

Bronx CB8 Environment & Sanitation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Start Time: 7:00 PM

[Meeting Recording](#)

1. Welcome & Roll Call

a. Committee:

- i. Present: L. Spalter, R. Spalter, D. Rowen, S. Froot
- ii. Zoom: K. Argenti
- iii. Absent: E. Hausman, M. Lewis

b. Public:

- i. Effie (DEP), James Burk (Make Music), Mei, Rebecca, Andrea, Lora-Lynn, Lola Williams, and Rebecca Poole

2. Approval of Committee Minutes – April 15, 2026

- a. Approved unanimously with no corrections.

3. Chairperson's Report

- a. The attached news articles relating to environmental and sanitation issues were passed around and discussed during the meeting:

- i. <https://www.riverdalepress.com/stories/new-york-botanical-garden-study-maps-flood-prone-blue-zones-across-bronx-and-beyond,226843>

1. Link to source study:

<https://nyaspubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/nyas.70248>

- ii. <https://gothamist.com/news/cut-the-crap-bills-aim-to-eliminate-dog-poop-from-nyc-streets>
- iii. <https://gothamist.com/news/mamdani-to-swap-parking-spots-for-more-than-6500-curbside-empire-bins-across-nyc>
- iv. <https://gothamist.com/news/nyc-relied-on-companies-with-troubled-records-to-remove-snow-during-brutal-winter-weather>
- v. <https://gothamist.com/news/rolling-back-nys-climate-law-gov-hochul-says-shes-living-in-reality>

4. SAPO Application: Make Music NY Event at James Baldwin Plaza on June 21, 2026
 - a. James, Mei, and others presented on the 20th season of Make Music NY, which will occur on the Summer Solstice throughout the city. They are applying to use the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center plaza in Van Cortlandt Village in our district. See attached presentation for more information.
 - b. Karen suggested they reach out to Ray at Amalgamated to spread the word throughout that community.
 - c. The committee voted unanimously to approve this application; see resolution.

Resolution SAPO APPLICATION for Make Music New York at James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center

WHEREAS, Make Music New York has applied for a SAPO application to bring an outdoor concert to the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center for the 20th annual Make Music NY festival.

WHEREAS, Make Music New York (Applicant) 19-19 24th Avenue, L210, Long Island City, NY, 11102 has applied to obtain a Street Activity Permit (SAPO) in connection with the free concert by local NYC musicians to be held in the plaza known as the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center at 00 W. Mosholu Pkwy S., Bronx, NY 10468 on Sunday, June 21, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has not requested to restrict any parking;

WHEREAS, there will be no street closures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Bronx Community Board 8, supports the issuance of a permit to the Make Music New York for the use of amplified musical performances as part of a free concert at the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center, on Sunday, June 21, 2026, from 12:00pm to 5:30pm.

In Favor (5): K. Argenti, S. Froot, D. Rowen, L. Spalter, R. Spalter

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5. DEP/DSNY Questions Regarding New Development throughout Van Cortlandt Village
 - a. Effie from DEP on Zoom:
 - i. Jerome Park Reservoir work proceeds in the southern basin to keep it in a state of good repair. Work includes the repair and lining of the reservoir basin's east wall and rehabilitation of the perimeter vehicular paths, including installation of new fencing and guard rails and repair of the

stone retaining wall along Lehman College's parking lot. Construction is expected to run through December 2027 and the south basin will remain without water throughout the construction period.

- ii. Update on Sewer Leak at 67-69 Stephenson Place – DEP is doing emergency repairs and are installing a new sewer on the block and reconnecting any sanitary house services they find in the process. The block previously had what is called a “plumbers line” or “temporary connection (TC)” that was privately installed when the homes were built. Unfortunately as population density increases, these TC lines end up being too small to handle the demand. DEP has a contractor in place to build the new, proper, sewer connection.
 - 1. Laura and the rest of the committee are concerned about how to account for new developments built where there are not adequate sewer connections in place. DEP advised that we bring this up with DOB, since they approve all buildings without asking that developers investigate what kind of sewer connection is under their property first, and DEP only finds out after there is an issue.
 - 2. Steve also wishes DOB required sewer line inspections before any changes in Certificates of Occupancy or permits for alterations are issued.
- iii. The committee asked DEP about any increases in 311 complaints in the district, specifically around Van Cortlandt Village in the past couple of years and were told that no, our district is not a major issue and does not have nearly as many sewage leak issues as elsewhere in the city. Effie notes that DEP has been using degreasing agents proactively to prevent issues and asks that we pass on any specific addresses for her to look into if we want more statistics.
- iv. In response to questions raised by the community around Arlington Avenue near W. 252nd Street towards W. 254th Street, we were told DEP is in the midst of discussions with Susan Morganthal et al.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. None raised.

7. New Business

a. DEP Proposed Rate Increases

- i. See attached notice regarding the proposed 6% rate increase to go into effect on July 1, 2026. There will be a public hearing in the Bronx on Thursday, June 4th at 6pm at Mercy University (1200 Waters Place) or comments can be emailed to nycwaterboard@dep.nyc.gov

b. DSNY Questions and Concerns

- i. The NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) is proposing new containerization rules for buildings with 10+ units. There is a virtual public hearing on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 9:30am. For more info: <https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/relating-to-containerization-requirements-for-buildings-containing-10-or-more-dwelling-units/>
- ii. The committee also sent concerns about dumping and litter, especially around the Jerome Park Reservoir and were told that in the last month or two DSNY has done “a ton” of extra cleaning in our district and notes that illegal dumping complaints have fallen 20% and abandoned vehicle complaints are also down 18%. They continue to have issues removing tractor trailers since they need to coordinate with DHS and NYPD but are working on this issue too.
- iii. CB8 is also producing dog waste signs (see attachment) to be distributed throughout the district, anyone interested is encouraged to contact the board office: <https://cbbronx.cityofnewyork.us/cb8/about/contact/>

8. Adjournment at 8:30 pm.



Make Music New York 20th Anniversary Sunday, June 21, 2026

For twenty years, Make Music New York has fulfilled a unique role in the cultural life of NYC. We celebrate and showcase the talents and passions of local musicians, connect them to their communities and with each other, bring bold new artistic creations to life and energize the shared social spaces that make NYC a cultural capital.

Our mission is ambitious, inclusive, adventurous and fun, and we accomplish it by producing our flagship, eponymous festival every summer solstice on June 21st—the longest day of the year. On this special “music holiday,” music makers of all ages, abilities and backgrounds are empowered to take center stage with live performances from public plazas and parks, on sidewalks fronting local shops and restaurants, and in partnerships with city agencies, cultural institutions and businesses across all five boroughs.

Each year we partner with BIDs, businesses, institutions, and community organizers to responsibly activate outdoor public spaces across all five boroughs.



Calling all Partners: Create a Host Venue profile Participating in Make Music New York is free, quick and easy!

Make Music New York empowers you to transform your favorite public space into a unique concert venue that will serve your community and fill our city with music in a spirit of celebration.

If you have hosted a Make Music New York concert in the past, now is the time to create your venue profile for the coming festival on June 21st. If you are new our mission, this is the perfect year to become involved, and the registration process is free, quick and easy.

- Go to <https://makemusicny.org/register>
- Read up on the FAQs OR reach out to info@makemusicny.org if you need additional guidance.
- Click on the Register button to create your online profile

Once you have posted your profile, it will be visible to our network of musicians, possibly some that live or work in your very neighborhood. If a musician is interested in performing from your venue, they can email you a request for consideration. Likewise, you can search musician profiles on the matchmaking platform for a good match, and send out inquiries and invitations of your own.

You control the type of concert that you want host

As you populate your Venue profile, *you* provide the details regarding the type of concert you want to host, including: the genre of music (from a cappella to zydeco); the overall duration, start and end times for the performance(s); whether to host an amplified or acoustic program; and more. If you have an asset you are able to offer to entice musicians, you can also include this on your profile.

It is always free to participate in Make Music New York

The ethos of the festival is original in that we encourage musicians of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities, genres, instruments and skill levels to partake – from beginners to amateurs to pros. Musicians volunteer their talent and time to perform in a unique outdoor spot and reach new audiences. We also cover “backstage” expenses such as permits, music licensing fees and more. We do not customarily provide audio equipment, which is typically organized by the musician(s) or organizers themselves.

We spread your message to our network of music makers and lovers

In our marketing and publicity efforts, we are always happy to share information provided by Partners to help raise awareness for your organization and mission.

Special Projects

Each festival includes a handful of “Special Projects” that Make Music New York has commissioned or curated. These projects feature established musicians that tend to capture additional media attention. They occasionally require greater setup or equipment rentals, and are sometimes site-specific artistic creations. For all of these reasons, Special Projects do come with performance fees attached. If you are interested in hosting a Special Project from your space, please contact us at: info@makemusicny.org.

If you are experiencing problems creating your profile, please contact us with as much as detail as possible at: info@makemusicny.org.

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New York Botanical Garden study maps flood-prone “blue zones” across Bronx and beyond

Posted April 17, 2026



(https://delta.creativecirclecdn.com/riverdalepress/original/20260416-111529-ada-Flooding_A.jpeg)

The New York Botanical Garden's blue zone map, seen here, pinpoints several areas vulnerable to flooding throughout greater Riverdale.

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Courtesy New York Botanical Garden

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by Michelle Mullen

In a new study, researchers at the New York Botanical Garden urge city planners to rethink how and where New York builds, using the city's past as a guide to its future.

Mapping where water once flowed, where it floods today and where it is expected to flood again, the paper identifies areas across the five boroughs most vulnerable to impacts from intensifying climate change. It suggests historic streams and creeks, long buried under the city landscape, still shape how water moves, even after decades of development.

The findings are particularly relevant in the northwest Bronx, which was once blanketed by swaths of wetlands. What is now a dense corridor of buildings and traffic was a shallow basin where water pooled and moved slowly.

Centuries ago, a natural freshwater stream, Tibbetts Brook, flowed south through what is now Van Cortlandt Park, Nick Dembowski, president of the Kingsbridge Historical Society, explained. The waterway emptied into the Harlem River through the Spuyten Duyvil Creek.

"Before the 20th century, Kingsbridge was mostly marshland," Dembowski said. "By Kingsbridge, I mean sort of the valley that's between Riverdale and Kingsbridge Heights, so like the Broadway, Corlear, Tibbett Avenue kind of area."

The brook was buried around 1912 to eliminate wetlands and diverted into the city's sewer system, making way for development and infrastructure, including the construction of a new railroad.

Lucinda Royte, the report's lead author and NYBG manager of urban conservation data, tools and outreach, worked alongside Eric W. Sanderson, vice president for urban conservation, to bring the project to fruition. In it, Royte introduces what are called "blue zones," a term referring to places that were historically wet, currently flooded and projected to flood in the future.

According to the study, "Blue Zones: Identifying Adaptation Opportunities Using Past, Present, and Future Flooding in New York City," these zones cover about 21 percent of New York City's land and affect roughly 1.2 million people.

To identify the blue zones, researchers drew on more than 500 years of flood data, along with data from 311 service calls. The analysis combines historical maps and future climate projections, offering a more comprehensive view than traditional flood maps.

"The [New York City Department of Environmental Protection] did these projected flooding maps of the future," We Sanderson explained. "If you look at the most intensive flooding scenario that they have in their data, it looks a lot like our maps of the historic streams and wetlands of the city."

That overlap is central to the study's argument that the city's natural landscape still determines where water goes.

"It starts with the historic ecology of New York," Royte said. "If it was wet in the past, is wet today and will be wet in the future, then that is a place that we consider a blue zone."

In greater Riverdale, those patterns are especially visible. As part of a former tidal marsh system fed by Tibbetts Brook, much of Kingsbridge still follows the contours of that buried landscape, with water continuing to pool in its lowest points during severe weather events.

That legacy is reflected in Blue Zone 31, a roughly 33-acre stretch tracing the brook's former path along Tibbett Avenue from the Harlem River inland toward West 231st Street. A portion of Blue Zone 35 extends that corridor north to West 236th Street, marking a continuous band where the land's underlying shape continues to guide the flow of water.

The same dynamic plays out along the Spuyten Duyvil shoreline, where land meets a river that has itself been reshaped.

In the late 19th century, the city created the Harlem River Ship Canal, a human-made channel that straightened and widened the Harlem River to improve navigation. The project effectively bypassed the river's natural course, isolating Marble Hill as an island before the original channel was later filled in and attached to the Bronx. The Harlem River as it exists today is largely engineered, its wetlands mostly erased.

Nearby, Blue Zone 25 spans nearly 10 acres at the borough's northwest edge, covering portions of both the Hudson River and Harlem River shorefront — a stretch where water moves freely between the two.

For Karen Argenti, a member of the Bronx Council for Environmental Quality, the study is valuable not just for its data, but for how it explains it.

"When [the city] maps the flooding, they find out where it was a lot of rain and they put it on a map, but they don't explain it," Argenti said. "What they did was they explained it."

That distinction makes the findings more useful for decision-makers, particularly when it comes to development.

"One of the things that we look at is when people are going to develop things, like why are they developing them in floodplains?" Argenti said. "What are these people thinking? Where do they think that water is going to go?"

The study emphasizes that flood risk cannot be addressed in isolation. Because water moves across neighborhoods and infrastructure systems, Royte argues, planning must happen at a broader, landscape scale through inter-agency efforts.

"You can't just solve flooding in the places where it's flooding," Sanderson added. "There's going to be consequences for places where it's not flooding."

That has direct implications for housing and development in neighborhoods like Kingsbridge, where Blue Zones 31 and 35 blanket both commercial and residential areas. If certain locations become increasingly prone to flooding, planners may need to reconsider where new buildings are placed and how existing infrastructure is protected, the study suggests.

In some cases, that could mean working with nature rather than against it. The study points to solutions like restoring waterways, expanding green infrastructure and rethinking how stormwater is managed.

One plan to do so is already underway, with the Tibbetts Brook daylighting project. The initiative will unearth a long-buried stream, bringing it back above ground and redirecting its flow out of the sewer system.

“This is why the Tibbetts Brook daylighting is so important,” Sanderson said. “Essentially, it’s restoring a stream through a blue zone and you’re giving water a place to go.”

By creating a new open channel through areas like Van Cortlandt Park and connecting it to the Harlem River, the project aims to reduce pollution, mitigate flooding and restore former wetlands.

At the neighborhood level, Argenti explained, even small changes can help.

“You have to figure out how to capture the water that’s now going in a drain that’s not big enough,” she said.

Still, the study raises broader questions about long-term planning in a changing climate. In some areas, traditional infrastructure may not be enough to prevent future flooding.

“Some parts of the city where people live now may not be inhabitable in the future,” Royte told The Press.

Among them is Blue Zone 35, which extends into Kingsbridge Heights near the Major Deegan Expressway. It encompasses several full blocks of mixed residential and commercial buildings from West 237th to West 238th streets, between Broadway and Putnam Avenue West.

The NYBG also published an interactive online map that allows users to explore blue zones across the city, as well as see how past waterways, present flooding and future projections overlap. Free and open to the public, the tool offers a clearer picture of where water is likely to go.

Keywords

NYC flooding study, New York Botanical Garden research, Tibbetts Brook, Bronx flood zones, NYC climate change impacts

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Jewish advocacy groups protest outside Marble Hill Target over alleged ICE cooperation (/stories/jewish-advocacy-groups-protest-outside-marble-hill-target-over-alleged-ice-cooperation,229858)



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50 YEARS ON THE JOB



Building relationships simply by repairing one kitchen at a time (/stories/building-relationships-simply-by-repairing-one-kitchen-at-a-time,75106)

Felix Lam has been the superintendent at 2465 Palisade Ave., in Spuyten Duyvil for 50 years. The 81-year-old has made his home — and career — at the eight-story co-op since he was a young man. And how does that make him feel? “I’m very happy about it,” Lam said.

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Cut the crap: Bills aim to eliminate dog poop from NYC streets



John McCarten/NYC Council Media Unit



By Jessica Gould and Christian Santana

Published May 17, 2026

54 comments

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Local lawmakers are proposing a package of bills aimed at wiping out one of New York City's most intractable issues: dog waste.

They're hoping to pass a motion called the SCOOP Act — that is, the Safe and Clean Outdoor Ownership Practices Act, which would provide dog waste bags, establish public education campaigns, bolster enforcement in certain areas and launch a pilot program to compost waste collected from dog runs.

The legislative efforts come after dog waste-related complaints spiked significantly across New York City following consecutive winter snowstorms earlier this year. In January and February, 311 received 821 complaints about dog waste citywide — a 35.8% increase from the same period last year, according to officials.

"We've all experienced it before: that instantaneous feeling of deep regret, right after you step in it, something that's much too soft to be concrete," Council Speaker Julie Menin said at a rally for the SCOOP Act at Tompkins Square Park on Friday.

The City Council's sanitation committee will hold a hearing on three of the SCOOP Act's bills on Tuesday, May 19.

One, sponsored by Menin, would require the Department of Sanitation to install dog waste bag dispensers on or next to its more than 20,000 litter baskets on city streets and refill them at least weekly. Her proposal would also require the sanitation and health departments to conduct a public awareness campaign to educate the public on dog waste's negative public health consequences in the city's 10 designated languages.

"Having clean streets and sidewalks isn't just a quality of life issue, it's also a public health matter that the Council's SCOOP Act legislation will help address," Menin said on Friday. "Today is about giving dogs and their busy owners more resources, and friendly reminders to care for their furry friends and for their community."

Councilmember Justin Sanchez's bill, meanwhile, would bolster enforcement by establishing procedures for the sanitation department once it receives at least three dog waste-related complaints on the same block within seven days. The sanitation department would then have to either remove the waste or inform property owners of their obligation to do so — and issue \$250 violations to those who don't scoop the poop.

The city has a decades-old "pooper scooper" law, but the rule is rarely enforced.

Councilmember Shahana Hanif's bill would require the sanitation and health commissioners to develop and roll out a public education campaign about dog waste removal.

The two bills that aren't part of Tuesday's committee hearing would establish a pilot program to compost waste collected from dog runs in city parks, and post signs at park entrances reminding people of the penalties for leaving behind dog poop.

"I have heard every excuse: My dog is small, I forgot a bag, I did not see it happen," Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse, the sponsor of the sign bill, said at the Friday rally. "Well, your neighbors saw it."

People Gothamist spoke to in Brooklyn on Saturday were mostly supportive of the effort.

Melanie Islas, a dog owner, said some of her fed-up neighbors in Ditmas Park were taking their own measures to deter dogs.

"One of our crazy neighbors around here, he'll put chili powder on his grass," she said.

"Dogs are wonderful, but people need to take more responsibility for looking after their waste so that we can all enjoy being dog owners and non-dog owners together," said Ciara Warner, who was walking her dog in Ditmas Park on Saturday.

"I don't want anyone to be looking at me thinking I am at all possibly contributing to this as I am a very fastidious cleaner-upper of my dog," she said.

Lavish Testman was outside the salon she owns just off of Flatbush Avenue on Saturday. She said when she confronts people who leave their dogs' waste in front of her business, they sometimes curse her out.

"If the person has no respect or decency, they will not clean it up whether you put a bag out or not," Testman said.

But she worried whether she'd be on the hook if dogs go on the sidewalk outside her salon and their owners don't clean it up.

"I shouldn't be punished because someone let their dog poop there," she said.

"Just pick up your poop, man," she said.

Mamdani to swap parking spots for more than 6,500 curbside Empire Bins across NYC



Liam Quigley



By Liam Quigley

Published Apr 17, 2026 at 8:41 a.m. ET

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Large trash bins will soon dot the curb across New York City, replacing piles of garbage bags that have blocked sidewalks for decades.

Mayor Zohran Mamdani said Friday that the city will roll out the Spanish-made Empire Bins for the first time in the Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island and Queens by the end of 2027.

The move represents a major expansion of a program first implemented in Manhattan last year by former Mayor Eric Adams. The bins are serviced by specially made garbage trucks that have a system to lift the bins into their compactors. City officials say they have led to a significant reduction in rat sightings in West Harlem, where residents already use roughly 1,100 of the bins.

Mamdani said the city will deploy more than 6,500 bins in the planned expansion, which will be mandatory for residential buildings with 30 or more units. Sanitation officials have said the bins could one day replace thousands of the city's parking spots.

"In the wealthiest city in the wealthiest nation in the history of the world, no New Yorker should have their sidewalks covered in garbage," Mamdani said in a statement. "We have the plan, we're investing the money and we're delivering on the promise of clean, healthy streets for every neighborhood."

The bins can only be opened by building staff with a keycard, or by sanitation workers. Side-loading garbage trucks pull up to the bins and dump their contents into the compactor, avoiding the need for sanitation workers to heave trash bags from the curb and around parked cars.

Schools in some neighborhoods in Brooklyn received Empire Bins last year, and work is already underway to bring the bins to Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Downtown Brooklyn.

In that borough, the expanded rollout will bring the bins to Prospect Heights, Crown Heights and Weeksville, according to City Hall.

In Manhattan, residents of the West Village, SoHo, Little Italy and Greenwich Village will get Empire Bins over the next 18 months.

In the Bronx, residents of Hunts Point, Longwood, University Heights, Mount Hope, Morris Heights, and Fordham Heights will receive the bins.

Queens will get Empire Bins in Sunnyside, Hunters Point and Woodside.

On Staten Island, the bins will be installed in St. George, West Brighton and Port Richmond.

Residential buildings with between 10 and 30 units can opt in to receive the Empire Bins, officials said. Mamdani has said he would follow through and fully containerize the city's waste by 2032.

NYC relied on companies with troubled records to remove snow during brutal winter weather



Federico Torres/NurPhoto via Getty Images



By Liam Quigley

Published Apr 17, 2026 at 6:30 a.m. ET

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As dangerously cold weather persisted in New York City for weeks this winter, the sanitation department turned to three companies with records of financial crimes to help with snow removal.

The deals with Brooklyn-based Dragonetti Brothers and Connecticut outfits Cherry Hill Construction and Cariati Developers Inc. emerge as the City Council seeks to reform the city's emergency procurement policies. A sanitation department spokesperson said the city paid the companies a combined \$22 million to get all hands on deck to remove a historic amount of snow that became frozen in place amid record-low temperatures.

"I think this is lunacy," Councilmember Shekar Krishnan of Queens said. "The city keeps going back to the same problematic well of the same problematic contractors that have committed serious criminal violations of the law."

In February, the City Council passed legislation capping emergency contracts at 90 days. Krishnan said the Council is giving extra attention to emergency contracts under Mayor Zohran Mamdani. He said members want to avoid a repeat of the pattern under previous Mayor Eric Adams, when the city bypassed standard bidding to pay hundreds of millions of dollars to vendors to help with migrants arriving from the U.S.-Mexico border.

Last month, the leaders of a Brooklyn nonprofit that was paid \$130 million through emergency contracts with the Department of Homeless Services during the Adams administration were indicted for a bribery and kickback scheme.



A snow removal operation in SoHo.

Liam Quigley

Court records, including reports by the watchdog Department of Investigation, show the three companies used for snow removal had previously run afoul of authorities. The three companies are among the five most-compensated companies for snow removal in New York City this year, according to the City Record.

Dragonetti Brothers owners Nicholas and Vito Dragonetti, pleaded guilty in Manhattan Criminal Court in 2022 to a \$1.2 million insurance scam. As part of the plea, the brothers were barred from running the company. They did not serve any jail time, but paid \$1.2 million in restitution and agreed to a three-year ban on some city contracts and an “integrity monitorship,” according to prosecutors.

But that changed in January when the DOI allowed them to resume running the company with additional oversight through 2028, according to a spokesperson from the agency. The same month

that ruling came down, the sanitation department activated the company's "standby" contract to clear snow. Dragonetti Brothers was paid \$3 million for snow removal.

Dragonetti Brothers did not respond to a request for comment.

City records show the sanitation department also paid \$14.7 million to Cherry Hill Construction under an emergency contract to help with snow removal, as well as towing away private cars that were blocking plowing operations.

In 2015 Cherry Hill Construction pleaded guilty as a corporate entity to federal pension fraud and tax evasion after investigators found they falsified payrolls to underfund retirement accounts. The corporation was hit with three years of probation, a \$200,000 fine and was forced to pay \$193,000 in back taxes, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

A person who answered the phone at Cherry Hill Construction hung up when asked about the snow clearing contract. The sanitation department said Cherry Hill has had a clean record since the 2015 plea.

The third company, Cariati Developers, was paid \$4.3 million for snow removal through an emergency contract. In 2021, then-Comptroller Scott Stringer criticized the sanitation department for awarding Cariati a \$14 million contract for emergency food delivery during the pandemic despite having no relevant experience. Stringer said the contract was terminated after just three weeks due to "poor performance."

Stringer wrote that the city had also failed to notice that Cariati's owner had pleaded guilty to obstructing the IRS shortly before it was awarded the pandemic-era contract.



Snow was removed near Radio City in January.

CHARLY TRIBALLEAU / AFP via Getty Images

In response to the audit, the sanitation department agreed to Google companies when considering them for contracts.

Cariati did not respond to an email inquiry.

The sanitation department said it got clearance from the city Comptroller's office to hire Dragonetti and Cherry Hill. The sanitation department did not respond to an inquiry about Cariati's contract, which was made public on Thursday.

"Given the historic nature of this winter's snowfalls, the Department of Sanitation needed every piece of equipment possible to haul and melt snow," sanitation department spokesperson Vincent Gragnani wrote in a statement.

Lowell Barton, a spokesperson and vice president for Laborers Local 1010, which represents highway and street pavers, said the city's practice of awarding emergency contracts to private companies undercuts union workers.

"We remain deeply concerned with the pattern of contractors that violate the law being rewarded with lucrative city contracts," he wrote in a statement.

"The city cannot argue that there are not other law-abiding contractors that can perform this work, because there are plenty," Barton said. "The mayor and the City Council should address this through meaningful contract procurement reform."

Rolling back NY's climate law, Gov. Hochul says she's living in 'reality'



Mike Groll/Office of Governor Kathy Hochul



By Jon Campbell

Published May 11, 2026

31 comments

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New York Gov. Kathy Hochul is poised to win a significant rollback of New York's landmark 2019 climate law, leaving environmentalists furious with a governor they once considered a major ally in the battle against climate change.

Hochul, a Democrat, spent months urging state lawmakers to scale back New York's nation-leading climate mandates, which required the state to cut greenhouse-gas emissions 40% by 2030 and 85% in 2050.

As she announced a "general agreement" on a \$268 billion state budget last week, the governor said she had gotten much of what she wanted.

"New York has led, and will continue to lead, on clean energy and climate," Hochul said Thursday. "But reality has been harsh. We cannot meet the current timelines without driving energy costs higher. The facts bear that out, and I cannot let that happen."

Hochul's budget deal calls for scaling back the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act in two key ways.

First, the 2030 mandate will be eliminated and replaced with a new goal of a 60% emissions cut by 2040, according to the governor's office. The mandated 85% cut by 2050 will remain in place.

The second rollback is potentially more consequential. Hochul says the state will adopt a new method for calculating the impact of its emissions, assessing their effect over 100 years instead of the current 20 years. The move will instantly put the state far closer to meeting the emissions target without making any meaningful changes.

Environmentalists view the move as a betrayal. It comes less than seven months after Time magazine named Hochul one of the world's most influential climate leaders of 2025.

"We really do see the governor as having leaned in, in a very undemocratic way, to force the Legislature to change what is the law of New York based in science," said Stefan Edel, executive director of NY Renews, a coalition of organizations that successfully pushed for the 2019 law.

The governor's relationship with climate change activists has steadily deteriorated in recent years.

In the early days of Hochul's term, the activists were pleased with her administration's embrace of the 2019 law. That included the long-awaited release of a "scoping plan" that laid out a roadmap for meeting the climate goals.

But the Hochul administration then repeatedly delayed regulations to implement the law, which would have created a "cap and invest" program where polluters would be forced to purchase credits from the state if they exceed a limit on emissions. Those delays prompted a lawsuit from environmentalists. A judge ruled against the state, which is now appealing.

Then last year, the Hochul administration approved a key water permit for a natural-gas pipeline off New York City's coast, which the state had previously blocked.

The governor's push to roll back the 2019 law was the final straw, Edel said.



Environmentalists once saw Hochul as an ally.

Jon Campbell/Gothamist

"I think that what's happened over the last four months is going to permanently impact how people view her," he said. "If she is a climate leader in this moment, it is in the wrong direction."

Climate activists are holding out hope that they can thwart Hochul's plan.

The Legislature would have to approve the plan as part of the state budget. And although legislative leaders have agreed to the broad strokes of the changes, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie railed against the governor for announcing a budget deal when many aspects of the spending plan remain under negotiation.

"Even on the policies that she put out there today, some of these things are still incomplete," said Heastie, a Bronx Democrat. "We don't even have final language on [the climate law]."

Hochul, meanwhile, says environmentalists need to live in reality.

The governor's administration released a memo earlier this year that assessed the potential cost of implementing the cap-and-invest program to meet the 2030 climate mandate, which the state was not on track to achieve. Gasoline would increase by an estimated \$2.23 a gallon and some New York City households would pay an additional \$2,500 a year in utility costs, according to the memo authored by the New York State Energy Research Development Authority.

Hochul, who is running for re-election this year on a platform of making New York more affordable, said that kind of cost increase isn't feasible. Environmental organizations say the cost estimates are outlandish and based on an unrealistic version of the cap-and-invest program.

The governor pushed back against the suggestion that she's no longer a leader on climate change.

"This is what leadership looks like — when you're the one person in the state who looks at the reality of the world as it is, and not looking at it through these rose-colored glasses," she said Thursday. "So I'm demonstrating the hard leadership that this moment requires."

Hochul's administration will be required to finalize regulations by 2028 to put the state on course to meeting the new emission-cutting mandates. Her office says the law will include a range of potential programs the administration can pick from to meet those goals, including a cap-and-invest method.

Business organizations, which include companies that would have been forced to buy credits under the previously proposed cap-and-invest program, say Hochul is making the right decision. That includes the Business Council, the state's largest business lobbying group.

"We strongly support the reforms that have been reported," spokesperson Pat Bailey said.

State lawmakers are due to return to the Capitol on Monday to continue negotiating a final state budget.

Rosemary Misdary contributed reporting.

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News

Department of Environmental Protection Proposes Fiscal Year 2027 Water Rate

May 11, 2026

Proposed Increase of 6% is Lower Than Forecast Thanks to Strong Revenue Collections, Allowing DEP to Offset Increased Operating Costs and Make Critical Infrastructure Investments

New Partnership With New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation to Provide \$25 Million to Strengthen and Expand Key Affordability Programs

If Approved, the Cost of Water in New York City Would Remain Well Below the National Average

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Monday proposed a 6% increase for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) water rates during a presentation to the New York City Water Board. The proposed rate is lower than forecast thanks to the agency's strong revenue collections, allowing DEP to offset increased operating costs and make critical infrastructure investments. In addition, a new partnership with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation will provide \$25 million over several years to support and expand the Board's key affordability programs that help customers manage their water and sewer bills. The proposed rate would keep the cost of water well below the national average. If adopted, the increase would adjust the average single-family customer's bill by \$6 per month.

The proposed rate is subject to review and approval by the New York City Water Board. There will be a public hearing in each of the five boroughs in early June during which residents will have the opportunity to provide their input on the proposed rate to members of the Water Board.

"Strong billing collections, smart long-term planning, and targeted investments continue to put New York City's water and wastewater system on solid financial footing," said **DEP Commissioner Lisa F. Garcia**. "The proposed FY27 water rate keeps bills well below the national average and ensures DEP can keep

building the resilient infrastructure needed to safeguard New Yorkers' drinking water and protect our neighborhoods. The expanded affordability programs and support will provide assistance to customers experiencing financial challenges.”

Revenue

DEP continues to use every tool in the toolbox to drive compassionate and fair collections, and ensure every customer pays their fair share. Every dollar collected is reinvested into the system to provide rate relief and support day-to-day operations. Strong collections have helped lower the projected FY27 rate from the original 7% forecast. In FY26 to date, annual revenue collections have reached \$4.1 billion, or \$166 million above plan as of May 7. The ongoing forecast also includes approximately \$100 million in new, recurring revenue driven by improved collections. Additionally, DEP's newly formed Key Accounts Group brought in over \$10 million in revenue by matching complex customer accounts with more experienced customer service staff members.

DEP continues to focus its collections efforts on unlocking payments and resolving disputes with large debtors.

Capital Investments

Large-scale capital investments funded by the proposed increase include more than \$1 billion in upgrades to upstate reservoirs, \$521 million for ongoing construction of City Water Tunnel No. 3, \$620 million for combined sewer overflow retention tanks for the Gowanus Canal, \$2 billion for bluebelts and green infrastructure, and another \$2 billion to continue the comprehensive drainage system buildout in Southeast Queens.

DEP is targeting to exceed \$3 billion of capital commitments this year as part of a ten-year \$33.5 billion capital program. Recent DEP capital investments include:

- **\$108 million** to upgrade and replace more than 6,700 catch basins to improve sewer performance citywide and enhance stormwater resiliency
- **\$320 million** investment in the Bronx's wastewater treatment infrastructure with new facilities at Hunts Point, improving system efficiency and capacity, as well as neighborhood air quality
- **\$50 million** to design Brooklyn's first Bluebelt and install flood protection measures in Prospect Park
- **\$146 million**, in partnership with other agencies, to alleviate chronic flooding in the Jewel Streets neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Queens
- **\$84 million**, in partnership with other agencies, to complete a drainage project in Staten Island's New Dorp Beach neighborhood

Rental Payment

The City's financial plans include a forecast for rental payment requests from the water and wastewater system pursuant to the terms of the Water Board's lease of city water and wastewater infrastructure. The projections include \$312 million in FY27 from water rate proceeds.

NYC Water Rates are Below the Average of Large U.S. Cities

For more than a decade, New York City's water rates have remained 15-20% below the average of the 30 largest U.S. cities, based on typical single-family residential usage of 70,000 gallons per year. New York customers currently pay about \$1,224 annually, compared to \$1,428 in Boston, \$1,623 in Philadelphia, \$2,373 in Washington, D.C., \$2,476 in Baltimore, and \$3,251 in San Francisco.

	New York City	30 Large City Average	NYC vs. Average
2019	\$945	\$1,119	-15.5%
2020	\$967	\$1,173	-17.6%
2021	\$967	\$1,216	-20.5%
2022	\$994	\$1,262	-21.2%
2023	\$1,041	\$1,309	-20.5%
2024	\$1,088	\$1,372	-20.7%
2025	\$1,181	\$1,451	-18.6%
2026	\$1,224	\$1,543	-20.7%

Source: Amawalk Consulting Group, charges for all cities reflect rate schedules in effect on February 1, 2026.

What the Proposed Rate Would Mean for an Average Customer

If the proposed 6% water rate increase is adopted by the Board, customers would see the following changes to their bills:

- A typical single-family homeowner will see their total annual water and sewer bills increase from \$1,224/year to \$1,297/year for water and sewer bills — an increase of \$6/month (based on an average consumption of 70,000 gallons of water per year).
- A typical multi-family unit with metered billing will see their total annual water and sewer bills increase from \$909/year/unit to \$964/year/unit—an increase of \$5/month (based on an average consumption of 52,000 gallons of water per year).

Keeping Our Water Affordable

DEP's world-class drinking water remains one of New York City's best bargains, and the agency is committed to maintaining a rate and billing structure that keeps costs reasonable for customers facing affordability challenges. In FY26, DEP's affordability programs touch nearly one-third of New York City's 3.38 million households. Today, DEP's two core affordability benefits were expanded for the second time

in FY26, via a vote by the Water Board and thanks to funding provided by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation:

- Home Water Assistance Program: Credit increased by nearly 35%, from \$145 in FY25 to up to \$196 in FY26, to benefit approximately 68,000 low-income households. DEP proposes continuing this benefit in FY27, which would result in a FY27 effective rate increase of 4.5%, below the proposed 6% increase. All eligible accounts will receive the benefit.
- Multifamily Water Assistance Program: The program continues to offer a \$250 credit and expands the recipient pool to 75,000 affordable residential units starting in FY26 and proposed to continue in FY27. This credit would represent an approximate 18–26% savings on the FY27 annual bill.

DEP is also proposing to start two new assistance programs for affordable housing and lower-income customers:

- DEP will use \$1 million in funding from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation to help Housing Development Fund Corporation customers return to good standing after falling behind on their bills.
- DEP will also offer new reduced interest rate payment agreements to lower-income customers prequalified by Department of Finance, and help seniors stay in their homes through low-interest debt deferral.

DEP also recommends the reauthorization of the Multi-family Conservation program, which guarantees a full-year per apartment unit rate for buildings with meters and water efficiency fixtures, and the Leak Forgiveness program, which provides financial relief to customers who experience a spike in their water bill due to a leak. DEP is also proposing to once again freeze the minimum water charge so that customers who use a low volume of water will see their bill remain the same.

Improving Customer Service

DEP is also further revising programs to reduce the financial burden of unexpectedly high bills. These efforts include:

- Expanding eligibility for Leak Forgiveness and related financial relief.
- Providing additional forgiveness for customers who experience leaks during periods of estimated billing.
- Establishing a new minimum benefit for customers with eligible leaks.
- Proactively capping exceptionally high residential bills that are outside a customer's control.
- Increasing outreach to customers who may be eligible for existing assistance programs.

And, DEP is streamlining customer service and compliance by:

- Allowing plumbers to return meter permits electronically and introducing new procedures to reduce warning notices and plumbing violations.
- Automatically renewing cooling-tower discounts for customers who remain current with Department of Buildings and Department of Health registrations.

Rate Hearings

The Water Board is responsible for considering and adopting water and wastewater rates following the proposal and subsequent public hearings. The Water Board will be holding in-person public hearings in

each of the five boroughs on the proposed rates:

- Monday, June 1 at 6:00pm: Queens (JFK Jr. School, 57-12 94th Street)
- Tuesday, June 2 at 11:00am: Manhattan (NYC OMB, 225 Greenwich Street, 8th Floor)
- Tuesday, June 2 at 6:00pm: Brooklyn (Saint Francis College, 179 Livingston Street)
- Wednesday, June 3 at 6:00pm: Staten Island (Bernikow JCC, 1466 Manor Road)
- Thursday, June 4 at 6:00pm: Bronx (Mercy University, 1200 Waters Place)

The public is welcome to submit written testimony or comments to the Water Board by email at nycwaterboard@dep.nyc.gov, or by mail to NYC Water Board, 59-17 Junction Boulevard, 8th Floor, Flushing, NY 11373. Following the public hearings, the Water Board is scheduled to meet on June 10, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. to consider and adopt an FY27 budget and water and wastewater rates; the new rates would become effective on July 1, 2026.

About the NYC Department of Environmental Protection

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing approximately 1 billion gallons of high-quality drinking water each day to nearly 10 million residents, including 8.3 million in New York City. The water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the city, comprising 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,500 miles of sewer lines and 96 pump stations take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. DEP also protects the health and safety of New Yorkers by enforcing the Air and Noise Codes and asbestos rules. For more information, visit [nyc.gov/dep](https://www.nyc.gov/dep), like us on Facebook, or follow us on X and Instagram.

New York City Department of Sanitation
Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment on Proposed Rules

What are we proposing? DSNY is proposing to amend its rule relating to its pilot program requiring containerization for buildings with 10 or more dwelling units.

When and where is the hearing? DSNY will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule. The public hearing will take place via Microsoft Teams at 9:30AM on June 17, 2026, using the following link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/291903956410421?p=k7ftwjrT59RNvAbnyO>

Meeting ID: 291 903 956 410 421

Passcode: gN7M5EW6

Dial in by phone

[+1 646-893-7101](tel:+16468937101), [347417295#](tel:+1347417295) United States, New York City

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 347 417 295#

How do I comment on the proposed rules? Anyone can comment on the proposed rules by:

- **Website.** You can submit comments to the DSNY through the NYC rules Web site at <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us>.
- **Email.** You can email written comments to nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov.
- **Mail.** You can mail written comments to DSNY, 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013.
- **By speaking at the hearing.** Anyone who wants to comment on the proposed rule at the public hearing must sign up to speak. You can sign up before the hearing by emailing mliguori@dsny.nyc.gov by June 16, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. While you will be given the opportunity during the hearing to indicate that you would like to provide comments, we prefer that you sign up in advance. You can speak for up to three minutes. Please note that the hearing is for accepting oral testimony only and is not held in a “Question and Answer” format.

Is there a deadline to submit comments? The deadline for submitting written comments is June 17, 2026.

What if I need assistance to participate in the hearing? You must tell the Bureau of Legal Affairs if you need a reasonable accommodation of a disability at the hearing. You must tell us if you need a sign language interpreter. You can tell us by email at eluna@dsny.nyc.gov or by mail at the address given above. You may also tell us or by telephone at 646-885-4996. Advance notice is requested to allow sufficient time to arrange the accommodation. Please tell us by June 10, 2026.

Can I review the comments made on the proposed rules? You can review the comments made online on the proposed rules by going to the website at <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us/>. A few days after the hearing, copies of all comments submitted online, copies of all written comments, and a summary of oral comments concerning the proposed rule will be available to the public at 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013 and on DSNY's website.

What authorizes DSNY to make this rule? Sections 753 and 1043(a) of the New York City Charter and sections 16-114.2 and 16-120 of the New York City Administrative Code authorize DSNY to make this proposed rule. This proposed rule was not included in DSNY's regulatory agenda for this Fiscal Year because it was not contemplated when DSNY published the agenda.

Where can I find the DSNY's rules? DSNY's rules are in Title 16 of the Rules of the City of New York.

What laws govern the rulemaking process? DSNY must meet the requirements of Section 1043 of the New York City Charter when creating or changing rules. This notice is made according to the requirements of Section 1043.

Statement of Basis and Purpose

This proposed rule would amend and expand the Department of Sanitation's ("Department") stationary on-street container pilot program to include an additional area and to extend

containerization requirements for both large residential buildings that contain 31 or more residential dwelling units, and medium residential buildings that contain 10 to 30 residential dwelling units. The existing rule designated Manhattan Community District 9 as an area where buildings with 10 or more dwelling units were required to containerize all trash on a pilot basis. The City Council passed Local Law No. 180 of 2025, which authorizes the Department to expand this program and gives the Department additional authority to promulgate rules related to containerization and the use of stationary on-street containers.

This proposed rule would extend the pilot program in Manhattan Community District 9 to October 15, 2027, and set an implementation date of October 15, 2026, for all medium residential buildings (buildings with 10-30 dwelling units) in the District that are not utilizing stationary on-street containers to either opt-in to use stationary on-street containers or begin using Department-approved rigid containers with tight-fitting lids purchased from an authorized vendor. Medium residential buildings in such District that have not opted in previously for stationary on-street containers would be able to do so during the application period from July 1 to July 31, 2026.

The proposed rule would also expand the pilot program to include Brooklyn Community District 2. Large and medium residential buildings in Brooklyn Community District 2 would be able to opt-in to using stationary on-street containers from July 1 to July 31, 2026, and would be required to either begin using on-street containers or rigid containers with tight-fitting lids by October 15, 2026. The pilot program in Brooklyn Community District 2 would last until October 15, 2027. Extending the length of the pilot program in Manhattan Community District 9 and expanding the pilot program to Brooklyn Community District 2 will allow the Department to collect more data as it considers making the program permanent and expanding the program citywide.

This proposed rule would add definitions of the terms “large residential building,” “medium residential building,” and “residential building” as set forth in Local Law 180 of 2025. The previous rule used the terms “31 or more dwelling units” and “10 to 30 dwelling units.” Such buildings would now be referred to as “large residential buildings” and “medium residential buildings,” respectively.

This proposed rule would also set forth maintenance and cleanliness requirements for buildings in the pilot program that are utilizing stationary on-street containers. The Department would continue to require that such stationary on-street containers be kept clean, well-maintained, and clear of trash, debris, graffiti, vermin, food scraps, and unsanitary conditions. This rule would also require that all buildings utilizing stationary on-street containers remove snow and ice from the lids of such containers, and keep the following areas clear of all trash, debris, snow and ice conditions:

- the area between individual stationary on-street containers, if a building has multiple containers;
- the area between any stationary on-street container and any adjacent bollard or street marking applied by the Department; and
- the area of the roadway extending 1 1/2 feet from such stationary on-street container from all sides.

Additionally, any residential building utilizing stationary on-street containers in the pilot program would be required to distribute to their employees training materials provided by the Department relating to how to set out such refuse in such container, and to provide any such employees who are responsible for setting out such refuse in such container any personal protective equipment reasonably necessary for such purpose, including, but not limited to protective gloves.

This proposed rule would also make it a violation to intentionally damage, alter or vandalize any stationary on-street container by any person, including, but not limited to, the building owner or a person employed by such building.

Local Law 180 of 2025 allows the Department to fix penalties for any violation of any rules promulgated pursuant to section 16-114.2 of the New York City Administrative Code. Such penalty would be set at \$100 for a first violation, \$200 for a second violation committed within a 12-month period, and \$300 for a third and subsequent violation committed within a 12-month period.

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

Asterisks (***) indicate unamended text.

“Shall” and “must” denote mandatory requirements and may be used interchangeably in the rules of this department, unless otherwise specified or unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

§ 1. Section 1-02.6 of Title 16 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 1-02.6 [Stationary On-Street Container Pilot Program] Containerization Requirements for Residential Buildings with 10 or More Dwelling Units.

a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Application period. The term “application period” means the period of time in which the Department will accept applications from buildings containing 10 to 30 dwelling units to opt in to the use of stationary on-street containers in a pilot area and during which buildings containing more than 30 dwelling units must provide certain information to the Department.

End Date. The term “end date” means the date by which all buildings in [the] a pilot area no longer have to comply with applicable containerization requirements as described in this section and by which the Department will remove any stationary on-street containers placed pursuant to this rule from the public right of way, to the extent provided by applicable law.

Implementation date. The term “implementation date” means the date by which all buildings in [the] a pilot area must comply with applicable containerization requirements as provided in this section.

Large residential building. The term “large residential building” means a residential building containing no less than 31 dwelling units, other than such a building for which the department collects refuse from a loading dock or other location other than a street or curb.

Medium residential building. The term “medium residential building” means a residential building containing no less than 10 and no more than 30 dwelling units, other than such a building for which the department collects refuse from a loading dock or other location other than a street or curb.

Residential building. The term “residential building” means a building containing not less than 1 dwelling unit that receives collection and disposal service from the Department.

Stationary on-street container. The term “stationary on-street container” means a container for the storage and collection of residential waste that the Department procures from

an authorized vendor and that the Department, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, places in the public right of way.

b. The following chart lists the pilot areas, and the application [periods] period, implementation [dates] date, and end [dates] date for each such pilot [areas] area.

Pilot Area(s)	Application Period(s)	Implementation Date	End Date
Manhattan Community District 9	[December 15, 2024 to February 1, 2025] <u>July 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026</u>	[June 1, 2025] <u>October 15, 2026</u>	[May 31, 2026] <u>October 15, 2027</u>
<u>Brooklyn Community District 2</u>	<u>July 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026</u>	<u>October 15, 2026</u>	<u>October 15, 2027</u>

c. [Residential buildings containing 31 or more dwelling units] Containerization requirements for large residential buildings.

1. Beginning on the implementation date and continuing until the end date, as specified in subdivision b of this section, all large residential buildings [containing 31 or more dwelling units] located in [the] a pilot area must utilize stationary on-street containers for the disposal of refuse for collection by the Department.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this subdivision, a large residential building [containing 31 or more dwelling units] located in a [the] pilot area that receives Department collection, or is applying to receive Department collection, is not required to utilize a stationary on-street container if:

(a) such building receives off-street collection, including collection from inside a loading dock; or

(b)] the Department determines that such building's circumstances warrant a different containerization method or alternative set-out method. The Department will make such determination based on its own independent analysis and inform such building of the method that such building must utilize no later than two months prior to the implementation date specified in subdivision b of this section. Any such method must be in place by the implementation date specified in subdivision b of this section.

3. During the application period, all large residential buildings [containing 31 or more dwelling units] located in a pilot area must provide building ownership and applicable contact information using a form available on the Department's website.

d. [Residential buildings containing 10 to 30 dwelling units] Containerization requirements for medium residential buildings.

1. Beginning on the implementation date and continuing until the end date, as specified in subdivision b of this section, any medium residential building [containing 10 to 30 dwelling units] located in [the] a pilot area must, in accordance with 16 RCNY § 1-02.1(a), set out its refuse for collection by the Department at the curb in rigid receptacles with tight-fitting lids [not exceeding fifty-five gallons in size] that are purchased from an authorized vendor, unless such building is directed by the Department to set out its refuse using an alternative method pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subdivision or approved by the Department to use a stationary on-street container pursuant to paragraph 3 of this subdivision.

2. If the Department determines that the circumstances of a medium residential building [containing 10 to 30 dwelling units] located in [the] a pilot area that receives Department collection, or is applying to receive Department collection, warrant a different containerization method or an alternative set-out method, such building must use such method. The Department will make such determination based on its own independent analysis and will inform such building of the method that such building must utilize no later than two months prior to the implementation date specified in subdivision b of this section. Any such method must be in place by the implementation date specified in subdivision b of this section.

3. Opt-in requirements for medium residential buildings [containing 10 to 30 dwelling units]. An owner of a medium residential building [containing 10 to 30 dwelling units] located in [the] a pilot area or such owner's agent may apply to the Department during the application period, in accordance with the requirements in paragraph 4 of this subdivision, to place such building's refuse in a stationary on-street container for collection by the Department.

(a) The Department will review any such request for the use of stationary on-street containers submitted during the application period.

(b) Applicants denied the use of stationary on-street containers will be notified in writing [no later than two months] prior to the implementation date specified in subdivision b of this section. [Such] Beginning on the implementation date, such buildings must set out their refuse at the curb for collection by the Department in rigid receptacles with tight-fitting lids [not exceeding fifty-five gallons in size] in accordance with paragraph 1 of this subdivision unless the Department determines that the building should use an alternative containerization or set out method pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subdivision.

(c) Applicants approved by the Department to utilize stationary on-street containers will be notified in writing [no later than two months] prior to the implementation date specified in

subdivision b of this section and must set out refuse in such containers beginning on such implementation date and continuing until the end date specified in subdivision b of this section.

4. Application requirements. The owner of a medium residential building [containing 10 to 30 dwelling units] in a pilot area, or such owner's agent, that seeks to opt in to setting out such building's refuse for collection by the Department in a stationary on-street container pursuant to paragraph 3 of this subdivision must submit an application to the Department in a form and format determined by the Department during the application period. Such application must include:

- (a) the name and contact information of the owner of the building, and such owner's agent, if applicable;
- (b) the number of dwelling units in the building;
- (c) an attestation that the owner of the building, or such owner's agent, agrees to place all refuse in the stationary on-street containers if the application is approved; and
- (d) any additional information deemed necessary by the Department.

e. Change in ownership for residential buildings setting out refuse in stationary on-street containers. When a building setting out refuse in a stationary on-street container pursuant to subdivision c or d of this section has a change in ownership, the new owner, or such owner's agent, must notify the Department immediately upon such change in ownership. Such notice to the Department must include the name and contact information of the new building ownership and may be submitted using a form available on the Department's website.

f. The requirements of paragraph 1 of subdivision c and [subparagraph (a) of] paragraph 1 of subdivision d do not apply to a building if the stationary on-street container assigned to such building has been temporarily removed at the direction of the Department or the Department of Transportation or has otherwise become inaccessible through no fault of the building's owner or agents. In the case of temporary removal or inaccessibility, such building must set out its refuse in a manner directed by the Department.

g. Maintenance requirements for stationary on-street containers. Each residential building disposing of refuse in a stationary on-street container pursuant to subdivision c or d of this section must ensure that such stationary on-street container, including the lid of such container, is kept clean, well-maintained, and clear of trash, debris, graffiti, vermin, food scraps, snow, ice, and unsanitary conditions. Such residential building must also [ensure that the area of the

roadway extending 1 1/2 feet beyond each side of such stationary on-street container is kept clean.] keep the following areas clear of all trash, debris, snow and ice conditions:

1. The entire area between any 2 stationary on-street containers, if the building has multiple containers;

2. The entire area between any stationary on-street container and any adjacent bollard or street marking applied by the Department; and

3. The area of the roadway extending 1 1/2 feet beyond such stationary on-street container from all sides.

h. Any large residential building or medium residential building that sets out residential refuse in a stationary on-street container must:

1. distribute to the employees of such building training materials provided by the Department relating to how to set out such refuse in such container; and

2. provide any such employees who are responsible for setting out such refuse in such container protective gloves. Such building may also provide any other personal protective equipment the building determines is reasonably necessary for such purpose.

i. No person shall intentionally damage, alter, or vandalize any stationary on-street container, including, but not limited to, the building owner or a person employed by such building.

j. Failure to comply with any of these rules shall be a violation of section 16-114.2 of the New York City Administrative Code. Such penalty shall be set at \$100 for a first violation, \$200 for a second violation committed within a 12-month period, and \$300 for a third and subsequent violation committed within a 12-month period.

**NEW YORK CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE OF OPERATIONS
253 BROADWAY, 10th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007
212-788-1400**

**CERTIFICATION / ANALYSIS
PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 1043(d)**

RULE TITLE: Amendment of Rules Relating to Containerization Requirements

REFERENCE NUMBER: DSNY-58

RULEMAKING AGENCY: Department of Sanitation

I certify that this office has analyzed the proposed rule referenced above as required by Section 1043(d) of the New York City Charter, and that the proposed rule referenced above:

- (i) Is understandable and written in plain language for the discrete regulated community or communities;
- (ii) Minimizes compliance costs for the discrete regulated community or communities consistent with achieving the stated purpose of the rule; and
- (iii) Does not provide a cure period because a violation poses significant risk to public health/safety.

/s/ Francisco X. Navarro
Mayor's Office of Operations

May 12, 2026
Date

NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF LEGAL COUNSEL
100 CHURCH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10007
212-356-4028

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
CHARTER §1043(d)

RULE TITLE: Amendment of Rules Relating to Containerization Requirements

REFERENCE NUMBER: 2026 RG 033

RULEMAKING AGENCY: Department of Sanitation

I certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed rule as required by section 1043(d) of the New York City Charter, and that the above-referenced proposed rule:

- (i) is drafted so as to accomplish the purpose of the authorizing provisions of law;
- (ii) is not in conflict with other applicable rules;
- (iii) to the extent practicable and appropriate, is narrowly drawn to achieve its stated purpose; and
- (iv) to the extent practicable and appropriate, contains a statement of basis and purpose that provides a clear explanation of the rule and the requirements imposed by the rule.

/s/ STEVEN GOULDEN
Senior Counsel

Date: May 12, 2026

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