

**Summary of Discussion from the 11/13/2018 Zero Waste Commission Deconstruction Subcommittee Meeting**

- At the recent EPA workshop on deconstruction, it was discussed how deconstruction regulations should be implemented at the regional level (for example, at the Air Quality Management District level), since a contractor often is based in one city, does work in a second city, and hauls debris to a third.
- Deconstruction is also an air and water quality issue. Ordinary demolition releases a lot of fine particles that enter air and water runoff. Oakland studied 23 buildings built from the 1950s to 1980s, and found that over half of them have PCB's in the caulking.
- SB 1383 also touches on deconstruction, as wood from construction and demolition (C&D) is one of the main types of organic materials currently being landfilled, and it releases CO2 when it decomposes. Current alternatives to landfilling are mulch and biomass power, however, the mulch market is saturated, and burning biomass for electricity is falling out of favor as costs go down for wind and solar.
- Markets exist for deconstructed lumber, for example, Urban Ore is able to sell all the lumber they salvage and could sell more if they got more.
- Within Berkeley, deconstruction should be taken into consideration as part of the transfer station redesign. Currently, wood is often crushed and unsalvageable. Adequate space should be provided for the receiving, sorting, and storage of C&D materials such as wood.