

From: Kristin Williams [<mailto:kristinwilliams@thereusepeople.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2013 6:04 AM

To: French, Sally

Subject: policy change - streamlined permitting

Hi Sally,

I was given your name as the C&D point person in regards to efforts being made to achieve 75% diversion. The CalRecycle document promotes deconstruction, which is the field that I am in. I work with the nation's largest non-profit organization that facilitates deconstruction. We already divert and track at standards stricter than the 75% goal.

I would like to see streamlined permitting, as recommended in the 75% document, implemented as soon as possible. Being in the industry, this would be the simplest, yet most effective, way to encourage C&D diversion. I've attached an example of the successful streamlined permitting efforts of Los Altos Hills, CA. (at that time, they were obviously also able to waive fees as well). In the very same year that the new permitting policy was put into place, Los Altos Hills went from 2-3 deconstructions a year, to over a dozen. Not bad for one small town.

According to the document, your legal/statutory authority depends on funding mechanism. Assuming I'm understanding that correctly, the beauty of streamlined permitting is that it would require no new funding, infrastructure, or staffing... And possibly not legislation? (again, if I'm reading this correctly)

Being in the industry, to me this seems like a total "freebie" of a success story on the sometimes shakey "green" front. Extremely simple and funding-free, with proven great results.

I would love to meet with you anytime to discuss policy-setting considerations that I may be unaware of. Please let me know what other challenges or obstacles there might be to overcome.

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Thanks for choosing to ReUse!

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ATTACHED: Los Altos Hills brochure

LOSALTOS HILLS



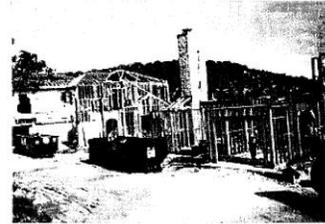
CALIFORNIA

Town of Los Altos Hills

Your Guide to Deconstruction Permits

Town of Los Altos Hills

Town of Los Altos Hills
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Phone: 650.941.7222
Fax: 650.941.3160
www.losaltoshills.ca.gov



Free Deconstruction Permits

On November 8, 2007, the Los Altos Hills City Council passed a resolution to waive demolition permit fees for deconstruction of buildings for recycling purposes.

In order to qualify for a free demolition permit, the applicant must submit a demolition permit application along with:

1. A signed deconstruction contract with a licensed contractor specifying the scope of work.
2. A "J Number" from the Bay Area Quality Management District. The J Number process is designed to ensure that no asbestos is released into the air when buildings are demolished.
3. Confirmation from PG&E that gas and electric facilities have been removed or abandoned on the property.

Fast Tracked Permits

Additional incentives for deconstruction includes a fast track permit process that allows deconstruction prior to building permit approval. Since deconstruction consumes more time than conventional building demolition, early building removal is allowed after site development approval for a new residence. This could potentially save the homeowner weeks of construction time.

For more information, please contact the Building Department at (650) 941-7222.

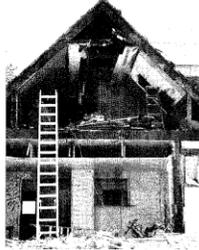
What is Deconstruction?

Deconstruction is the dismantling of a structure in order to salvage, reuse, and recycle as much building materials as possible.

Deconstruction often does not cost more than regular demolition. In fact, most older buildings can be deconstructed at a savings to the owner, both financially and environmentally.

The demolition of a typical 2,000 square foot home can be expected to produce 127 tons of debris. While disposal fees can vary widely depending upon local conditions, disposal cost for a typical residential demolition would be in the range of \$2,000 to \$4,000. The diversion of construction waste could result in savings of thousands of dollars in disposal fees.

In addition, the deconstruction of a typical 2,000 square foot wood frame home can yield up to 6,000 board feet of reusable lumber. This is equivalent to 33 mature trees, or the yearly output of 10 acres of planted pine trees.



Benefits of Deconstruction

When a building is demolished, the structure is reduced to rubble, and tons of waste are carted away to landfills and incinerators. Deconstruction provides an alternative. It is a way to remove buildings while preserving natural resources.

Benefits of deconstruction include:

REDUCE construction waste sent to landfills

RECYCLE building materials suitable for resale

PRESERVE natural resources by reusing salvaged materials



Additional Resources:

Building Material Salvage/Recycling Facilities
www.builditgreen.org/guide

Builders' Guide to Reuse and Recycling
<http://www.stopwaste.org/docs/buildersguide-05.pdf>