

- Ideas and potential solutions to be evaluated for inclusion in the plan update
- Preparation of ideas for presentation to PTAC committee

#### **Next Meeting Dates and Action Items**

- PTAC SWMP update public presentations to PTAC and Zero Waste Committee – November 7, 2024



- PTAC working group presentations – November 21, 2024

**Action Items:**

Presentation guidelines:

- Present ideas and potential solutions to be evaluated for inclusion in the SWMP plan update
- 30 min time slot at the start of the meeting (Nov 21 from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm)
- Presentation to staff and other PTAC members
- Can provide supplementary documents in a summary format so Metro Vancouver can use that data in feedback logs

- [Additional resources](#) - Leading jurisdictions in C&D waste prevention and reduction and Construction and demolition waste management regulatory landscape
- [Miro Board](#)