

# STARDUST BUILDING SUPPLIES



## GREENLIGHT GREENPAPER

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The goal of the Stardust project was to establish a network of innovative partners to provide a reuse solution for broken granite.

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## Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges in the project stemmed from the overall low demand and high supply for used, broken granite pieces. For example, fabricators produce their own granite waste but have no use for it, and during renovations, granite countertops are difficult not to break. Moreover, quality control of broken granite is challenging. By law, broken granite cannot be used in gravel production due to the adhesives and other contaminants. In result, artists have proven to be the most interested group of potential partners. This gives rise to the opportunity of Stardust offering a small scale granite giveaway to artists on a donation basis.

## Recommended Solutions

We recommended the establishment of a small scale, low volume granite bin for the collection of granite pieces that cannot be sold. Artists and art students could pick up small quantities of granite in exchange for a donation to Stardust. In addition, we recommended monitoring the developments at A&E Recycled Granite in Tucson, which is developing a program for repurposing granite contaminated with adhesives and other contaminants. As soon as this program is in place, we recommend contacting A&E Recycled Granite to establish a partnership.

## Project Benefits

### **BENEFITS TO PROJECT PARTNER**

Stardust now has recommendations for how to divert small amounts of broken granite from the landfill. Stardust can use our prepared social media outreach materials to promote its used and broken granite supply. Our team also provided a deeper insight into the low demand of broken granite in the valley by providing our database of **6** landscapers, **16** fabricators, **14** artists, & **28** educators who we contacted, & a log of these conversations.

### **BENEFITS TO SOLUTIONEERS**

Working with Stardust was a unique and positive experience. We had first-hand practice in developing sustainability solutions. The overall experience was eye-opening as we struggled to find ways to reuse the granite. Learning the difficulty of making large scale sustainability improvements was the most important part of the experience. We learned about waste and the complexities involved in limiting the amount we produce.

### **BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Local artists and art students will have access to cheaper materials for their projects that they otherwise might not have been able to afford.