

2/9/24

Attention: [Priority Climate Action Plan](#)

This is to advocate for you to consider including "ReUse Infrastructure" as measure #3 under the Waste Section of the Draft [Priority Climate Action Plan](#). As an expedient alternative to "recycling," reUse increases landfill diversion without requiring costly industrial processing of material.

The term "Waste" as a Heading for GHG Measures in climate action plans is outdated, and deserves some discussion and attention for the next round of the Climate Action plan. "Waste" is an under-utilized "Resource."

ReUse is a primary method of source reduction, and the first phase of a circular economy. Investment in reUse infrastructure is a critical component in the transition from the traditional disposal economy to a circular economy designed for materials to be regenerative and reUsed; not composted or recycled.

Nearly 1/3 of organic waste is comprised of dimensional, and other reclaimed lumber and wood products that are suitable for reUse in construction projects.

Without investment now in reUse, a circular economy will never come to fruition because the current linear waste focused system will be allowed to develop further unchecked. This is why we continue to fail to reach California's waste reduction goals. We will remain in a continual waste cycle of fast material consumption to landfilling, combustion, recycling or composting.

Prior to California's investment in composting and recycling, it would have been advisable to invest in reUse. Our sector is a working sector with zero government incentives or funding mechanisms like franchise agreements, grants or subsidies. We have not been mandated as a utility like the waste sector. This needs to be remedied immediately if we are serious about reducing the effects of climate change.

We must invest in innovative businesses that are willing to scale to the next level by finding reUse applications for viable lumber products.

California has not focused on funding reUse in any significant way. This oversight can be easily remedied by placing reUse as a Measure in the California Priority Climate Action Plan.

Sincerely,

Carol Ashley, Owner/CEO

Demo 2 Design, architectural reUse