

By the time the restored Pier 70 in San Francisco's Dogpatch neighborhood is ready to debut in the mid-

as CO2e (carbon-equivalent emissions) and includes the sourcing, creating, and transporting of materials, as well as any renovation tasks.

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take. "There are other adaptive reuse projects where it can be a really big number—equal to like 30 years of embodied carbon."


Ho adds that there is also inherent variability in current data, making some assumptions from mining the aggregate all the way to how you assess where you're getting the power—there are uncertainties the entire way. When I say it's 53 kg CO₂e per meter squared, it could be as low as 30 kg CO₂e per meter squared.

She also notes the importance of maintaining a close relationship with Building Transparency, which created the Embodied Carbon in Construction Calculator (EC3), and the importance of staying up-to-date on the latest data and research.

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Soon, thousands of people will enjoy the splendor of Building 12's rehabilitation, no doubt marveling at how the old, converted building has become a paragon of retro-modern urban renewal. From an outside perspective, it seems like a fantastic idea to take a decrepit structure and make it beautiful again. But the general public may not appreciate the behind-the-scenes accepted practice.

that make adaptive reuse easier and to lead by example to make it more compelling to the AEC industry at large. "We talk about the amount of carbon that's being saved and lean on that, but we need to get past legislation that makes us keep these buildings and make it desirable for the industry," says .

About the Author

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About the Article

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