# Sustainable Procurement

## Overview and Alignment with Zero Waste Plans

Johanna Anderson

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

# Agenda

- Intro to SPLC
- Definitions of sustainability + sustainable procurement
- Sustainable Procurement + Zero Waste strategies

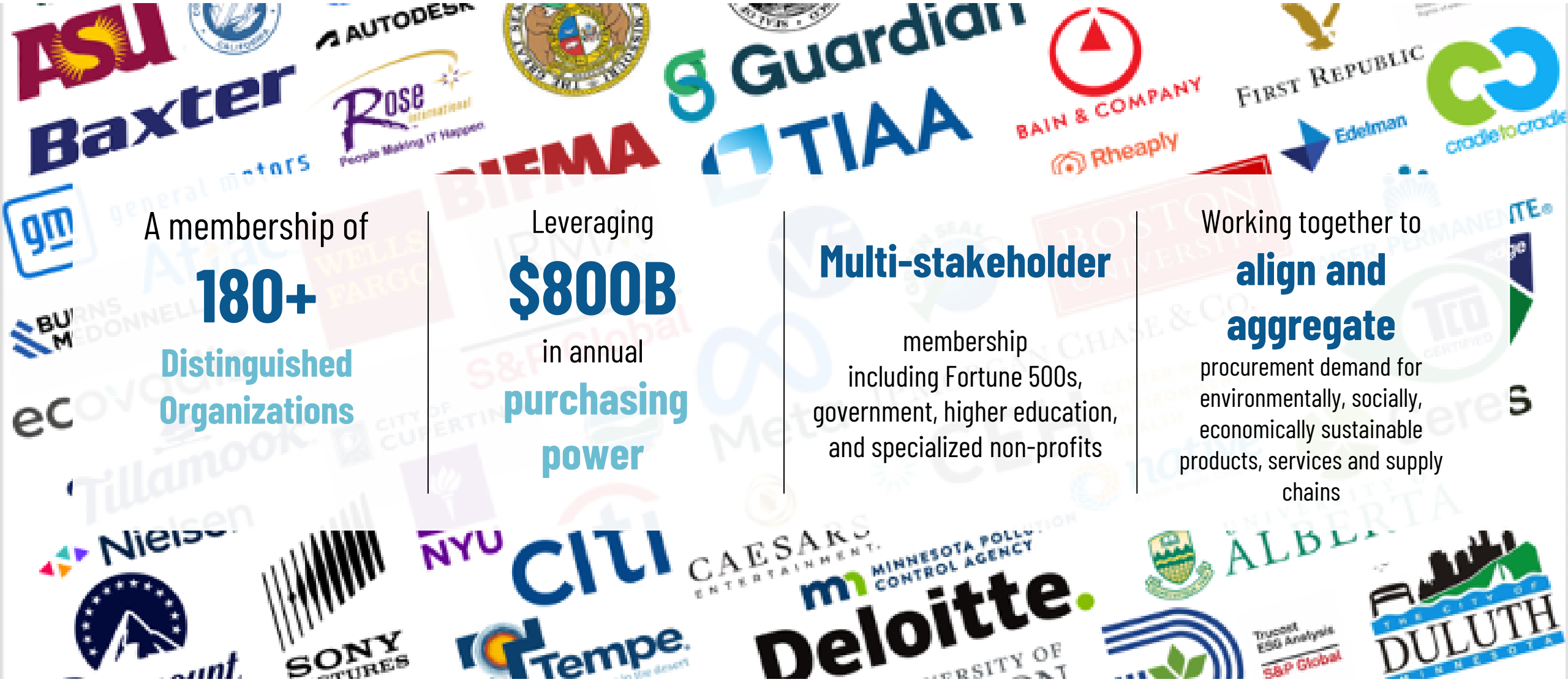
# Intro to SPLC

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

SPLC leads a global community of public and private purchasers, suppliers, advocates, and experts dedicated to driving positive impact through the power of procurement.

***Powering Procurement for Good***

# SPLC's Broad Membership Coalition




A membership of

**180+**

**Distinguished Organizations**

Leveraging

**$800B**

in annual **purchasing power**

**Multi-stakeholder**

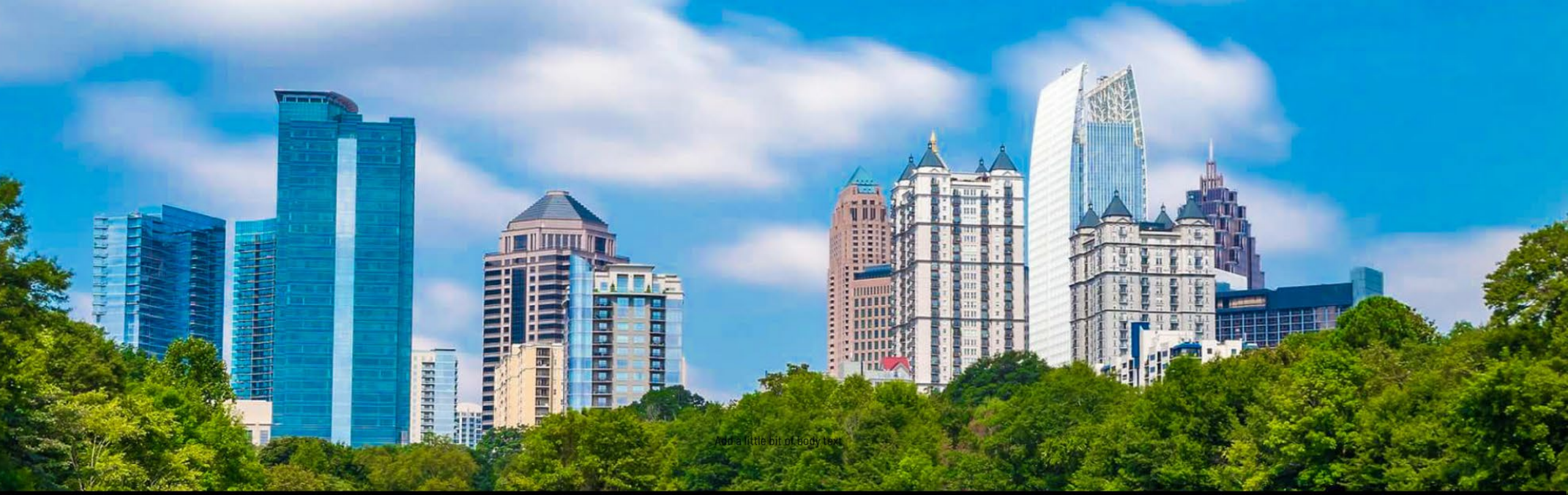
membership including Fortune 500s, government, higher education, and specialized non-profits

Working together to **align and aggregate** procurement demand for environmentally, socially, economically sustainable products, services and supply chains

# ...Leveraging Procurement as a Powerful Engine of Change

# SPLC Provides

- Online member community
- Guidance and best practices
- Customized 1-to-1 coaching
- Peer learning support
- Events
- Collaborative market dialogue
- Research, data and insights
- Innovation working groups
- Recognition programs & awards




SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

# 2023 SUMMIT

## August 14-16, 2023
## Atlanta, GA

summit23.sustainablepurchasing.org

# Defining sustainability + sustainable procurement

HEALTHY

COMMUNITY

ECONOMY

ENVIRONMENT

FOR EVERYONE

FOREVER

# SUSTAINABILITY

## Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)

- Quantitative
- Reporting standards and frameworks

### Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)

## Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- Qualitative
- Voluntary standard

*Procurement that…*

- ✓ *achieves value for money.*
- ✓ *strengthens the organization.*

**CONVENTIONAL PROCUREMENT**

*Procurement that…*

- ✓ *achieves value for money.*
- ✓ *strengthens the organization.*
- ✓ *strengthens the **economy**.*
- ✓ *strengthens **society**.*
- ✓ *strengthens the **environment**.*

**CONVENTIONAL PROCUREMENT**

**SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT**

# Sustainable Procurement

*Sustainable Purchasing*

*Procurement that…*

- ✓ *achieves value for money.*
- ✓ *strengthens the organization.*
- ✓ *strengthens the **environment**.*
- ✓ *strengthens **society**.*
- ✓ *strengthens the **economy**.*

CONVENTIONAL PROCUREMENT

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

*Responsible Sourcing*

*Responsible Supply Chain*

*Supply Chain Sustainability*

# Sustainable Procurement

## Purchasing in ways that intentionally strengthen our...

### Environment

- Climate protection
- Pollution prevention
- Waste reduction
- Resource efficiency
- Habitat preservation
- Air and water quality

### Society

- Health + Safety
- Equal opportunity
- Fair wages
- Employee training
- Workers rights
- No forced labor

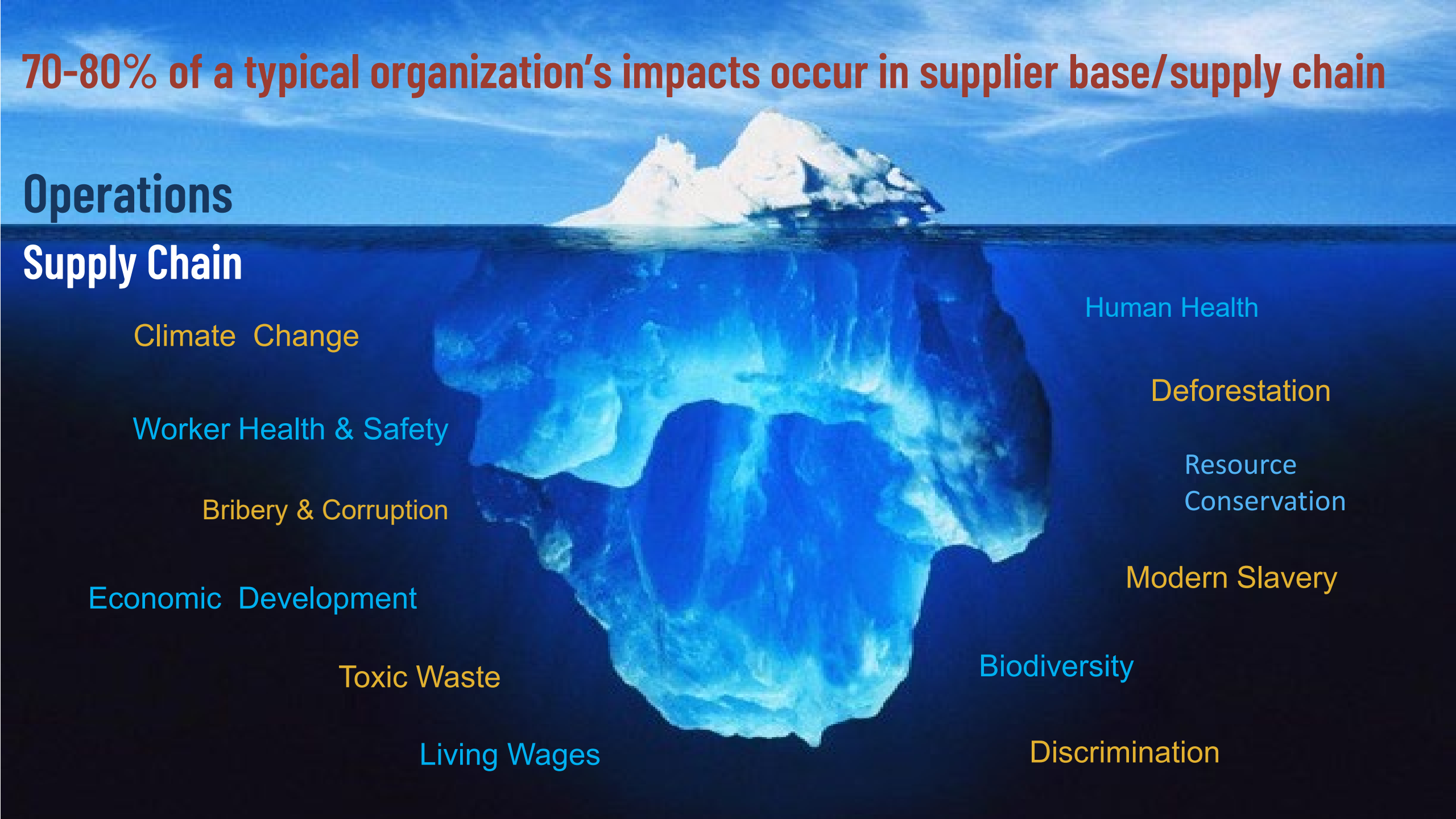
### Economy

- Supplier diversity
- Small business
- Local jobs
- Fair competition
- Transparency
- Innovation
- Corruption-free

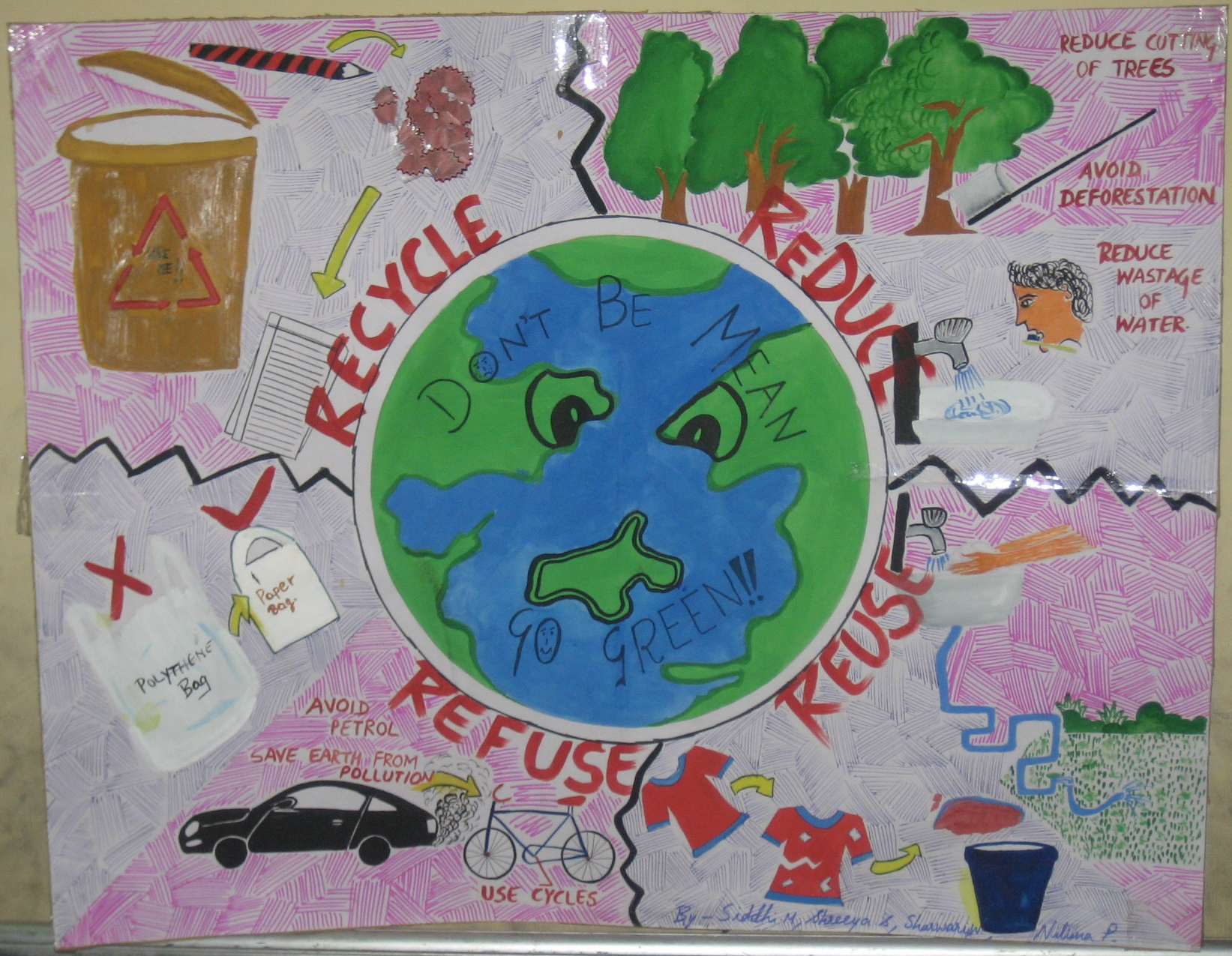
# Benefits to the organization

| Tangible | Intangible |
| --- | --- |
| + Process efficiency | + Supplier relationships |
| + Innovation | + Brand value |
| + Performance tracking | + Customer satisfaction |
| - Regulatory burden | + Employee satisfaction |
| - Costs | + Investor visibility |
| | - Business risk |

# 70-80% of a typical organization's impacts occur in supplier base/supply chain



# SP + ZW Strategies


REDUCE CUTTING OF TREES
AVOID DEFORESTATION
REDUCE WASTAGE OF WATER
RECYCLE
REDUCE
REUSE
REFUSE
DON'T BE MEAN
GO GREEN!!
Paper Bag
POLYTHENE Bag
AVOID PETROL
SAVE EARTH FROM POLLUTION
USE CYCLES
By – Siddhi, Shreeya S, Sharwari, Nilima P.
G1-1

# REDUCE:
# Extended life cycles

Procurement can...

- Write into procurement policies
- Select for products with longer life cycles

# REDUCE: Extended life cycles

King County agencies are converting away from desktops and currently using 49% energy efficient laptops. This saved approximately $33,000 in 2017.

**Policy and Goals:**

As stated in King County's Sustainable Purchasing Executive Policy (CON 7-22-EP),

- Purchase EPEAT-certified computers and electronics
- Recycle all electronics per e-stewards standard or equivalent

As outlined in King County's 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan,

- King County shall optimize print management efficiencies countywide, through new procurement practices and the use of Managed Print Services

| Choose | Avoid | End of Life |
|---|---|---|
| • energy efficient products<br>• laptops<br>• re-manufactured/ refurbished equipment<br>• repair equipment to extend life<br>• power down electronics when not in use for over an hour<br>• utilize "sleep" or 'hibernate' mode | • desktops<br>• using screen savers | • recycle with vendor |

**King County recommends repairing IT equipment to extend the life of the product**

# REUSE: Surplus + asset management

Procurement can...

- Source needed products from individual departments or via central warehouse
- Mitigate risks, reduce costs, and drive sustainability impacts

# REUSE: Surplus + Asset Management

SAN FRANCISCO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Search Site

## Virtual Warehouse: Look for Items

### Available Items

Rows highlighted in yellow are pending pick-up and are not available. **Note for schools and non-profits: Refer to Instructions and Resources for Non-Profits & Schools for how to request items.** Requests that do not follow these guidelines will not be processed.

If you are unable to see any items listed below, you can view the entire spreadsheet.

Virtual Warehouse

| Category | Item Description | Quantity | New | Inventory |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Audio/Visual Equipment | HP LCD speaker bars | 4 | New | 230106-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | Sony SRS-P7 pair of external speakers | 1 | Used but good condition | 230106-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | Pair of Logitech S120 external speakers | 1 | Used but good condition | 230106-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | Cyber acoustics pair of external speakers | 1 | Used but good condition | 230106-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | V7 Black Headset | 1 | Used but good condition | 221220-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | Sanyun dual desktop speakers, requires both USB and 3.5 mm connection to worksation/hardware to work. Approx 4" x 4" X 2" in size | 1 | Used but good condition | 220912-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | Dell Monitor 14" | 1 | Used but good condition | 210823-0( |
| Audio/Visual Equipment | View Sonic 14" Monitor | 1 | Used but good condition | 210823-0( |
| Bookcase | 3-shelf Metal Bookcase | 1 | Used but good condition | 230523-0( |
| Bookcase | Literature Display Stand - 36.5 inches wide, 47.5 high, 15.5 deep (at widest point). Honey oak colored literature/book display stand. | 1 | Used but good condition | 230507-0( |
| Bookcase | | | Used with minor cosmetic | |

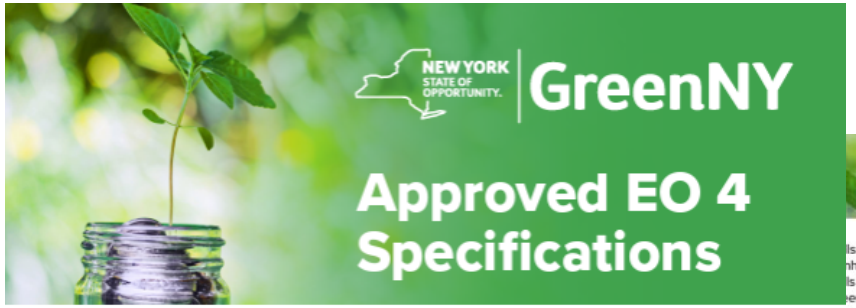
City of San Francisco's Virtual Warehouse facilitates the reuse, recycling, and proper disposal of surplus City materials

# RECYCLE: Designed for diversion

Procurement can...

- Source products that can be diverted from disposal (to recycling or composting)
- Ensure the diversion opportunity is available

# RECYCLE: Designed for diversion




## Food Service Containers and Wrappers

### Covered Products

Containers and wrappers used to serve food, including but not limited to plates, bowls, hot and cold cups (including portion cups, lids and insulating sleeves); sandwich or other types of food wrappers made of paper, aluminum or other materials; food trays and liners; and food take-out containers with hinges, folding closures, or lids (e.g., clamshells, boxes, and soup containers). The specification does not cover containers or wrappers used at food processing locations, or used to ship food to retail or service locations. The specification does include requirements and desirable attributes for packaging used to ship empty food service containers to food service locations.

### Goal

The goal of this guidance document is to increase sustainable practices in the State of New York's food service operations by encouraging the purchase and use of reusable food service containers and establishing minimum specifications for single-use food service containers and wrappers. The specification establishes a hierarchy of environmentally desirable attributes as follows: reusable; compostable in a commercial or municipal facility; easily recyclable; and made with a minimum percentage of post-consumer recycled content or sustainably harvested content. In addition, all covered products purchased by affected entities, offered by preferred sources, or on State contract shall not contain perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) (as defined in this specification), or polystyrene.

### Background

Due to the tremendous amount of waste generated from disposable food containers and wrappers and the cost of disposal, cafeterias and other food service operations are beginning to convert to more environmentally desirable food service products. This transition is complicated by the wide range of product options available and the benefits and drawbacks associated with each. In order to significantly reduce the amount of waste generated from single-use containers, food service operators need to determine the types of food service products which best suit the needs of their customers while creating the least impact on the environment and public health.

**Reusable Containers**
Reusable food service containers such as ceramic plates, mugs, and bowls, cups are almost always more environmentally desirable than single-use containers. Reuse maintains the integrity of the original product, and therefore retains the embedded energy and value of the materials used, resulting in significant environmental benefits. Life cycle analyses reveal that when materials extraction, fabrication, transport, distribution and disposal are all considered, reusable food service containers have significantly less environmental impacts than single-use food service ware, including energy use and air pollution.

**Compostable Containers**
If reusable containers are not an option, or the washing of reusable food service containers is not possible, and the use of disposable containers or packaging is unavoidable, certified, commercially compostable materials that do not contain PFCs should be used. Compostable materials are the best choice for single-use food service products because composting is the easiest way for food service operators to divert left over food away from landfills. Users don't need to sort food containers into a different bin apart from food, and food left on containers or wrappers does not present a contamination problem, as it does for recycling. For this reason, the use of compostable food service ware can lead to greater food waste diversion than recyclable ware. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, food waste is the largest category of municipal solid waste sent to landfills in the United States, accounting for approximately 22% of the waste stream. More than 38 million tons of food waste are sent to landfills in the U.S. each year.

1



ls conserves limited landfill
nhouse gas emissions. Food
ls in the absence of air break
enhouse gas. Composting
n of methane and produces
can create healthier soil and
rtilizers.

ntainers or wrappers,
make sure that a system
comparable alternative
aerobic digestion), is in
will be used. As established
d Waste Recycling and
entities are encouraged
ste management vendors
r other organics recycling
Department of Environmental
od and compostable food
(see https://www.ogs.
/7901322760can.HTM).

raged to use the Organic
mapping tool developed
Prevention Institute, to
nic resources in New York
liate/nysp2i/food/organic-

d service ware is not
in place to compost or
roducts, containers that
selected. Potentially
tic cups, paper cups that
bioplastic or wax, takeout
p sleeves, and tray liners
ontaminated with food).
ndfills and trash incinerators
verted into other products.
yclable material often uses
ng them from virgin (i.e.,

etermine what types of
ocal recyclers before
products. Plastic containers
type of plastic resin and
dily recyclable than others.
s may include cold cups, lids,
om PET (#1) or polypropylene
ecyclers may not accept
rs or wrappers that are
ion, paper food service
e plastic are generally not
considered recyclable.

Food service containers made with polystyrene (plastic resin #6) (including expanded polystyrene or "foam," sometimes referred to as "Styrofoam") should be avoided. The National Toxicology Program concluded in 2011 that styrene is "reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen" (Report on Carcinogens, Twelfth Edition). A primary use of styrene is in the manufacture of polystyrene, which is used extensively to make plastic packaging and disposable food containers. The National Academy of Sciences states that: "[s]ources of environmental exposure includ[e] food (from migration of styrene from polymer packaging materials)" (Review of the Styrene Assessment in the National Toxicology Program 12th Report on Carcinogens, 2014). Polystyrene is very slow to degrade, and foam waste in particular is abundant in litter, particularly along shores and waterways and in the ocean. There are currently only two facilities that recycle expanded polystyrene foam in New York State.

**Recycled and Sustainably Harvested Content**
In addition to the considerations discussed above, a number of compostable and recyclable food service containers and wrappers have recycled and sustainably harvested content, making them the best choices within their category. Where the use of disposable containers or wrappers is unavoidable, and neither compostable nor recyclable containers or wrappers are cost competitive or meet form, function and utility requirements, affected entities are encouraged to purchase products that have recycled or sustainably harvested content, or both. For example:

- A number of paper products (notably folded take-out containers, coffee cups, and paper plates) are made with recycled content, including post-consumer recycled content. Those with the highest level of post-consumer recycled content are best.
- Some cold cups, clear bowls and takeout containers are made with post-consumer recycled-content PET plastic.
- Some molded fiber and paper products are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), which means they are made with sustainably harvested bio-based materials.

**Perfluorinated Chemicals in Food Service Containers and Wrappers**
Single-use food service containers and wrappers can contain perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) (see definition below). PFCs are widely used to make everyday products more resistant to stains, grease and water.

Most of the science on the health risks associated with long-term human exposure to PFCs focuses on two chemicals – perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) – that were used for decades to manufacture hundreds of different products before studies indicated that exposure to them over certain levels may result in adverse health effects.

2

State of NY's Approved Specifications prioritize compostable and recyclable food service ware*

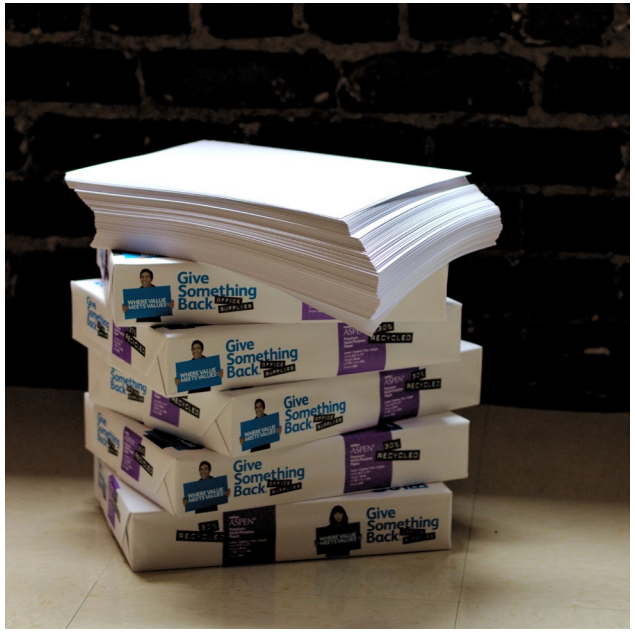
*(if reusable is not an option)

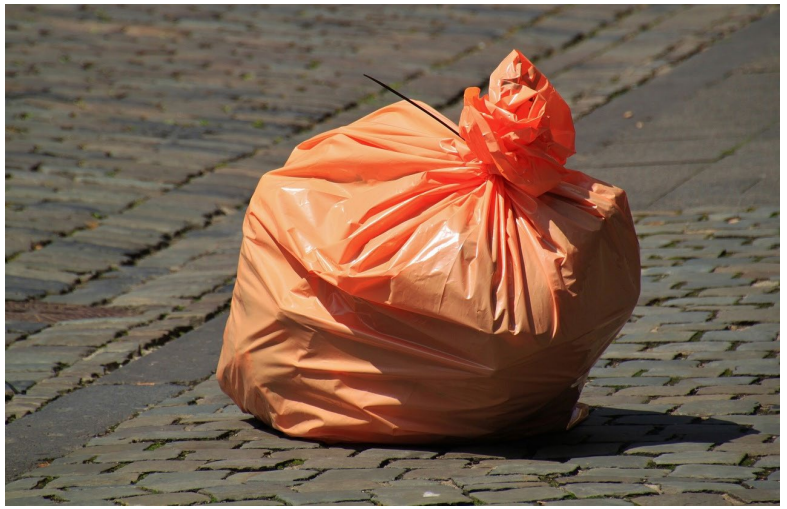
# CLOSE THE LOOP: Buy recycled

Procurement can...

- Support recycling markets
- Source products containing recycled content

# CLOSE THE LOOP: Buy recycled



Minnesota cities, counties, and state agencies prefer or require recycled content products

# Opportunistic Activity vs. Prioritized Strategic Program


Lack of prioritized focus

Prioritization

# Resources for leveraging procurement to support zero waste

- SPLC Guidance
  - Office Supplies
  - Food Service Ware
  - Amazon Business
  - Laboratory Supplies
- Ellen MacArthur Foundation
  - Circular Economy Procurement Framework
- UP Scorecard