Integrating Material Management into the Design Process

Waste Management’s Sustainability Services team of consultants believes collaboration is the cornerstone of every successful sustainability plan. Our highly skilled team of consultants works seamlessly with project stakeholders to provide design enhancements, conveyance efficiency, increased productivity and operational cost savings.

Customer Challenge

With sustainability at the forefront of the customer’s long-term vision and a desire to incorporate these principles within the design of its new facility, the architectural team approached the design and construction of the new facility in a collaborative manner to reduce the environmental footprint and meet sustainability goals. Waste Management Sustainability Services was invited to participate alongside interior designers, food service specialists and engineers throughout the design and construction phases to ensure sustainable waste management systems and operational practices were in place on the multi-building campus.

WM Sustainability Plan

Waste Management Sustainability Services consultants collaborated with other project stakeholders to provide subject matter expertise in the areas of recycling and innovative waste diversion technologies, map out horizontal and vertical conveyance paths and provide design mock-ups to ensure service truck maneuverability. Customized equipment was specified to reduce hauling frequency and increase waste diversion.

Waste Management Sustainability Services consultants reviewed architectural drawings to ensure that all design specifications for interior millwork and building layout, particularly in the back-of-the-house, allowed for efficient conveyance of waste materials. Consultants also assisted in confirming that space allocated for recycling collection met the criteria set by LEED standards and developed a comprehensive waste and recycling management program guidebook which included:

- Analysis of the current waste streams at existing office facilities to evaluate waste management options and solutions.
- A customized waste management plan and techniques to minimize labor and service cost while maximizing reuse and recycling strategies and increasing safety of operations.
- Comprehensive tenant and janitorial staff educational program.
- Proposed supply chain solutions to reduce waste during construction and post-occupancy.

The Green Outcome

Through successful collaborative efforts amongst all project stakeholders during all project phases, the Fortune 500 customer was able to achieve its environmental project design goals. As part of the integrated design process team, Waste Management Sustainability Services was able to design a sustainable waste management system that will reduce waste-to-landfill and increase worker efficiency in material conveyance, maintaining the customer’s high environmental goals and standards.