

# *Local Policy Tools for Sustainable Materials Management*

*Betsy Dorn, Reclay StewardEdge,  
on behalf of the Carton Council*

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Carton Council

| [CartonOpportunities.org](http://CartonOpportunities.org)



# Who is the Carton Council?

Carton manufacturers united to deliver long term collaborative solutions **to divert valuable cartons from disposal**



Associate Member

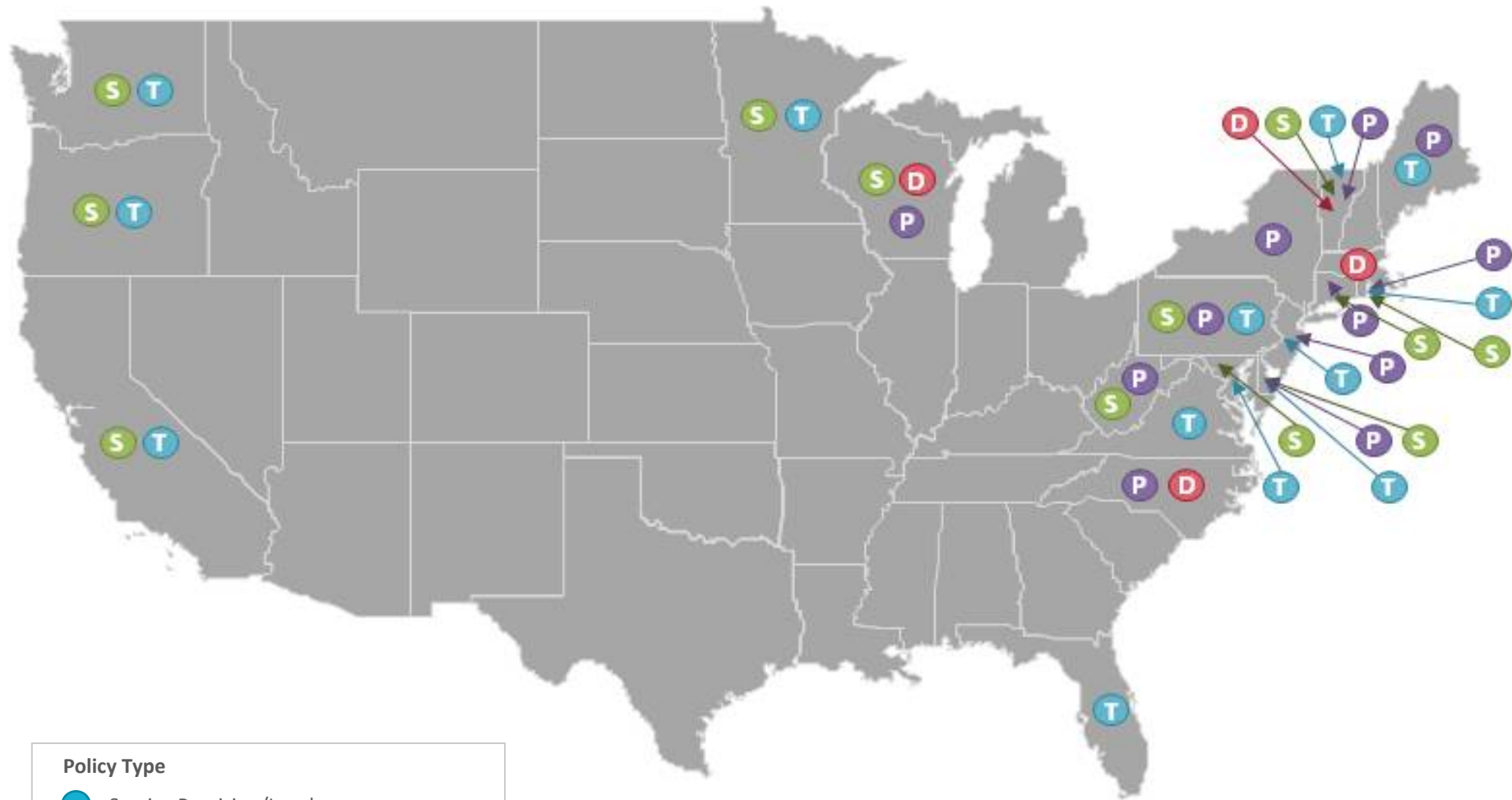


# Carton Council Approach To Policy

- Carton Council has achieved 55% recycling access however more work is needed.
- Funded research to explore use of policy to drive greater recovery.
- Recycling policies determined to be effective for building both access AND recovery.
- Supports use of local and state policy tools when the right conditions prevail and when implemented using a best practices approach.
- Committed to collaboration with others to further drive these policy objectives.

# State Disposal Bans & Recycling Policies

(For Packaging and Printed Paper)



Source: Carton Council Policy Research 2014

# Types of Local Recycling Policies

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1. Waste Diversion/Recycling Goal and Planning Requirement
  - Local elected body passes directive to achieve specified target or goal. Plans required to show how goal will be met
    - e.g. 50% recycling rate or diversion rate by X year
2. Recycling Participation/Source Separation Requirement
  - Requires source separation of recyclables by all or certain types of generators
    - e.g. single-family, multi-family, commercial

# Types of Local Recycling Policies

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## 4. Building Permit Requirement

- Requirement that construction companies have plans for C&D recycling as a condition of receiving building permit
- Requirement that multi-family buildings be built with recycling collection and storage space provisions

## 3. Recycling Service Provision Requirement

- Waste collection service providers are expected to provide specified recycling services
- Office building and/or multi-family complex managers must provide recycling opportunities for tenants

# Disposal Bans



- Virtually all jurisdictions ban disposal of special waste, e.g. oil and oil filters, whole tires, batteries, and increasingly electronics – often in response to state bans
- Many also ban selected recyclable materials
- Local bans (enforced at disposal site) now less common due to increasing reliance on regional private landfills
- Banning placement of recyclables in waste collection receptacles is much more prevalent at local level



# Variable Rate User Fee – Pay as You Throw (PAYT)

- Applies to single family residential generators
- Implemented in over 7000 communities nationwide
- Single most effective tool for increasing waste reduction and recycling when implemented using a best practices approach





# Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

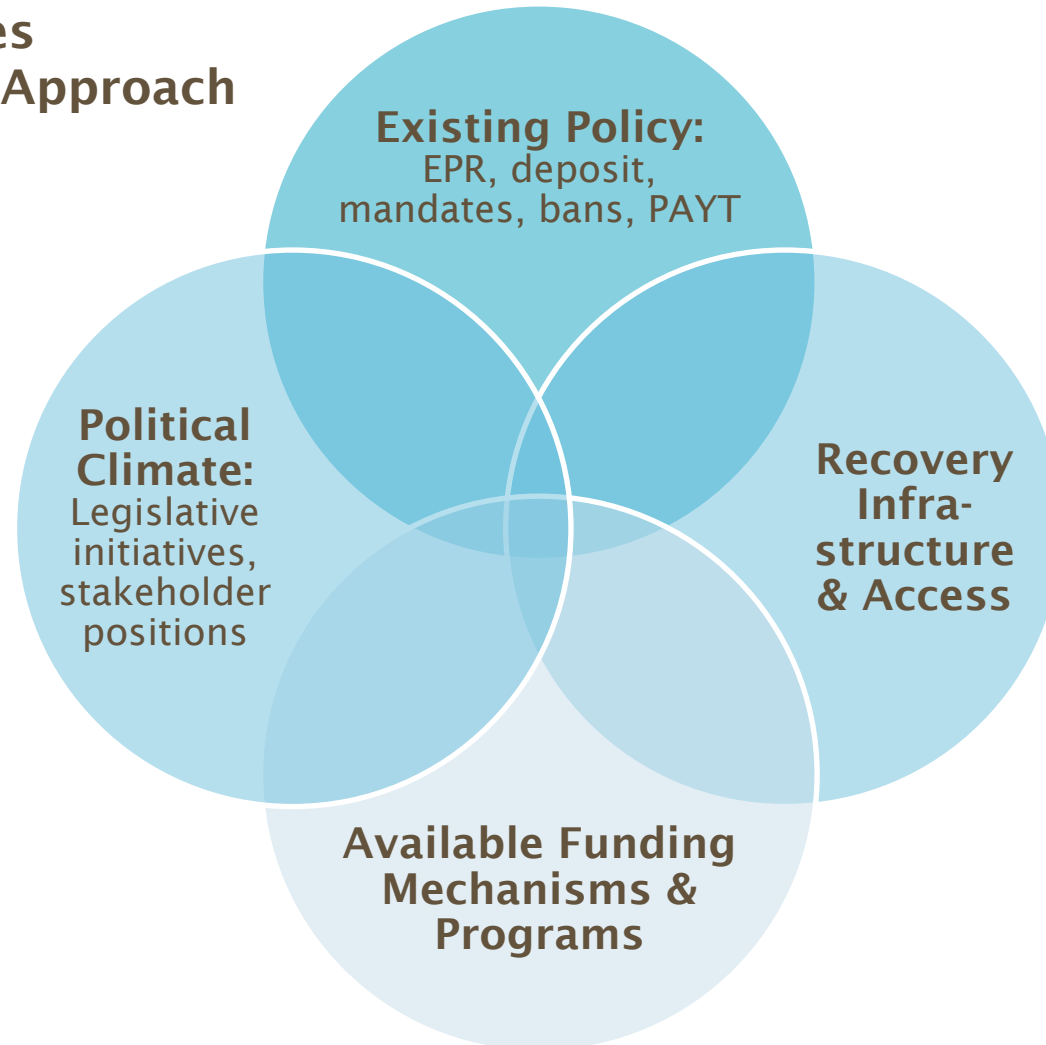
- From Alameda County, CA Model Policy:
  - Institute practices that reduce waste by increasing product efficiency and effectiveness
  - Purchase products that minimize environmental impacts, toxics, pollution, and hazards to worker and community safety
  - Purchase products that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their production, shipping, use and discard
  - Purchase products that include recycled content, are durable and long-lasting, conserve energy and water, use agricultural fibers and residues, use unbleached or chlorine free manufacturing processes, are lead-free and mercury-free, and use wood from sustainably harvested forests

# Vision for Sustainable Materials Management

- Universal recycling access
  - Recycle everywhere: home, work, schools, public spaces
- Recyclables not permitted in waste receptacles
- PAYT fee system
- Environmentally preferable purchasing
- At state level:
  - Disposal bans for readily recyclable materials
  - EPR for special wastes
  - Selective product bans (e.g., toxics, marine debris contributors such as microbeads)

# Future Policy Decision Making

**Local Circumstances  
Dictate Best Policy Approach**



# Conclusions

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- All high-performing programs employ policies to drive greater waste reduction and participation and tonnage diversion through the recycling.
- Substantial opportunity exists to increase waste reduction and recycling by increasing the use of policy paired with complimentary infrastructure and programs.

# For More Information

- [CartonOpportunities.org](http://CartonOpportunities.org)



*Betsy Dorn*  
Reclay StewardEdge  
[\*bdorn@reclaystewardedge.com\*](mailto:bdorn@reclaystewardedge.com)  
*561-337-5790*