



Upcycled Denim and Uniforms

UPCYCLING MANUFACTURING IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles is uniquely positioned to lead as a global upcycling market center, with the nation's largest networks of **skilled labor, licensed factories, and access to materials and funding.**

The Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment's textile recovery pilot supports local factory training and workforce development. By procuring locally made products made from recovered textiles, the City is a market for its own waste.



The image above and below shows the LADWP uniforms used to create the recycled denim bags.

CITY-OWNED UNIFORMS AS A CASE STUDY



LASAN funded a textile recovery pilot in collaboration with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Homeboy Threads (HBT), facilitating the recovery of 400+ retired uniforms, (estimated 518 pounds of material, and and processing 240 lbs into upcycled bags. Bags were designed by Rag Royalty who reskilled a factory for the job. These city-owned garments were transformed into new products, specifically bags, demonstrating a closed-loop system in practice.



The image to the left are tote bags made at a registered garment factory from denim destined for recycling.