

Project Descriptions / Visuals

As a Zero Waste Fellow, I was challenged to view the built environment through the intersection of zero waste and green building practices, specifically focused on resource recovery of building materials. My role involved assisting with the implementation of the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Recovery Ordinance which regulates the activity of ~60,000 construction projects, ~350 haulers, and ~40 facilities that process debris from San Francisco every year.

My projects included:

- The review of Demolition Debris Recovery Plans (DDRPs) which demonstrate how demolition materials will be recovered and verify post demolition compliance.
- Assisted with the implementation of an electronic database (Green Halo Systems) to improve data management of registered haulers, facilities and material recovery results.
- Served as primary liaison between the Department of the Environment (SFE) and Green Halo Systems to build out a new debris tracking portal for San Francisco Municipal building projects.
- Collaborated with SFE's Green Building team to research opportunities to develop new markets for recycling and reusing C&D materials.

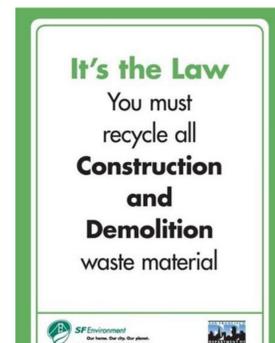


Fig 1. Site visit at a mixed C&D debris Registered Facility.

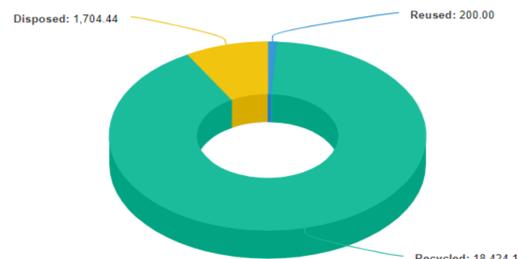


Fig 2. Recycled, Reused, and Disposed totals by tons via Green Halo Systems from September 1 2019 – June 10 2020.

Achievements

Milestone

- Partnered with the Department of Building Inspection to launch the Material Reduction and Recovery Plan (MRRP) program which went into effect on February 3 2020.
- Project benefits of the MRRP program is that it expands SFE's capacity to review and approve debris recovery plans for ~3,000 construction, commercial alterations, and demolitions projects per year.

Key Takeaways / Next Steps

Additional Information

- A key takeaway I've gained from my experience at SFE is that policy and programs are just as good as the ability to implement and enforce.
- Moving forward, I'll be joining SFE for another Climate Corps cycle in which I will assist the Building Materials Management (BMM) team with research in support of the development of a citywide Deconstruction Ordinance.
- Study the procurement and disposal patterns of construction surplus materials.



Acknowledgements

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