

# Goodwill and the California Product Stewardship Council partner on used apparel

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## KALW News



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Goodwill Outlet warehouse

Secondhand apparel has shed its lowly reputation. Even before supply chain shortages and inflation pressures piqued consumers' interest, the used clothing market was growing. That's partly because websites, such as ThredUp and The Real Real, have made buying used clothes online simple. But thrift stores such as Goodwill often receive items that they could sell at a good price, if only they were in better shape.

Goodwill of the San Francisco Bay and the California Product Stewardship Council are looking to change that. They're partnering with local garment cleaning and repair vendors — as well as students from San Francisco State University's Apparel Design and Merchandising program — to create a system for repairing and reselling apparel.

So far, more than 800 pieces of damaged apparel have been repaired and posted to eBay through the pilot project. It's funded by the San Francisco Department of the Environment.

The hope is to extend the clothing's shelf life, send fewer items to landfill, and create new opportunities for skilled textile workers in the Bay Area.

See stories by Mary Catherine O'Connor