

Innovation

Measure 61 – Construction Aggregates Recycling

5 Points

Discussion:

Cobb County entered into an agreement in 2007 with a specialty recycling company within the county to accept road construction materials (concrete, asphalt, etc) and other compatible aggregates for recycling. Our partner, Patterson Services, Inc. diverts this waste from the landfill and produces a reusable construction aggregate product which is available to Cobb County and to local businesses.

One innovative use of this arrangement was the recycling of all porcelain toilet fixtures removed from Cobb County government buildings during retrofit of restroom fixtures in 2008 (see Measure 19). Approximately 600 toilets and urinals were recycled, reducing landfill needs and preventing the units from re-appearing in the “black-market” and being reinstalled (and thus ensuring the savings from the conversions were sustained long-term).

The program benefits Cobb County directly by diverting waste material from landfills, reducing costs, and contributing to green initiatives such as LEED certifications. The larger community benefits when energy, carbon emissions and natural resource needs are reduced as mining and processing of raw materials is avoided and materials transport distances are shortened.

In 2008 alone Cobb County sent 11,319 tons of concrete, rock, and asphalt for recycling through this program. Since its inception, the County has recycled approx. 20,478 tons of aggregate representing 1,124 truckloads.

Documentation:

- Cobb County will be glad to arrange an interview with our program manager upon request.