Recycling Market Development Center Advisory Board Meeting

One Time Grant Recipient Presentations July 9th, 2025, 9am – 11:30am PST

Our Team



Agenda



9:00 Welcome



9:05 Commerce and Ecology updates

9:25 Board roundtable

10:00 Bio Break



10:10 One Time Grant Project Presentations

- Sydney Porter & Heather Trim PreCycle Materials Exchange
- Kami Bruner & Laura Novich Reuse Impact Calculator
- Josh Epstein & Liz Start ReUse Commons

11:30 Wrap up & Thank You

Participation in this meeting:

Roles

- Host-Caleb
- Facilitator-Mya
- Note taker/chat monitor-Tina
 Rules
- Board members cameras on
- Board members and presenters may unmute themselves
- Questions? Please raise your hand or type them in the chat
- I will call on you or I can read your question
- Use reaction to keep it interactive
- Closed caption is available if you click on the cc



Agency updates

Kara Steward



Kirk Esmond





Washington State Circular Economy



Washington State Department of Commerce

RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT CENTER, ADVISORY

BOARD - COMMERCE UPDATES -JULY 2025

Kirk Esmond | Innovation & Industry Partnerships Director
Kyle Gitchell | Circular Economy Development Director
Leslie Perkins | Circular Economy Development Manager
Office of Economic Development & Competitiveness | Washington State
Department of Commerce

Updates:

Circular Economy within Commerce

Staffing, Program and Budget Updates

New Team Member Introduction: - Kyle Gitchell - OEDC's new Circular Economy Development Director

Broad-based Program Realignment: - Industry Sector Development Program

Industrial Symbiosis Grant Program: - FY-2026 grant funding and technical assistance services

Strategic Planning Underway:

- Statewide economic development plan
- Agencywide strategic plan



Highlight:

Industrial Symbiosis Grant Program - FY2025

Investments in waste reduction & recycling innovation

- \$3.25 million supported 11 projects in 11 counties across WA! Resulting in \$6.5 million (grant + match funds) of industrial symbiosis initiatives from January through June 2025.
- Project final reports are being submitted and reviewed to be able to inform future efforts.
- 2025 projects funded:
 - Angmartek (King County): \$231,693
 - Biomethane (Spokane County): \$153,750
 - Center for Sustainable Infrastructure (Clark, Chelan, Clallam, & Spokane Counti \$323,755 *(continued)*



Highlight:

Industrial Symbiosis Grant Program - FY2025

Continued...

- Composite Recycling Technology Center (Clallam County): \$150,000
- Corumat (Benton County): \$319,159
- **Delivery Stork** (Thurston County): \$154,600
- Hyas Food Group (Benton County): \$452,091
- Pure Blue Tech (Whatcom County): \$368,952
- Refugee Artisan Initiative (King County): \$322,252
- Simonpietri Enterprises (Pierce County): \$300,000
- Tidal Vision Products (Grays Harbor, Whatcom, & Pacific Counties): \$475,700





www.choosewashingtonstate.com

Thank you!

Kirk Esmond

INNOVATION & INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS DIRECTOR

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Leslie Perkins

CIRCULAR ECONOMY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

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NextCycle Washington Pitch Showcase







NextCycle Washington Pitch Showcase

2025 Showcase Winners!!

Bio Fiber Industries





Organics Best Pitch \$10,000: Bio Fiber Industries

Organics People's Choice \$1,000: Ocean Made

Innovation Best Pitch \$10,000: Diaper Stork

Innovation People's Choice \$1,000: New Type Group

Reuse Best Pitch \$10,000: FanWagn

Reuse People's Choice \$1,000: Kimora Garden











RMDC Textile Update

- Webinar Series Review
- City/County Survey Results
- Textile Projects



PRESENTED BY: MEGAN DAVIS



The Recycling Market Development Center has dedicated extensive time and effort to researching, building partnerships, and establishing a trusted network of local, national, and global textile industry leaders.

The culmination of these efforts, along with a collaborative design effort through the Textile Co-Design team, **Unraveling the Textile Industry for a Regenerative Washington**, a four-part webinar series was created.





Key takeaways:

- 1. There are many opportunities for collaboration across industries—including brands, users, and recyclers—which is vital for achieving circularity.
- 2. Waste and textile hierarchies are useful frameworks for rethinking how materials enter and exit our homes and businesses.
- 3. Technological innovation offers lots of opportunities for improvement.

Cut from the Same Cloth: Level Setting

Webinar #1 Circular business models focused on establishing a shared understanding of the current state of textile waste, circularity, and market development.

Speakers included:

- University of Oregon (RMDC board member) Carly Mick
- Accelerating Circularity Eileen Mockus
- Goodwill Industries International Manager of Sustainability Sydney Muñoz
- Bank & Vogue Steven Bethell
- King County Environmental Programs Managing Supervisor Kerwin Pyle



Ripping the Stitch: Business Transformation

Webinar #2 Infrastructure gaps and opportunities focused on equipping textile businesses with practical insights to transition into or maintain circular business models through real-world examples and peer learning.

Speakers included:

- Redesign Collective Lisa Hilbert
- Global Neighborhood Julie Kimball
- Citrus Circular Nicole Bassett
- Ravel Zahlen Titcomb
- King County Circular Economy Program Manager, Nina Olivier
- Commerce Circular Economy Development Manager Leslie Perkins

Key takeaways

- 1. Washington has a strong ecosystem that offers resources and support for circular economy initiatives, despite challenges in federal funding.
- 2. Pre-consumer textile waste is a major contributor to overall textile waste (41 times more than used clothing).
- 3. Environmental justice and people-centered approaches are crucial in sustainability work.



Hemmed in to Cutting Loose: Adopting New Innovations

Webinar #3 Community-driven reuse and repair focused on exploring cutting-edge technologies enabling circular textile practices while addressing infrastructure, logistical, and economic barriers to scaling innovation.

Speakers included:

- Fibarcode Brian lezzi
- Sortile– Constanza Gomez
- Looptworks Scott Hamlin
- Aloqia Stephanie Benedetto,
- Washington State University (WSU) Hang Lu & Patricia Townsend

Key takeaways:

- 1. Textile recycling scalability relies on effective, accurate, and affordable sorting.
- 2. Promising technologies need further development, better processes, and standards.
- 3. Recognize the abundance of existing clothing—we already have enough for multiple generations.







Fastening the Textile Community

Webinar #4 Policy tools for systemic change focused on unifying and empowering stakeholders across levels to advance textile policy and collaboration, driving actionable steps for advocacy and ongoing community engagement in WA and beyond.

Speakers included:

- Representative Kristine Reeves District 30
- RRS Marissa Adler
- California Product Stewardship Council Joann Brasch
- Seattle Public Utilities McKenna Morrigan

Key takeaways:

- 1. Shared Infrastructure is a Priority: such as co-warehousing and expanding materials sharing and reuse/repair/upcycling networks
- 2. Funding and connections are essential for success in these programs.
- 3. Networking at in-person and online events is vital to build momentum.

Webinar Participation & Feedback:



	Total registered	Total participants
Webinar 1	276	151
Webinar 2	236	114
Webinar 3	240	145
Webinar 4	201	95
Overall	953	505

The **final comments** revealed appreciation for the quality of the webinars and gratitude for the opportunity to connect and learn. Attendees described the **sessions as valuable, insightful, and well-organized, with a desire for the momentum to continue.**

Some highlighted the importance of **building community and systemic change**, while others praised the event materials and presentations.

Respondents are not only eager for continued learning but also **seek deeper involvement in policy, community initiatives, and hands-on opportunities.**



City/County Textile Recycling Survey

Total Respondents: 36

Purpose: Assess textile recovery participation, challenges, support needs, and opportunities.

Does your jurisdiction participate in any textile recovery efforts?

Yes – 55.17% (16/29) **No –** 44.83% (13/29)

Are you aware of textile reuse/upcycling in your area?

Yes – 17.24%

No – 82.76%



City/County Textile Recycling Survey

Ecology support needs for textile recovery:

Funding – 70.37% Networking – 74.07% Education/Outreach – 62.96% Technical assistance – 44.44% Policy/regulation guidance – 22.22%

Challenges and barriers faced:

Limited infrastructure – 46.15% Lack of awareness – 38.46% Market demand – 34.62% Lack of funding – 34.62%

Additional Textile Projects





TEXTILE INDUSTRY MAPPING

PNW CLIMATE WEEK

TOURS: PENDLETON, RAGMINE, LOOPTWORKS (TBD)

> CIRCULAR PROCUREMENT TEXTILE PILOTS

TEXTILE SYMPOSIUM (Spring 2026)





9:00 Welcome



9:05 Commerce and Ecology updates

9:25 Board roundtable

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10:10 One Time Grant Project Presentations

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- Josh Epstein & Liz Start ReUse Commons

11:30 Wrap up & Thank You





Christopher Loid Benton County Public Works & Solid Waste



Give us an update about what is new with your work, and what's something you've repaired or reused or need to get repaired?



Let's take a 10 minute break







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PreCycle Materials Exchange Forums

Sydney Porter – The Good Business Network of Washington & Heather Trim – Zero Waste Washington

PRECYCLE



Materials Exchange

SUMMER 2025







PRECYCLEWA.ORG

Washington Dept. of Ecology granted us to host three "materials exchange" events across the state.



The goal was to identify material streams (i.e., excess by-products and 'waste' that can be reused or repurposed) and help facilitate regional exchanges in support of end-market development in alignment with Washington's Recycling Market Development Center's mission and purpose.

Each city featured a local partnership to support business engagement:

- REBUILD in Vancouver
- Sustainable Connections in Bellingham
- Methow Recycles in Twisp.

July 2025

01

EXCHANGE EVENTS

02

OPPORTUNITIES

03

04

MARKETPLACE

NEXT STEPS

Index



PRECYCLE

July 2025

By the numbers



People & Places

Partners



the rebuild hub

Sustainable Connections



Vancouver Top Sectors	
Food Processing	
Textiles	2
Technology (Hardware)	2
Bellingham Top Sectors	
Repair & Reuse	2
Textiles	2
Construction & Buidling Materials	4
Twisp Top Sectors	
Solid Waste Management	3
Textiles	3
Landscaping	3


PRECYCLE





PRECYCLE

OPPORTUNITIES





Material Stream Mentions

Material Streams



PRECYCLE

Resource & Support Needs

VANCOUVER E

- A material exchange platform
- Poly bag recycler
- Storage capacity
- Hazardous and solid
 waste infrastructure
- Centralized information about waste disposal and diversion
- Transportation & logistic support for material exchanges

BELLINGHAM

- Large printing services
- Educational content on creative reuse and zero waste design
- A community platform around materials exchange
- Pop-up opportunities downtown for repair businesses
- Commercial rent
 support

TWISP

- Shared wood compost and collection infrastructure
- Website development
- Continued convenings around materials exchange
- Repair and technical skill education for youth programming.

MARKETPLACE AND NEXT STEPS



Create a state-wide B2B online materials marketplace ensuring community benefit, broad adoption, equitable access, and sustainable operations.

Platform





James Ruttan



Resource & Support Needs

Creuses		I≡ <u>LISTINGS</u>	O POST	ACCOUNT	
PRESENTED BY: Seattle business network	repair reuse washington				
FILTER BY CLEAR/RESET Category	Q What are you looking for?	Search			
Listing Type	There are no listings to display.				
ALL LISTINGS Available					
Wanted					
Price					
Free Price Range:					
0 99999999					
Set Price					
Sort By					
Newest First Oldest First					
	Contact Us FAQ About Us Rules and Policies Privacy User Agreement				
A Web App for Waste Reduction by					
(iWasteNot) systems)					
	2025 Copyright © iWasteNot Systems Inc.				

Key questions for setup



The site administrator reserves the right to remove listings or edit information provided by the listing party.

Information provided through the exchange is supplied by the listing party. Washington Reuses, their contractors, nor any advisor, agent or information regarding materials, services or products/equipment offered through Washington Reuses.

You may view our User Agreement here.

Account

Creuses		ELISTINGS
PRESENTED BY: Seattle business network repair network washington		
Post Listing		
Category	Sub Category	
• No Selection ×	Selection	~
Title		
🖉 (e.g. 10 gal plastic buckets)	×	
Description		
Please describe your item(s)	×	
# of items:		
III ×		
Each item weighs(in pounds):		
← Prev	Step 2 of 5	Next ->

Support

Governance and Structure:

- Advisory board
- Partnership agreements with key regional stakeholders
- Data ownership and platform management policies

Community Engagement:

- Assess needs
- Establish regional coordinators

Platform Development:

- Reflect user needs
- Integrate communication and transaction tracking capabilities
- Build in equity and accessibility features
- Beta test platform with small group

WA Reuses Working Group

Collaborative Partners



WA Reuses

Creuses		I≡ LISTINGS	O POST	ACCOUNT
PRESENTED BY:	business network repair washington			
FILTER BY CLEAR/RESET Category	Q What are you looking for?		Search	
Listing Type	There are no listings to display.			
ALL LISTINGS				
Available Wanted				
Price				
Free				
Price Range: 0 9999				
Set Price				

Thank you



Reuse Impact Calculator

Kami Bruner – Repair x Reuse WA & Laura Novich – Hyloh

Washington Statewide Market Development Platform

Reuse Impact Calculator

2025



Why create a Reuse Impact Calculator?

Demonstrating collective value in WA



This project is inspired and informed by WA's repair & reuse practitioners in the nonprofit, business, and governmental sectors to address obstacles in communicating the value of their work.

Some of these challenges include:

- Expense (e.g. commissioning reports)
- Lack of capacity (time, tech.)
- Inconsistent or irrelevant metrics and models

This impedes investment in and growth of these efforts.

What is the Reuse Impact Calculator?



- Integrates environmental, economic, and social data to assess the impact of reuse, repair, and sharing
- Establishes a standardized framework for consistent measurement and meaningful comparison
- Designed for broad use by government, businesses, nonprofits, and community groups
- Supports reporting, grant writing, and storytelling at the organizational level
- Aggregates local data to generate cumulative statewide insights into the value of reuse activities

About the Project

This project was done in collaboration with the following organizations with funding provided by the Washington State Department of Ecology's Recycling Market Development Center.



Laura Novich Elizabeth Paul

Elizabeth Start Start Consulting

Kami Bruner

Repair x Reuse Washington

Exploration Process



Goal: Understand the data landscape and user needs across Washington's reuse, repair, rental, and sharing ecosystem to inform the development of a standardized impact calculator.

Key Questions Explored:

- What insights could better data unlock?
- How would increased visibility drive greater impact?
- How could a data tool support funding, advocacy, or efficiency?

Qualitative Research Approach:

- 5 Focus Groups: thematic, cross-sector conversations to identify commonalities and nuances
- 4 Interviews: deep dives into specific organizational operations and pain points
- Survey (86 Responses): distributed across a wide reuse network with a 67% completion rate



Demographics

Breakdown of the type of organization survey respondents represent and the services they

Washington State Responses



Response Geography

Locations of the 63 survey respondents across Washington State who provided their zip code.

Powered by Birs @ GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom



RIC Development

Methodology

Backend Data:

- Product classification and categorization system utilizing the GPC to help guide organization
- 259 total products, 18 primary categories
- Associated weights, retail prices, material families, and subcategories
- Emissions factors for products/product categories, tipping fees, average hourly rate of WA employees, average volunteer hours

Impact Reporting:

• Prioritized clear baseline impacts in this first iteration



Impacts





RIC Dashboard

Ø Back to site	L laura			
Dashboard Organizations Data Uploads	mpact Reports Users			
Home > Administration				
RIC Dashboard				
Data Uploads	Organizations	Reuse Impact Reports	Users	
> See All Data Uloads	> See All Organizations	> View Reuse Impact Reports	> See All Users	
> Upload Data	> Add Organization		> Add User	
	> Manage Organization Types			

Data Upload

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 Products Primary product category 						
Apply Reset Use the filters above to refine your sea	arch and press "Apply" to see results.					

Impact Reports



Environmental Impacts

The following estimated environmental impacts measure how reuse activities reduce waste, conserve resources, and cut carbon emissions by keeping products and materials in use and out of waste streams.

TOTAL GHG SAVINGS

440.9

The estimated kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kgC02e) emissions avoided by reusing, repair, and/or renting products instead of producing (and purchasing) new ones. TOTAL WEIGHT

1,808.1 lbs.

through reuse, repair, and/or rental.

The total count of individual products kept in use through reuse, repair, and/or rental.

TOTAL ITEMS

137

Impact Reports Con't



Impact Reports Con't



Next Steps

Build the RIC

1

Priority Areas

2

Future Funding

3

Build a functional RIC in phase 2.

Once the RIC is fully functional, we'll be able to identify priority areas for further development, additional data needs, and future enhancements to expand its capabilities.

Ongoing development of this tool depends on securing the resources needed to continue and enhance the research.



Priority Areas Roadmap

These estimates and further research targets define the path forward for continuous development of priority areas. They reflect current assumptions about resource needs and outline actions that will strengthen and refine these areas as work progresses. Please note that these are examples, and not an exhaustive list as items are subject to change.



Building WA's Repair + Reuse Ecosystem

RepairReuse.org will house collaboratively governed tools to amplify repair and reuse statewide

Key Elements:

- Repair & Reuse Impact Calculator Tracks and visualizes environmental, economic, and social impacts
- Materials Marketplace Facilitates redistribution of materials for best use
- Repair Economy WA Site Connects public to repair events, reuse hubs, and more





ment's true librarian makamanan masa

Washington State, from community repair

Despressents Schools and encourse



Sign in Register
THANKS!







ReUse Commons

Josh Epstein – Seattle REconomy & Liz Start – Start Consulting



ReUse Commons Feasibility Study

Washington Recycling Development Center Advisory Board Meeting June 9, 2025

ReUse Commons Vision

REUSEICOMMON

A center for sharing material and knowledge. A large physical space shared by a vast array of businesses and programs in the reuse, repair, and circular economy ecosystem. This one stop-shop for getting and getting rid of stuff sustainably would be a model for cities around the region, country, and world. Equitable access is at the heart of the ReUse Commons: serving and providing economic opportunities for frontline communities.



Project Collaborators





Needs

Assessment Findings

Vision

The ReUse Commons is a movement—not just a mall—centered on sustainability, repair, and community.

Governance

Strong support for neutral third-party to lead with interest in hybrid or cooperative models.

Scale

Phased rollout (5-10 orgs) with growth toward a full reuse mall/district.

Equity & Community

Affordability, access, and cultural relevance are top priorities.

Operations

Shared infrastructure and services.

Estimated Space Needs

Function/Partner	Low Est. (sq. ft.)	High Est. (sq. ft.)	
Furniture Repair & Distribution	8,000	10,000	
Creative Reuse/Art Supplier	3,000	8,000	
Upcycled Products	1,000	2,000	
DIY Upcycling Workshop Space	2,000	2,000	
Building Material Reuse Store*	5,000	10,000	
Bicycle Repair & Reuse	1,500	3,000	
Tech Gadget Refurbishment Center	1,000	2,000	
Reclaimed Wood & Lumber Yard	3,500	10,000	
Clothing & Household Goods Thrift Store	3,000	10,000	
Offices	1,000	2,000	
Intake & Processing	3,000	8,000	
Meeting/Conference Space	600	1,600	
Common Areas (kitchen, bathrooms, etc.)	1,000	2,000	
TOTAL	31,600	61,600	



*Separate project funded by SPU

Estimated Size & Building Needs

South Seattle Location

46,000 sq. ft. (median)

Key Location Factors

- Accessible by public transit and bike paths
- ADA-compliant/welcoming for all mobility needs
- Centrally located to serve many communities
- Equipped with loading/unloading access
- Affordability, surrounding amenities, and outdoor/community gathering space
- Ideally free public parking



Governance

Hybrid Structure

Government Involvement

- Government entity leases or owns the building.
- Building managed by Third-Party.

Executive Team Led

- Cooperative or collaborative Executive Team (4–5 leaders from public, private, government sectors, and 1 community representative.)
- Executive team hires and oversees operations team.

New Members and Structure

- Additional organizations can join under the cooperative over time.
- Legal structure could evolve into a nonprofit cooperative or LLC.



Financials

Project Start-up & Annual Operations Budgets

PROJECT START-UP			
Line Item	Est. Budget		
Lease	\$ 314,550		
Renovation	\$ 2,370,000		
Equipment	\$ 80,000		
Intake/ processing	\$ 13,000		
TOTAL	\$ 2,775,550		

ONGOING OPERATIONS			
Line Item	Est. Budget		
Lease	\$	1,258,200	
Staff & Stipends	\$	443,900	
Insurance	\$	27,500	
Outsourced	\$	109,000	
Utilities	\$	146,100	
TOTAL	\$	1,984,700	





Confirm a government partner or fiscal sponsor.



Formalize governance model and roles.



Identify interim leadership and form a small advisory board.



Conduct a community needs assessment (access, gaps, impact).



Explore physical locations—prioritize unused public buildings.



Advocate for inclusion in climate, waste, and sustainability plans.



Pursue public/private funding (grants, philanthropy, subsidies).



Refine scope based on funding and partner interest.



Secure 2–3 anchor tenants to build early momentum.

Next Steps

Short-Term Actions



Next Steps

Long-Term Strategies



Refine participation and tenant selection models.



Develop operations plan and partner expectations.



Finalize scale and partner mix based on space and goals.



Secure location and assess buildout needs.



Pilot operations model (onboarding, logistics, shared services).



Create buildout plan and timeline (target: end of Year 2).



Wrap Up



Tasks from today:

• Notes and slides from today will be posted to the Advisory Board website soon.



Next meeting:

• Wednesday October 8th, 2025



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