

# City and County of San Francisco

## Construction and Demolition Debris Recovery Program

### Ordinance No. 27-06

#### Introduction

The City and County of San Francisco adopted an ordinance (No. 27-06) effective on July 1, 2006, that creates a mandatory program to maximize the recycling of mixed construction and demolition (C&D) debris.

The Ordinance requires that mixed C&D debris must be transported off-site by a **Registered Transporter** and taken to a **Registered Facility** that can process and divert from landfill a minimum of 65% of the material generated from construction, demolition or remodeling projects. *(Please see below for definitions of Registered Transporter, Registered Facility and Construction and Demolition Debris.)*

#### Affected Projects

The ordinance applies to **all** construction in San Francisco, such as:

- New Construction
- Remodels
- Tenant Improvements
- Teardowns/Demolition
- Additions
- Repairs
- Full Demolition (Please see “Full Demolition Requirements” below)

#### Requirements

Except as provided below, only Registered Transporters can remove mixed C&D material from a construction site, and they must take this material to a Registered Facility. Anyone who removes mixed C&D debris from a construction site, and is not exempt (*see below*), must be a Registered Transporter. Any facility that accepts mixed C&D material must be a Registered Facility. *(See below for application information.)*

#### Registration Exceptions

The following are exempt from registration requirements:

- **Transporters** who
  - haul less than one (1) cubic yard of material, or
  - use vehicles with no more than two axles and no more than two tires per axle (such as small pick-up trucks), or
  - remove materials that are source-separated on site and kept clean for recycling or reuse (such as separated clean wood, metal, dirt, concrete or fixtures).
- **Property owners** who remove mixed C&D material with their own vehicles.
- **Facilities** that **only** process clean material that is source separated at the construction site and is kept separate for reuse or recycling.

## **Full Demolition Requirements**

Any person applying for a permit for full demolition of an existing structure must submit a Demolition Debris Recovery Plan (DDRP) to the San Francisco Department of the Environment (SFE) that provides for a minimum of 65% diversion from landfill of C&D debris, including materials source separated for reuse or recycling. The DDRP must be submitted to and approved by SFE **before** the Department of Building Inspection will issue a Full Demolition Permit.

## **Application information**

Anyone applying to be a Registered Transporter, Registered Facility or for a Demolition Debris Recovery Plan must complete and submit the appropriate application to the Department of the Environment.

To request applications, submit completed forms or receive additional information, please contact:

Department of the Environment, 11 Grove Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 Attn: C&D  
Phone: 415.355.3700 Email: [Environment@sfgov.org](mailto:Environment@sfgov.org) Website: [SFEnvironment.org](http://SFEnvironment.org)

Forms available:

- Registered Transporter Application
- Registered Facility Application
- Demolition Debris Recovery Plan

**To review the Ordinance and Regulations or to download forms, go to [www.sfenvironment.org](http://www.sfenvironment.org)**

## **Definitions**

**Registered Transporter** – Anyone who is hired to remove waste material from a construction and/or demolition site who uses a vehicle with more than two axles or two tires per axle (such as a large pickup truck with four tires on the rear axle or three-axle dump trucks) and is hauling at least one (1) cubic yard of mixed C&D material, must be a Registered Transporter. The Registered Transporter must have applied for and received a registration from the San Francisco Department of the Environment. The Registered Transporter is obligated to take this material only to a Registered Facility or to a facility that accepts source separated material for recycling (such as all metal, wood or dirt).

**Registered Facility** – Any facility that accepts mixed construction and demolition debris for processing and recycling must be registered and must demonstrate an overall minimum recycling rate of 65%. Facilities that accept only clean, source-separated materials for recycling (such as wood, dirt, metal and cardboard) are not required to register with the City. A Registered Facility must have applied for and received a registration from the San Francisco Department of the Environment.

**Construction and Demolition Debris** – Building materials and solid waste generated from construction and demolition activities, including, but not limited to, fully cured asphalt, concrete, brick, rock, soil, lumber, gypsum wallboard, cardboard and other associated packaging, roofing material, ceramic tile, carpeting, fixtures, plastic pipe, metals, tree stumps, and other vegetative matter resulting from land clearing and landscaping for construction, deconstruction, demolition or land developments. This term does not include refuse regulated under the 1932 Refuse Collection and Disposal Initiative Ordinance or sections of the Municipal Code that implement the provisions of that ordinance; materials from the public right-of-way; or, unless specified in Chapter 14 of the Environment Code, materials source separated for reuse and recycling. Hazardous waste, as defined in California Health and Safety Code section 25100, et seq., as amended, is not Construction and Demolition Debris.