

Initiative Overview:

The Useful Waste Initiative is based on two central goals; first to divert usable construction material waste, specifically stand-alone construction mock-ups, and second, to support local community efforts, such as transitional housing units and service offices or wifi hubs or bus shelters.

Construction mock-ups are small prototype structures of a larger building (approx. 8'-0" x 12'-0"). Project teams use mock-ups to set quality standards and construction expectations to inform the primary building construction. Typically, these mock-ups are destroyed and thrown away in the mixed debris construction dumpster. With pre-planning and setting project waste diversion goals, these materials (including labor and monetary investment) can be reused for smaller community design projects.

Incentives:

- Possible tax deductible for charitable donation of materials & labor
- Minimal cost impact due to material reuse
- Diversion of material from landfill
- Diversion process ties into existing construction timeline
- Reduce embodied carbon emissions
- Promotes community investment and healthier communities
- Earn sustainable certification credits (LEED, Oregon Earth Advantage, etc.)

Learn & Take Action:

The Useful Waste Initiative can directly assist project teams in waste diversion efforts.

Contact us for:

- mock-up diversion guidebook
- project consultation to divert mock-ups
- firm/company Lunch and Learn presentations

Photos of diverted mock-ups in Portland Metro area.



Email us at useful.waste.initiative@gmail.com