

development news

a new public transit-friendly home for the resource exchange, philly's creative reuse workshop

DAN ELDRIDGE | TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014



These days, warehouse-sized reuse centers selling old construction supplies and development detritus seem to exist in [nearly every major metropolitan area](#). But in Philadelphia, [The Resource Exchange](#) -- currently located on the corner of Cedar and East Cambria streets in Port Richmond -- operates with a slightly different mission.

Sure, it resells salvaged building materials and housewares, but it also offers donated and salvaged

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film props and set pieces, along with arts and craft materials, making it popular with artists, makers, DIY-types and other members of the city's creative class.

That popularity has led to an issue.

"Right now, we're kind of tucked into a residential neighborhood," says Resource Exchange founder and Executive Director Karyn Gerred. That makes it difficult for budget-conscious customers to reach the shop via public transportation.

So Gerred decided they needed a change. The Resource Exchange will close for the month of February, then reopen at a slightly larger and much more accessible location on the corner of North 2nd Street and Cecil B. Moore, only six or seven blocks from the Berks Station on the Market-Frankford Line.

"Just in terms of creating a great, welcoming, creative reuse center in a way that I've always imagined, it's a much better building," says Gerred. "It's much better suited to what we are. It lends itself more to being able to have the workshop-and-event part of what we do."

The new-and-improved Resource Exchange plans to open its new 4,500-square-foot location on March 1.

Source: Karyn Gerred, The Resource Exchange

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