

**OPENING STATEMENT OF  
MADELYNN LIGUORI  
SENIOR COUNSEL, BUREAU OF LEGAL AFFAIRS  
NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON DSNY'S PROPOSED RULE RELATING TO THE TIME FOR PLACING  
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OUT AT THE CURB FOR COLLECTION**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022  
9:30 AM to 11:00 AM  
(REMOTE HEARING)**

Good morning and welcome. My name is Madelynn Liguori. I am Senior Counsel in the Bureau of Legal Affairs for the Department of Sanitation ("DSNY"). Thank you for attending this public hearing this morning.

DSNY is conducting this remote hearing in accordance with the requirements of the City Administrative Procedure Act. The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments from the public on DSNY's proposed rule relating to the time for placing solid waste and recyclable materials out at the curb for collection.

This rule was published by DSNY in the City Record on October 17, 2022, with a scheduled hearing date of today, November 18, 2022. Additionally, DSNY emailed copies of the rule to all New York City local elected officials, the City's fifty-nine community boards, media and interested parties, and published the proposed rule on its website.

New York City became noticeably dirtier during the pandemic. While some of this was due to behavioral change and budget cuts, it also highlighted a need to update the Department's rules associated with waste setout for the first time in decades.

Department rules currently allow the placement of waste at the curb in plastic bags beginning at 4:00 p.m. for residential properties and one hour before closing for commercial properties – creating unsanitary conditions, attracting rats and other pests and impeding pedestrian flow. This has a substantial impact on quality of life in all five boroughs of New York City and directly counteracts the City's efforts to create cleaner, more vibrant neighborhoods. The current 4pm setout time for residential waste is the earliest of any major American city, and leaves trash on the street for 14+ hours in a given 24-hour period.

A 2020 audit on NYC cleanliness by the Office of the New York State Comptroller found that 70 percent of surveyed streets and 59 percent of sidewalks were dirty, based on the City's own street cleanliness scorecard criteria. In addition, rodent complaints have increased from pre-pandemic lows to record highs in 2022. Trash bags placed out on the street for 14+ hours at a time contribute to these and other issues that affect public health, public safety, and quality of life for all New Yorkers.

Section 16-120 of the New York City Administrative Code requires that all solid waste and recyclables be kept inside a building or at the rear of a building prior to collection time by the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) or a private carter.

### *Residential Waste:*

New York City currently has the earliest setout time for residential waste of any major city in the United States and is one of only a few that does not require trash to be set out in receptacles. Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco are among the vast majority of cities that require waste be set out for collection in lidded receptacles. Philadelphia is the only major U.S. city that allows waste be set out for collection in bags, but it requires that waste be setout as late as 8:00 p.m. in the central business district and 7:00 p.m. in other parts of the city.

This rule will amend the applicable set-out times, for solid waste and recyclables for DSNY collection from the current 4:00 p.m. time to a later time based on how the materials are placed out at the curb for collection. Additionally, the rule also creates an opt-in Multiunit Building Collection Program for multiple dwellings that contain nine or more dwelling units.

For those using receptacles with tight-fitting lids, such receptacles containing solid waste and recyclables may be placed at the curb for collection by DSNY no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day before their scheduled collection. Those using bags may place out their materials at the curb for collection by DSNY no earlier than 8:00 p.m. on the day before their scheduled collection. In both cases, solid waste and recyclables must be set out before midnight to allow for Department collection beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.

The rule also restates the requirements in Section 16-120(c) of the New York City Administrative Code regarding the removal of receptacles from the curb following collection. Such provision requires that all receptacles shall be removed before 9:00 p.m. on the day of collection, or if such collection occurs after 4:00 p.m., then before 9:00 a.m. on the day following collection. This is included for the purposes of clarity and to consolidate all requirements related to the setout and removal of receptacles in one rule.

DSNY also proposes to create an enrollment-based Multiunit Building Collection Program for multiple dwellings that contain nine or more dwelling units. This program will allow approved buildings with on-site maintenance or janitorial staff, to opt to set out waste for collection between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection rather than after 6:00 p.m. (if in a container with a lid) or 8:00 p.m. the night before collection. This will provide flexibility to building staff in terms of changes to scheduled shifts necessary to implement this rule change.

To enroll in this program, an owner, or his or her agent, of a multiunit building would be required to submit an application to DSNY during the annual program application period (January 2 – January 31). DSNY will review these applications and either approve or deny them in writing by the following March 1, and enrollment will be effective April 1. Buildings will have their enrollment automatically renewed each year unless they opt out during the annual program application period. DSNY may terminate a building's enrollment in this program at any time with 30 days notice if the building's participation in the program constitutes a public nuisance or if the building fails to comply with the requirements.

### *Commercial Waste*

Currently, DSNY rules allow commercial establishments to set out trash and recycling one hour before closing or two hours before a scheduled collection. Because these rules are difficult to enforce, there is a large amount of non-compliance. As a result, there is a significant amount of commercial trash and recycling bags at the curb during daytime hours.

The proposed rule also amends the applicable set-out times for solid waste and receptacles that are collected by private carters based on how materials are placed out at the curb for collection.

Under the proposed rules, waste may be placed out for collection within one hour of closing, provided that the scheduled collection occurs before the establishment next reopens for business and only if such materials are placed out for collection in receptacles with tight-fitting lids.

Those establishments that place materials out for collection in bags, regardless of the time they close, may place such materials at the curb no earlier than 8:00 p.m.

The proposed rules would not affect containerized or off-street collection, including collection that takes place in a loading dock.

These proposed rules establish a uniform 8:00 p.m. time that bags can be set out by either residential or commercial properties. These changes will improve quality of life for New Yorkers, clarify enforcement practices, and reduce food sources for rats on our streets.

DSNY's authority for this rule is found in sections 753 and 1043(a) of the New York City Charter and section 16-120 of the New York City Administrative Code.

A court reporter is present today and will record the hearing. You may present an oral statement or submit written comments concerning the proposed rule. We have been accepting written comments on the proposed rule since it was published. Today is the deadline for submission of written comments. Such comments may be emailed directly to [nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov) by 5PM today.

DSNY will make available a copy of all written comments received through today, together with the hearing transcript, for viewing on its website within the next few weeks.

DSNY will carefully consider all the comments it receives today at the hearing and all written comments it receives.

I will begin calling those of you who wish to speak this morning in the order in which you have signed up to testify. While the notice requested that persons wishing to testify sign up in advance of this hearing, anyone wishing to testify at this time may do so by indicating in the chat area that you wish to testify by indicating your name and affiliation, if any. When you speak, please state your name and affiliation, and speak slowly and clearly so that the court reporter can understand and accurately record your statement. [We also ask that you limit your statement to five minutes.]

**FINAL LIST OF INDIVIDUALS THAT PROVIDED TESTIMONY**  
**AT THE 11-18-22 HEARING**

1. Edward Del Senno
2. Eric Porco, Enrann Property Management Inc.
3. Christopher Alcazar, Community Access
4. Susi Grama
5. Matthew O'Malley, Atlantic Avenue Business District
6. Thomas Toscano, Mr. T Carting, National Waste and Recycling Association
7. Melissa Shoupe
8. Jason Mazur
9. Nicole Russo, LSSNY
10. Sna Sacks, Manhattan SWAB
11. Andrew Spano
12. Deborah Hersch Johns
13. Edward Del Senno

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

When I was younger I needed to obtain a food handlers license for my job.

At the time, I was required to go to the health department and watch a film. The film showed garbage including food waste breaking down with bacteria multiplying exponentially while leaving excrement in its wake. The decomposition/bacteria excrement odor is a clarion call to vermin(rodentia) and insects. Garbage/trash containing any organic/food matter will begin to break down and send out a massive "soups on"/"dinner ready"/"come and get it" signal to bugs, mice and rats both near and far. (Composting can work in single family homes and in the city if there are community drop-off sites, but not inside or outside of central city residential or commercial buildings as many people are not neat and it will draw bugs/rodents to the area by their inattention to maintenance and unsanitary conditions).

SO, when this proposed rule change was advanced, I wondered if the people writing the rule knew what would happen if it was actually implemented.

If you make this rule law (and if we were in a position physically and financially to follow it) - you would force us to keep the smelly garbage inside our buildings with the children and seniors for a longer period of time. In many cases it would be stored in the basement which is conveniently adjacent to the rat tunnels whose veins course throughout the city. This will give additional time to nocturnal rodents to snoop around in the dark basements for the nourishment that we provide to them so they can multiply. Or, we could store it in front of our buildings in wooden, plastic or metal containers. Then the rats would not be at the curb or in the basement, they would be right at the building facade near the front door. People walking by love to help by adding to the piles of trash including sugary drinks, dog poo and fast food leftovers placed in the open right on the lids. Not at the curb, but leaning on the building just a few feet from where you are proposing to keep the sidewalk clean.

Unfortunately, your well-intentioned proposal is similar to moving the deck chairs on the Titanic. But in NYC parlance, it's almost exactly the same as Three-Card Monte or a shell game. Hey, rats - can you find the garbage? Is it by the curb? How about the basement? No, it's over here - in front of the building. You are almost literally sweeping the problem under the rug. Less rats by the curb, more rats by the kids, especially the less advantaged and lower income.

Possible Solutions -

Be the "no garbage mayor". No other city official has ever succeeded in taming the trash. Do it because you can. You self-cured diabetes. You reinvented ice cream (it's really good :). You fought injustice from the inside and won many victories. Beat garbage because you can -

Here's how:

After police/fire/safety, prioritize garbage near the top of the budget. I was sent on a field trip as a kid to the Staten Island Zoo. I think that kids (especially less-advantaged kids with limited building workers) would much prefer that the city would have collected all the smelly trash every day then look at animals in cages for a few hours. Cancel every unnecessary item in every departmental budget. Stop handing out money like candy to win the favor of a lucky few. How about helping millions over decades with permanent infrastructure instead of squandering it on temporary band-aids? Who built New York? Long-term thinkers who cared more about the many in the future than the few today. They built Central Park for people they would never meet. Who is helping the future generations? Put in the infrastructure necessary to remove all the garbage from Manhattan and the urban centers of the boroughs each day. Yes, every commercial and multi-family residential property should have the garbage picked up each day. Our NYC budget is approximately 100 BILLION DOLLARS. The only reason that we have any garbage on the city streets at all is a lack of imagination. You can always find something that

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seems worthwhile to fix, but the trick is to do the most for the most with what you have available.

Additionally, you may not think of it this way, but, you are using each building in NYC as a waste storage and transfer station - and charging us a monthly fee to boot! You are making us store and create unsanitary and unsafe situations for only one reason: You have not made the removal of trash from the city EVERY DAY a #1 priority.

Until you do, the city and its buildings will be unsanitary and the department is a failure. Not the people who work there who are just following instructions - but the leaders, yes. If the city is unsanitary and it is - then the Department of Sanitation cannot be considered successful. This has been the case prior to your administration and prior to the tenure of current Sanitation leaders as well.

Inertia and momentum in an adverse direction can be hard to change. But what good thing has come easy to you or this City? The job of city government is to be facilitators. To set the table so the people can live and work. As an entrepreneur, you already inherently know this. It's not about imposing rules on the citizens, it's about setting the citizens free to create and prosper by making the city safe and clean without fanfare, in a simple programmatic way.

Specifics-

Set up a multi-prong approach with many discrete solutions.

1) Are the Sandhogs done with the water tunnel? Let's start a garbage tunnel. Get them in there to begin to create the infrastructure to add a system similar to the one Roosevelt Island has (but updated). Do something that future generations will be proud of. Just like fios, buildings can connect to it as it reaches their block over time. Every time a building connects, there will be no need to place garbage outside at all.

2) Supplement the pneumatic garbage tubes with garbage trains.

Move some of the trash on currently unused, newly created or existing subway lines that can haul trash to transfer stations. Buy small buildings like the air shaft buildings dotted throughout the city so trucks can pull in - change batteries and dump their trash into a hopper for the next garbage subway train.

3) Lease or buy a landfill site which can contain a large energy co-generation (garbage to power) plant and solar farm. Create an RFP that will only be responded to by municipalities that want us there - no nimbys. It can use the trash to generate electricity and the solar farm can create and store energy in a battery farm that can power electric garbage trucks that go there and back with no pollution. Maybe Elon Musk can help regarding the electric garbage trucks/solar panels/storage batteries and even the tunneling. Be bold! He's busy, but if you think he won't take a call from the mayor of New York, guess again.

4) Add more trucks to the "Avenues". We need to pick up trash from the corner waste baskets on a constant and consistent basis. We WANT people to throw their trash in there - otherwise they just throw it on the street. This is not a job that is ever finished. It's an ongoing and never-ending task. Right now it's an embarrassment that they get full and overflow. The reason people sometimes throw their own trash in there is that they are forced to store rotting garbage in their home, business or basement like animals (actually animals don't usually live with their garbage, perhaps with the exception of pigs). We need to pick up all the corner garbage all the time. The city looks highly dysfunctional to residents and visitors alike. You mean in 2022 we can't keep the trash cans on the corners clean? Yeah, actually we can if we apply focus to the issue.

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5) Consider supplementing DSNY with outside vendors. Pay everyone in DSNY what they were promised and keep the existing employees, but there may be a need for outside help as well to achieve all the goals related to moving the city to the next level in this area. Remember, after the garbage is picked up each day from Manhattan and other urban city centers, there will be much less garbage for anyone to pick up each day. Less garbage in the buildings and less garbage in front of the buildings. So, we'll need some flexibility in terms of scaling up and scaling down depending on the garbage flow. I don't think we can hire additional permanent city employees for this because we will need significant scheduling flexibility. This flexibility is easier to achieve through a vendor process which identifies this requirement up front than it would be to do this through the maze of civil service rules.

6) Buy, lease or convert an existing motor-home type vehicle for use as a mobile Mayoral daily command center. You may already have such a vehicle.

This command center should allow you to conduct all your regular Mayoral business whilst visiting every block in the city. This may not be an every day exercise for you based on your schedule but we are in a mobile-first society, so accomplishing work on the fly is a part of the new reality. You should be accompanied (in their own trucks) by a recycling and trash team (including a rotation of Sanitation Department leadership). It is likely that by their attendance and help, the DSNY will gain a tremendous amount of information from this daily activity which they can convert into actionable ideas to improve cleanliness and service. Each block that you go to could have all the street/sidewalk trash picked up by your team as you visit with some of the merchants and residents. You may want to personally let them know that you and your team are doing some cleaning today on their block and thank them for anything that they can do to help in the future. As you move through the city block by block, I believe that you and your constituents will derive immense pleasure from the immediate results of your/their efforts. Put out a call for a rotational part-time volunteer brigade to accompany you to help clean up the blocks that you visit. You may be surprised how many people want to help keep the city clean. My guess is that your team will have more volunteers than you can use each day. Especially in underserved and lower-income areas, this will show that you care and may inspire residents and businesses to continue the clean-up effort even after you're gone. Leadership is needed in this area and is best provided by you. What makes people feel good about themselves and their city is real, tangible, highly visible PROGRESS. Getting something done, not talking about it, doing it.

Do NOT include anyone on the team whose job it is to hand out "violations".

This is a goodwill and inspirational accomplishment tour. If you knew how the people felt about a department that does not meet basic standards sending enforcement officers (whose salaries are paid for by the citizens) out to charge citizens for minor rule infractions as the judge, jury and executioner, while they leave the cities cleanliness in its current state, you'd find a way to stop it now.

7) Part of your new proposed rules include the use of containers. Containers like garbage cans roll around the streets, are stolen, look horrible and add significantly to noise complaints. They wind up making the street look like something from the 1920's. People chain them to the railings and they become dirty almost immediately. They also mean that everyone (especially buildings with little or no staff) need to make additional trips to try and find the containers and lock them up. But they don't know when to go back to the building because they can't be sure when the garbage will have been picked up. Containers and sheds like those in front of most smaller midblock buildings are a harborage for rodents. Please don't ask for more containers. They are almost immediately food encrusted and dirtied by passersby and residents alike despite efforts to maintain them. Please don't ask us to store trash in or around our homes and businesses. Take away the trash every day so citizens can live their lives in dignity.

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Please don't make this more complicated than it needs to be. Until the new infrastructure is ready and instead of the new proposed list of rules and regulations, how would this be?

- 1) We place our garbage in black bags by the curb every day from daybreak until 9AM.
- 2) You pick up the garbage every day by 3PM

No garbage in the buildings, no garbage out at night when nocturnal creatures roam, no dirty containers, smooth traffic flow due to limited amounts of trash each day as it is spread out over the week, less noise-peace.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Rich



Friday, November 18, 2022

**Comments of the NYC Hospitality Alliance (The Alliance) on the Department of Sanitation's (DSNY) proposal to amend its rule governing the time for placing solid waste and recyclable materials out at the curb for collection.**

The NYC Hospitality Alliance is a not-for-profit association representing thousands of restaurants, bars, and nightclubs, across the five boroughs. We submit these comments on DSNY's proposal to require businesses to place their trash on the curb no earlier than 8:00 pm, so long as collection occurs later the same day or the day immediately following; or place materials in a receptacle with a tight-fitting lid no earlier than one hour before closing, so long as the scheduled collection occurs before the establishment next opens for business.

The Alliance supports DSNY's efforts to mitigate the city's rat population and improve quality of life for all by reducing the time garbage bags sit on our streets before pickup. Although we support various efforts to achieve these goals, the City should focus on the most effective means of achieving them - citywide street containerization of garbage. That would keep our streets cleaner for pedestrians, residents, businesses, and those dining alfresco at restaurants, without presenting the challenges to certain businesses that we describe below.

Because most of The Alliance's members operate their businesses during the evening, they already place their trash on the curb after 8:00 pm and should not be affected by the proposed rule. However, there are many foodservice establishments that do not provide dinner service or operate past 8:00 pm, including limited-service restaurants, bagel shops, coffee shops, other lunch-focused businesses, and bakeries. While the proposed rule would allow these businesses to leave garbage in a tight-fitting receptacle an hour before closing, it would create unnecessary hardship when considering storage of the receptacles when not in use. These businesses have extremely limited indoor storage space, and most of them do not have access to a back or side alleyway. Storing hard rigid containers inside until an hour before closing can be impossible and/or create operational challenges for staff having to carry large containers through small corridors, up cellar doors, and the like.

The solution to this problem is to allow businesses that use these receptacles to keep them curbside at all times. Alternatively, these businesses should be given the option to place their garbage on the sidewalk an hour before their posted closing time, without a container. These morning and afternoon businesses make some of the most iconic and quintessentially "New York City" meals. They should not be saddled with a requirement that is impossible to achieve.

DSNY must also provide flexibility to businesses generally on where these outdoor containers may be located based on the location of the business and design of the streetscape. For example, a restaurant with a narrow storefront located midblock with a bus stop out front may need to place receptacles elsewhere in the area where their carter would be required to pick them up from.

Some commercial carters do not always pick up garbage on time or provide everyday service. This must not result in restaurants and similar businesses being fined for non-compliance. Relatedly, consistent with the stated priorities of Mayor Adams, it is essential that any first-time violation provides for a \$0 fine with a warning and/or a cure period to correct the violation.

We also ask that DSNY clarify whether they will be providing any receptacles as our community is concerned about the additional cost that containerization and replacement due to theft or damage will have on their businesses. We ask that DSNY share more information on the commercial availability of such receptacles, given the recent supply chain issues caused by the pandemic, and likely exacerbated by thousands of businesses being required to obtain receptacles all at the same time.

Finally, we suggest incorporating/delaying the effective date of these rules until the Zone Carting system takes effect, as it may be easier to coordinate containerization of trash for multiple commercial businesses in close proximity once there is a single responsible carter, which should be considered as part of this proposed Rule. For example, perhaps a single container may be shared by multiple businesses in close proximity.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments. You may contact our executive director Andrew Rigie with questions and comments at [arigie@thenycalliance.org](mailto:arigie@thenycalliance.org).

Respectfully,

Andrew Rigie  
Executive Director  
NYC Hospitality Alliance



**Testimony to NYC Department of Sanitation  
Proposed Rule for Time for Placing Solid Waste & Recyclable Materials  
Out at the Curb for Collection**

November 18, 2022

Dear Commissioner Tisch,

My name is Frank Lang and I am the Deputy Executive Director for Housing at St. Nicks Alliance, a 47 year old Community Development Corporation (CDC) in Brooklyn. St. Nicks Alliance advocates for the rights of low income tenants and has developed more than 3,000 units of affordable housing. We currently manage more than 1,400 units of low income housing in Brooklyn. We also assist more than 17,000 individuals annually with housing, education, health and employment training services working closely with a host of City agencies.

We are deeply concerned about the proposed changes which restrict when trash can be placed curbside for pick up. While we understand the challenges of dealing with vermin infestations in our communities. However, the proposed time restrictions will create a tremendous financial burden on the low income rental properties we manage. We strongly urge you to consider the proposal only with the inclusion of significant support for the low income properties which do not have the capacity to absorb the financial burden.

Though St. Nicks Alliance manages 1,400 apartments, few of the properties under management contain more than 20 residential units. In fact 76 of the properties have less than 9 units each with an average of 5.1 units per building. These small buildings are scattered throughout Northern and Central Brooklyn with rents for most tenants below \$900 per month. Currently the building maintenance staff must arrive by 8:00 AM to clean the sidewalk of trash and avoid incurring violations. These properties are already strained financially covering their operations with modest rents and cannot absorb additional staffing require to bring out trash bins after 8:00 PM. It is not possible for these properties to absorb the added costs without additional support.

We urge you to provide trash disposal allowances for those who develop, manage, and reside in residences intended to provide affordable homes to New Yorkers in need. This can be done by providing funding to CDCs to hire additional staff. Perhaps some funding can come from charging a fee for restaurants having outdoor dining & use the money from the fees to support CDCs in hiring additional staff. Another option is providing CDCs rat-proof bins which can be taken to the curb at 4:00 PM which will not require additional staffing hours.

St. Nicks Alliance has been a close partner with the City of New York in creating housing and opportunities for our most needy residents. We want to work with you to find solutions to the current challenge of pest and waste removal. However we do not believe the costs should be borne by those very low income residents most impacted by the pests. These same residents would see their housing stability endangered without addiotnal support for the properties in which they live.

**From:** [Chris Alcazar](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal to amend times for placing solid waste and recyclable materials  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 9:48:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [DOS Letter to Proposed Rule .docx](#)

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Good morning,

Attached please find my organization's comments on the proposed rule change for placing solid waste and recyclable materials.

Thank you.

**Christopher Alcazar**  
Chief Operating Officer  
**Community Access**  
17 Battery Place, Suite 1326  
New York, NY 10004  
Phone: 212.780.1400 x7761  
Fax: 929.399.2388  
[www.communityaccess.org](http://www.communityaccess.org)



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November 14, 2022

NYC Department of Sanitation  
125 Worth Street, Room 710  
New York, NY 10013  
[nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov).

**Re: Proposed Rule Regarding Times of Placement of Refuse and Recycling**

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter expresses our concerns about the proposed rule change regarding the times of placement of refuse and recycling. We have grave concerns about the proposed rule change and the impact on our operations.

Community Access, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that serves people living with mental health concerns and other income eligible families through the development and operation of supportive and affordable housing. We have 18 properties across 3 boroughs in New York City, housing over 1,200 households. The proposal will adversely impact our daily operations.

Though we understand and support the initiative to make the city cleaner and safer for its residents, it is unclear how adjusting the trash and waste pick up to the proposed later times, will improve the sanitation issues in NYC. A key reference in the DSNY proposal is that it may reduce food sources that attract rats. However, changing the placement of trash from 4pm to 8pm will not solve this problem, since rats are mostly nocturnal creatures. May we suggest that the answer isn't to change the placement time of trash, but rather to change the schedule of trash pickup? It would be less likely for rats to eat through trash, creating sidewalk litter and unsanitary conditions, if the trash is picked up in the early evening before night falls.

For us, the proposed change will create staffing and budgetary challenges, while also leading to conditions where early morning janitorial work may not be possible – negatively impacting our tenants. Should the pickup time be moved to 8 pm, we will be forced to adjust our facility staff schedule, adjusting many staff to start work later in the day so they can take out the garbage, which will delay other janitorial and building maintenance responsibilities. This will result in quality-of-life related maintenance work orders not being addressed in a timely fashion, with the unintended consequences of tenants increasing call-in complaints to 311, and possibly resulting in unnecessary violations that our property management staff will then have to spend time correcting. This may also lead to additional overtime costs which the building finances could not sustain.

The proposed opt-in “Multi-unit Building Collection Program” is a favorable option, but we request these buildings be allowed to place the garbage out in bags, without the need for receptacles. We do not have the storage space in our buildings for the number of containers that would be required.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule change, and argue strongly that the proposed changes be reconsidered.

Sincerely,

Christopher Alcazar  
Chief Operating Officer

**From:** [Annie Barnes](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 8pm to put out garbage  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 9:07:40 AM

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Staten Island resident Zip code 10301.....

To who it may concern @dsny:

I am a senior 82 years of age. This rule is unreal. I don't go out of my house after 6pm in the winter.. I am always afraid of these uncertain times and the attack on seniors...

This plan will be inconvenience and stressful for seniors. This change must be reconsider if for no other reason certainly for seniors who live alone and easy prey on the elderly . Thank you for reconsideration in making this change ..

God bless your  
Annie



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<https://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/2022/10/28/nyc-mayor-eric-adams-rat-plan-is-a-new-tax-on-trash/>

NOT FOR REPRINT

[LETTER TO THE EDITOR](#)

## NYC Mayor Eric Adams' Rat Plan is a New Tax on Trash

The plan would increase costs for residents and small businesses while doing very little to deal with the rats. And it will further perpetuate the city's "no-our-responsibility" approach to the quality and maintenance of sidewalk spaces that are essential to the quality of life of every New Yorker.

October 28, 2022 at 12:58 PM

State and Local Government

By Michael Pollack | October 28, 2022 at 12:58 PM

Mayor Eric Adams recently [announced](#) his plan to address New York City's rat problem by changing the way trash is collected throughout the city. The problem he aims to address is very real and solving it will indeed require changing trash collection practices.

Unfortunately, the mayor's plan is deeply misguided. It will increase costs for residents and small businesses while doing very little to deal with the rats. And it will further perpetuate the city's "not-our-responsibility" approach to the quality and maintenance of sidewalk spaces that are essential to the quality of life of every New Yorker.

Current regulations require trash to be placed in bags on the sidewalk beginning at 4 p.m. the night before a collection day. Department of Sanitation trucks don't complete their routes until well into the morning, meaning food waste is available on the sidewalk to attract rats and other pests for upwards of 14 hours at a time.

The mayor's plan would instead generally require businesses and residences to put trash bags on the sidewalk no earlier than 8 p.m., shaving four hours off of what Deputy Mayor Meera Joshi [calls](#) the rat "buffet."

The goal is an admirable one, but the plan is seriously flawed.

The current regulations set the time for trash placement during normal business hours—when stores are otherwise generally open and when residential building staff are on duty or available.

By contrast, many stores close for the day long before 8 p.m. and many residential building staff have gone home for the day by then.

The only way these residents and businesses will be able to comply is either by paying overtime wages to porters and other staff to come back to work after hours, or by purchasing their own rat-proof secure containers—which the city will allow residents to put out at 6 p.m. or businesses to put out one hour before closing.

In short, the mayor's plan to fight the rats is a hidden tax on New Yorkers. And while these added costs might be minimal for wealthy New Yorkers or for people who live in large buildings with full-time staff, they will be significant for the city's small businesses and least privileged residents.

At the same time, the mayor's plan is unlikely to solve the problem. All it does is reduce by four hours the amount of time that trash sits in bags on the sidewalk. It may eliminate the rats' early-bird special, but it does nothing to eliminate their midnight snacks.

As long as the pantry remains open overnight—when rats are most active anyway—the rat problem will go largely unabated. Amidst rising inflation and skyrocketing rents, New Yorkers will be paying more to live and operate businesses here, with almost nothing to show for it.

The actual solution to the rat problem is staring us in the face: citywide deployment of curbside rat-proof trash containers. The city has tiptoed around this solution in [fits](#) and [starts](#) for years. It's high time to go for it.

Though it has a cost, the mayor's plan does too. The difference is that the costs of containerization can be much more equitably spread across the city's residents through progressive tax policies—and, most important of all, the money will go toward a solution that will actually work.

Containerized trash would also be a step toward reimagining New York's sidewalks, which are sorely underappreciated and poorly regulated by a patchwork of uncoordinated property and municipal laws. [As I've written](#), the quality and accessibility of sidewalks—places we gather, demonstrate, dine, exercise, rest, and shop—are at risk, and not only from rats. It's time we treat them as the public resource they are.

Whether it is clearing snow, managing trash, performing maintenance, or bearing liability for injuries, the city's consistent approach to making the sidewalks safer, cleaner and more welcoming is to place the burdens on adjacent businesses and residents, many of whom lack the resources and the time to effectively do the jobs they have been deputized to complete.

Embracing citywide trash containerization would contribute to a more sensible balance of private and public responsibility and cost. And it would actually shut down the rat buffet once and for all.

**Michael Pollack** *is a Professor of Law at Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School and an expert in municipal law and property law.*

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**From:** [Will Depoo](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment for trash collection  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 11:40:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Trash Collection Time Change - ANHD testimony .pdf](#)

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Will Depoo. I am an organizer at the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development. I am submitting a comment letter for the propose rule change for trash collection on behalf of ANHD. Attached is the comment letter.

If you have any questions or follow up you can contact me at [will.d@anhd.org](mailto:will.d@anhd.org)

Sincerely,  
Will

**Will Depoo**  
Pronouns: He/him  
*Organizer*  
**Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD)**  
[Will.D@anhd.org](mailto:Will.D@anhd.org)  
<http://anhd.org/>  
Office. (212) 747-1117  
50 Broad Street, Suite 1402, New York, NY 10004

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**From:** [NA](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Garbage Collection Comments  
**Date:** Monday, November 7, 2022 4:21:42 PM

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Dear DEP Representative,

I would like to suggest a method to minimize the time that garbage bags are left on NYC sidewalks. My solution is to adopt the "alternate side parking" idea as follows: Each area (street, block, zip, whichever you find appropriate) will have a two-hour window for garbage collection. The residents of the area are allowed to place the garbage bags for collection ONLY during the three hours prior to collection time. This way, each bag will wait on the sidewalk for a maximum of five hours.

Example:

For collection 9:00AM-11:00AM put the garbage bags on the sidewalk between 6:00AM-9:00AM

For collection 1:00PM-3:00PM put the garbage bags on the sidewalk between 10:00AM-1:00PM

etc. for all collections.

Although more specific details will have to be sharpened, the aforementioned is a basic idea for a general plan that should improve the rat situation in NYC.

I hope you find this idea useful.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Naomi Avigdor,

[REDACTED]

The City's new Prevailing Wage Law has forced non-union buildings to adopt some arbitrary way-above-the-minimum-wage pay scale that affects a small segment of the City's workers, supers and porters. Adding insult to injury, the City is now requiring additional OT hours at time and a half to put out trash at times that are outside the normal working hours. You are bankrupting your citizens (which, in turn, will likely bankrupt the City as more of us leave due to beyond acceptable financial and other living conditions). This is not a threat, but a virtual reality. You can't keep squeezing unreasonable amounts of money out of New Yorkers without severe consequences. And, for what, this time? So that rats will not be on our street for about 2 hours less per day, if that?

Many of the comments already have called this plan nonsensical, stupid and the like. I'd like to add my views to the mix since my managing agent is too cowed to comment because of the possibility of retaliation by a City department.

As some have already said, this "initiative" (more like a punitive measure), like most the City implements, puts yet another onus on residents instead of squarely on the sanitation department or other City departments to figure out the best means to get rid of the rodent problem.

In addition to the comments raised by others that this will impact the seniors adversely who will be afraid of putting out trash at night due to rising crime and possibly falling (and some religious Jewish people who simply cannot put out trash at 8 pm on Friday nights), this new proposed law will affect virtually every citizen since it is not normal to require even a live-in super to put out trash between 4 am and 7 am (much less a super that typically starts at 8 am or later), nor is it advisable to require supers to stay late and put out trash at 8 pm. What actual world are regulators living in? Are you made of money yourselves, thinking it's no big deal to require these kind of OT hours? Do the supers even want OT for this frivolous escapade, or would they rather be with their families, either having dinner at 8 pm or sleeping longer as they get ready for their day instead of getting

up at 4 or 5 am to make sure they get into the City (since most can't afford to live in the City) on time for their normal work schedule?

Turning to the receptacles. Have you seen the amount of trash in an average building? There is no way that every single street in NY won't have wall-to-wall trash receptacles to hold all this trash. Receptacles can't be more than 55 gallons. That means numerous receptacles for each building if one eye-balls right now how many trash bags are typically put out. In addition, as many have noted, these receptacles will lose their lids rather quickly as either passersby open (and not close) them to add their trash to the mix or the sanitation dept employees have them strewn throughout the streets, causing possible traffic problems as cars hit the bins, and, as someone else noted who has seen it happen, "cans taken up by the wind, fly in the air and hit parked cars", as well as even more costs as lost receptacles and lids must be replaced by NY residents in a never-ending treadmill.

I do understand that you want to collect trash later without interference with traffic, pedestrians, etc. But we live in a City that is very active, and you need to judge what's the worse evil. Rats for a couple of hours (and is that really a scientifically proven fact?) vs inconveniencing (and financially impacting) practically every resident of the City. Whether there are rats on the street, in our parks or wherever, they're not disappearing anytime soon. More sanitation trucks picking up trash quicker would be better, but we all understand the budget implication of that. Try to understand our individual budgets as well. Don't make us pay for something that is probably not even a proven fact. Don't make us throw money at a problem for a bloody 2 hours. I implore you.

**From:** [Eli Balsam](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [district24@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district24@council.nyc.gov); [district24@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district24@council.nyc.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed DSNY reduced hours for curbside trash  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2022 10:57:20 AM

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To whom it may concern,

If the city is trying to reduce the rat population they should target the neighborhoods that have a high rat population.

To impose inconvenient restrictions citywide is not effective.

8PM is unreasonably late and terribly inconvenient for many people in many situations.

Additionally if the rats are feeding on trash they will feed on it regardless if it is curbside or in a driveway

This is a heavy handed blunt approach that is not addressing the issues at hand effectively.

Thank you

**From:** [Alejandro Bautista](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Specifics about "receptacles with tight-fitting lids"  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 3:39:06 PM

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Hi There,

Are there examples of receptacles accepted by the new regulation? Could you provide some pictures or links to trash can models that will work to put out trash at 6pm?  
Do the cans need to be labeled with addresses? Do they need to be rodent-proof?.

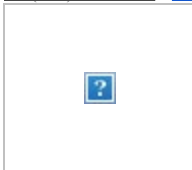
Let me know.

Thanks.

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All the best,  
Alejandro.

Alejandro Bautista  
Client & Sales Manager, [CitiBin Inc.](#)  
+1 (786) 719-7211 - [alejandro@citibin.com](mailto:alejandro@citibin.com)



**From:** [Amy Chin](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Object Required Trash Put Out after 8PM New Rule  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 11:55:46 PM

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RE: The New Trash Put Out After 8PM Rule.

With the labor shortage and higher wage cost, property rent is not catching up the high inflation. So, required small buildings to put out trash after 8PM is impossible, that required property/business owners to pay over-time. Most workers off after 6PM . Why not have trash picked up sooner? Best the same eve to night time, not waiting to next day? Pick up after 7PM is perfect , avoid trash sitting in the streets overnight , some homeless often open trash bags ,look for some food. then left bags opened/broken, trash spreading around, especially with super-markets, food stores blocks , that block should get picked up sooner, as rats come out looking for food when streets are mid nights as dark and quiet only from 7PM-7AM.

Right now trash piled up in the streets from eve to next noon/eve often long hours, trash bags sitting in the street longer attracting more rats.

If food trash bags stay in the street only a few hours instead of now over 12-18 hours , then the city streets will be much cleaner an less rats.

Sure less trash sitting around longer less rats , less trash smells and will be no rats running around as no food to eat.

The city will have cleaner street, free of unsanitary/unhealthy trash smells , no rats around when starting business hours 9-5. Good for more tourists means will increase the city's revenue for sure.

Thank you for re-consider enforcing this new but not improving the streets cleanses rule.

Manhattan Property Manager Amy C

**From:** [clar 300](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Sanitation proposal  
**Date:** Friday, November 4, 2022 1:08:04 PM

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Sanitation recently moved the time back to 4 pm that time is late enough.

I object to this proposal of property owners putting their containers with garbage out at the curb after 6 pm. Rationale:

In the 1980's it was the practice to put our garbage out in containers, But the sanitation workers would throw our garbage containers in their truck. This happened a lot.

I saw this happening and when I ran the truck down the sanitation worker just shrugged his shoulders.

**My parents would come home and we had no garbage containers.**

Then many times we would see our neighbor's garbage bins rolling in the street, cars would hit the bins and they would go sailing on to other blocks. I have seen garbage cans taken up by the wind, fly in the air and hit parked cars while the owner is away at work. Who is at fault? The owner left garbage in the cans, The owner has no control over wind lifting up objects, but now you have a damaged car.

**You came home and no garbage bins**

NYC residential trash rules state "Trash cans must be covered unless all refuse inside is in a securely tied bag".

If the trash cans must be covered, how do you want us to leave them at the curb ??

Now we will lose our trash containers and the covers.

How will they be secured at the curb?

My neighbors and I have received sanitation tickets for uncovered trash cans in the past.

How do you write violation for uncovered trash receptacles and now will be asking us to put our containers to the curb???

NYC sanitation requires us to secure our garbage bins. An agency cannot ask us to secure our



garbage bins and then require us to leave them out at the curb to be all over the street

MY neighbors and I do not support this proposal.



## **Council of New York Cooperatives & Condominiums** INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

850 7th Avenue • Suite 1103 • New York, NY 10019-5230

**Testimony to the Department of Sanitation**  
by Mary Ann Rothman, Executive Director  
November 18, 2022

### **Commenting on Proposed Modified Times for Curbside Placement of Recycling and Garbage**

The Council of New York Cooperatives & Condominiums (CNYC Inc.) is a membership organization providing information, education and advocacy for housing cooperatives and condominiums located throughout the five boroughs of New York City and beyond. More than 170,000 New York families make their homes in CNYC member buildings, which span the full economic spectrum from very modest, income-restricted housing to solid middle class apartment complexes to upscale dwellings. New Yorkers in housing cooperatives and condominiums are committed to this city and invested in its future. We want our city to be safe, well-run, an attractive place to visit and a pleasant place to live.

We are also painfully aware of the ever increasing financial burdens that city residents must bear and the multiple ways in which the City is looking at garbage issues. Mandating narrow early-morning hours for ALL building of nine or more units to set out recycling and garbage for collection is costly and impractical. While buildings with larger staffs may be able to establish earlier shifts for the employee(s) responsible for setting recycling and garbage at the curb, the smaller the building or the building staff the greater the relative burden this imposes. Self-managed buildings with no employees or a very part time Super will either have to find unbudgeted funds to pay for additional help setting out garbage, have resident owners volunteer for this task, or forego other services of their part time Super. At the very least, we urge a more practical look at this requirement -- one that accurately reflects the time that a normal collection shift would be picking up at specific buildings.

Noting the myriad of different rules and laws currently under consideration that nibble on the edges of improving waste collection, mitigating the rodent problem and ameliorating the Cityscape, we respectfully suggest that a dedicated committee be formed

to include waste management experts, industrial design professionals as well as representatives of the building service workers who will be affected by the changes in hours and the new containers they may be required to work with and the sanitation workers who will be similarly affected regarding hours and new equipment.

- 1) to look into existing waste and recycling collection programs that are better than ours. Examples abound in European cities and the Museum of the City of New York also has models.
- 2) If it is deemed beneficial to set narrow time restrictions for setting garbage and recycling at the curb, to do so in consideration of the actual collection routes, so that not every building must bring in employees – or recruit owner volunteers – to do so far earlier than necessary.
- 3) If it is deemed that closed containers and dumpsters should be part of the solution, to set standards for these receptacles
  - A. Designing these devices for maximum functionality, efficiency, durability and esthetics.
  - B. Testing the use of lidded containers and of dumpsters in pilot projects.
  - C. Then providing them to all buildings – for a uniform look, particularly to the dumpsters, which will almost certainly be a permanent part of the Cityscape.

Let's all continue to work hard to improve every aspect of our city, but let's not lose sight of the cost involved. Realistic scheduling should allow buildings flexibility consistent with their position in the route of the collection vehicles, and should consider the labor available to move garbage and recycling.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our views.

**From:** [Eli Cohen](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed new rules for trash placed at curb  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 3:35:20 PM

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I write to you as Executive Director of Crown Heights Jewish Community Council, a council of over 70 Jewish congregations located in Crown Heights Brooklyn.

Generally, I am supportive of the new proposals, as the long time that trash bags sit at the curb has been a serious concern. The new rules for buildings will be very helpful in reducing the rat problem city-wide.

However, I am hearing several concerns on the part of private homeowners in our community as follows:

1. Many seniors are dependent on home attendants or domestic help to take out the trash. Most of these workers are not at work in the evenings and would not be available during the new proposed times that trash could be deposited at the curb.
2. For observant Jews, there will be a problem taking out trash after sunset on Friday for Saturday morning pick-up, as the observant are prohibited from carrying in the streets during the Sabbath. They are also prohibited by religious law from having others do that for them.
3. For all homeowners who wish to avail themselves of the option to place trash in sealed containers at 6pm: My experience is that the collection crews lose the lids of the cans either by dropping them into the truck or by leaving on the curb for the wind to blow under cars and they get broken. I put my trash in bags inside the can, but once the lid is lost, I have no way of preventing passers by from adding loose trash on top of my bags in the can and I have received a summons for failure to close the can. The issue of lids needs to be addressed before enforcement is stepped up.

Please feel free to call me to discuss further.

Sincerely

Rabbi Eli Cohen

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Rabbi Eli Cohen

Executive Director

Crown Heights Jewish Community Council

718-771-9000 x 7736

**From:** [Boukan Collins](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] OPPOSITION TO CHANGING TRASH DISPOSAL REGULATIONS  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 3:26:39 PM

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I am strongly opposed to plans to implement regulations that residential buildings cannot place garbage and recycling bags on the curb before 8 pm. For several years, my partner and I (both senior citizens) have managed this task for the eight-family, low and moderate income co-op where we live. We are paid a modest amount for this work, which helps us make ends meet. We are very diligent in this task, and extend our work to picking up litter and other discarded trash beyond the boundaries of our building -- including the sidewalk of the vacant lot next to us and stuff thrown out at the Citibike station situated there.

Having to shift to a later time presents problems for people like us. Usually by 6 pm, the job is completed and we want to be in our homes: doing things like checking in with family and settling down for the evening. Throughout most of the year, the sun has set by 8 pm, there are fewer people on the streets and -- the fact is -- it is not as safe to be outside working on this task after sundown three times weekly. The new regulations could cost people like us our jobs if the decision is made to hire contractors to do this work instead.

I appeal to you, Commissioner Tisch to find a better solution to combatting rodent problems, instead of this regulation that would present a major burden to people like us.

Ms. Boukan Collins  
Resident of Community Board 8

**From:** [Dave Cuff](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] public comment on - Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022 6:44:30 PM

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I propose that smaller residential buildings (for example, 1-3 units) be exempt from the proposed rule change. Most single-family homes or homes with a just a few residential units are not staffed with supers and porters.

The garbage volume of homes with 1-3 units are a lot less than multi-family buildings. And homes with 1-3 units are often self-managed and sometimes it is elderly people, people working different hours or folks that may be constrained by religious observation responsible for taking out the garbage.

In the overwhelming majority of these types of smaller homes there is no building staff that takes out the garbage. The one size fits all approach to this proposed rule change should be revised to be tailored to focus on the larger multi-unit buildings that create the mounds of garbage on the streets on garbage collection days and not create an undue burden on smaller home owners.

David Cuff

**From:** [Sean Cunningham](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Time change for trash pick up  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:42:30 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Who puts these crazy ideas out there? Are you just trying to push everyone out of this once great City? Rats are nocturnal; mostly active during nighttime hours; dusk to dawn. That being said this idea makes no sense.

Small property owners/absentee owners (like myself) who may or may not have a part time helper generally work until 4:00PM where the last chore of the day is to put the trash to the curb. In this instance, what are we to do; work until 6PM or 8PM for an idea that will NOT decrease the rat population? How are Sanitation workers going to drag the cans to the back of the garbage trucks? There is barely enough room to walk between parked cars let alone get a trash can between them.

**Creation of unnecessary noise pollution-** by having trash picked up after midnight will be a sleep disruption for hundreds of thousands of people. Hard working citizens and their families will be woken up in the wee hours of the morning by the sounds of loud garbage trucks loading and compacting trash. School children's sleep will be interrupted; this "graveyard shift" trash pick-up is wrong!

**Some solutions-** the City needs to exterminate for rats in the street and subway system. Less people are using the subway system which means less trash in the subway, therefore the rats are forced out of the subway and into the street to seek food. This is exactly what happened during COVID! Restaurants were closed and rats migrated into residential areas in search of food; not a theory, a fact. If the City wants the trash on the street for less time it's very simple. Keep the same time the trash goes to the curb; 4PM-5PM. Have the Sanitation Department pick up the trash on a 4PM to midnight shift. Closely monitor missed collections. I can tell you from personally experience at least two to three times per month there is a missed collection in my area, not just my trash but the entire block and adjoining blocks.

**Eliminate restaurant street sheds-** these sheds only create a haven for rats to nest and feed off the food that falls underneath the shed. Obviously the street sweeper cannot clean the street with these eye sores still in place. The City needs to enforce alternate side street parking. You drive throughout the Greenpoint/Williamsburg area, for example, and cars are illegally parked for alternate side and are not ticketed. Each side of street needs to be cleaned twice a week.

In closing, there are more negative reasons than positive ones to go forward with this "silly" idea. I believe these ideas are put on the table by people that have no "hands on" experience. I have yet to read one positive reaction to this idea on the Sanitation forum. This is just a horrible idea that will inconvenience more people and will have nearly no impact on reducing rats in the city.

The only way to reduce the rat population is to exterminate for rats!

S. Cunningham



STEVEN H. CYMBROWITZ  
Assemblyman 45<sup>th</sup> District  
Kings County

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN  
Committee on Housing

COMMITTEES  
Codes  
Environmental Conservation  
Health  
Insurance

October 17, 2022

Mayor Eric Adams  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Adams:

I am writing to you with a concern regarding the proposed new rules for residential trash pickup across the city.

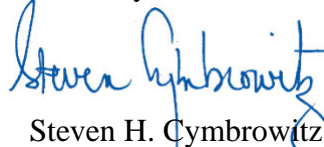
While I applaud the goal of making our streets cleaner, the proposed new hours for when trash cans and bags may be placed curbside — 6 p.m. for receptacles and 8 p.m. for bags — will be problematic for Sabbath observant Jewish residents who have Saturday trash pickup or who are observing religious holidays throughout the year when doing work is prohibited.

From roughly October through March, sundown begins near or well before 6 p.m., meaning that observant Jewish residents must place their trash curbside before that time. It will therefore be impossible for this sizable segment of our community to comply with the proposed new rules during approximately half the year. It would be equally unfair to penalize these residents for violating a civil law that they are religiously prohibited from following.

I urge you to not implement these proposed new rules and to seek alternative solutions to improving cleanliness on our city's streets.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Steven H. Cymbrowitz  
Member of Assembly

cc: Jessica Tisch, Commissioner, NYC Department of Sanitation



**From:** [John Deane](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal To Delay Placing Garbage & Recycling At The Curb  
**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022 3:51:15 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm writing in opposition to the proposal to delay placing garbage and recycling out for collection until later in the evening, beyond the current 4pm timeframe. I take care of a six-unit apartment building. I don't live in the building although it is in the same neighborhood as where I reside. It would be very burdensome to have to wait until 8pm to place the garbage and recycling out. As you know, 8pm is a time that is well past dark for many months of the year. In addition, it's a time that would be very awkward for people whose main job is overnight hours.

The 6pm part of the proposal will lead to a plethora of garbage cans littering our city's often narrow sidewalks for hours at a time - even hours after DSNY has completed the route. Instead of dodging bags, we'll be dodging cans as we walk by.

I think the rodent problem could be mitigated by stricter enforcement of the current standard of 4pm. I strongly believe this timeframe is not being enforced. How do I know this? I've lived at the same address for over forty years. I constantly see garbage as well as recycling placed on the sidewalk well before 4pm, frequently hours before. It's always the same perpetrators - from single family houses up to apartment buildings of more than 100 units. This would not be happening if warnings and, if necessary, fines were being given out.

Rather than burdening everyone with this new rule, I would ask the City of New York to enforce the rule that's currently in place. Thanks for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John Deane  
Queens, NY

**From:** [Andrew Rigie](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#); [Liguori, Madelynn \(DSNY\)](#); [Anderson, Gregory \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Andrew Rigie](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 11.18.22 Comments on DSNY Proposed Rule on time for placing solid waste and recyclables out - NYC Hospitality Alliance  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 6:55:49 AM  
**Attachments:** [11.18.22 Comments on DSNY Proposed Rule on time for placing solid waste and recyclables out - NYC Hospitality Alliance docx.pdf](#)

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**Regretfully, due to a scheduling conflict I will no longer be able to testify at today's hearing. Please find our written comments below and attached for the record and for the agency's consideration. Thanks and sorry to miss the hearing. Happy "almost" Thanksgiving!**

Friday, November 18, 2022

**Comments of the NYC Hospitality Alliance (The Alliance) on the Department of Sanitation's (DSNY) proposal to amend its rule governing the time for placing solid waste and recyclable materials out at the curb for collection.**

The NYC Hospitality Alliance is a not-for-profit association representing thousands of restaurants, bars, and nightclubs, across the five boroughs. We submit these comments on DSNY's proposal to require businesses to place their trash on the curb no earlier than 8:00 pm, so long as collection occurs later the same day or the day immediately following; or place materials in a receptacle with a tight-fitting lid no earlier than one hour before closing, so long as the scheduled collection occurs before the establishment next opens for business.

The Alliance supports DSNY's efforts to mitigate the city's rat population and improve quality of life for all by reducing the time garbage bags sit on our streets before pickup. Although we support various efforts to achieve these goals, the City should focus on the most effective means of achieving them - citywide street containerization of garbage. That would keep our streets cleaner for pedestrians, residents, businesses, and those dining alfresco at restaurants, without presenting the challenges to certain businesses that we describe below.

Because most of The Alliance's members operate their businesses during the evening, they already place their trash on the curb after 8:00 pm and should not be affected by the proposed rule. However, there are many foodservice establishments that do not provide dinner service or operate past 8:00 pm, including limited-service restaurants, bagel shops, coffee shops, other lunch-focused businesses, and bakeries. While the proposed rule would allow these businesses to leave garbage in a tight-fitting receptacle an hour before closing, it would create unnecessary hardship when considering storage of the receptacles when not in use. These businesses have extremely limited indoor storage space, and most of them do not

have access to a back or side alleyway. Storing hard rigid containers inside until an hour before closing can be impossible and/or create operational challenges for staff having to carry large containers through small corridors, up cellar doors, and the like.

The solution to this problem is to allow businesses that use these receptacles to keep them curbside at all times. Alternatively, these businesses should be given the option to place their garbage on the sidewalk an hour before their posted closing time, without a container. These morning and afternoon businesses make some of the most iconic and quintessentially “New York City” meals. They should not be saddled with a requirement that is impossible to achieve.

DSNY must also provide flexibility to businesses generally on where these outdoor containers may be located based on the location of the business and design of the streetscape. For example, a restaurant with a narrow storefront located midblock with a bus stop out front may need to place receptacles elsewhere in the area where their carter would be required to pick them up from.

Some commercial carters do not always pick up garbage on time or provide everyday service. This must not result in restaurants and similar businesses being fined for non-compliance. Relatedly, consistent with the stated priorities of Mayor Adams, it is essential that any first-time violation provides for a \$0 fine with a warning and/or a cure period to correct the violation.

We also ask that DSNY clarify whether they will be providing any receptacles as our community is concerned about the additional cost that containerization and replacement due to theft or damage will have on their businesses. We ask that DSNY share more information on the commercial availability of such receptacles, given the recent supply chain issues caused by the pandemic, and likely exacerbated by thousands of businesses being required to obtain receptacles all at the same time.

Finally, we suggest incorporating/delaying the effective date of these rules until the Zone Carting system takes effect, as it may be easier to coordinate containerization of trash for multiple commercial businesses in close proximity once there is a single responsible carter, which should be considered as part of this proposed Rule. For example, perhaps a single container may be shared by multiple businesses in close proximity.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments. You may contact our executive director Andrew Rigie with questions and comments at [arigie@thenycalliance.org](mailto:arigie@thenycalliance.org).

Respectfully,

**ANDREW RIGIE | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | NYC HOSPITALITY ALLIANCE**

**212-582- 2506 | [ARIGIE@THENYCALLIANCE.ORG](mailto:ARIGIE@THENYCALLIANCE.ORG) | [THENYCALLIANCE.ORG](http://THENYCALLIANCE.ORG)**

**65 WEST 55<sup>th</sup> ST | SUITE 203A | NYC 10019**

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## Ethan Krantz

---

DATE: November 3, 2022

FROM: Ethan Krantz

TO: DSNY, [nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov) 125 Worth Street, Room 710 New York, New York 10013

RE: Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection

To whom it may concern,

The Department of Sanitation and Mayor Adams worked together to propose a change to the pickup procedures on New York City Streets.<sup>1</sup> This comment supports the goal but not the method. I live in Manhattan and see garbage on the streets and sidewalk every day. DSNY is not to blame. The sanitation department has the hardest workers in the city picking up garbage at all hours but there is a ton of garbage. The proposed rule creates complicated timeline changes restricting placement during the timeframe of after 6:00 until midnight before the scheduled pickup.<sup>2</sup>

### **Point 1-Cost to Businesses**

The proposed rule will increase costs to businesses. By delineating between secure and bulk bags, small businesses will have to spend thousands of dollars on different strategies for placing out garbage in “secure containers” or pay custodial staff to be on site for extended hours.

Currently, businesses put out bags as they close up but will only be able to do that if they do so in a secure container. IF not, bags will have to be out after 8:00.

---

<sup>1</sup> Mayor Adams, Sanitation Commissioner Tisch Announce Drastically Reduced Hours Trash Will sit on NYC Streets (October 17, 2022) [<https://perma.cc/JVQ5-8WCC>].

<sup>2</sup> New York City Department of Sanitation Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment on Proposed Rules [<https://perma.cc/NY8F-U3MW>].

## Ethan Krantz

### Point 2 Secure Container Ambiguity

The proposed rule does not give any guidance as to what a secure container or lid is. Will citations be issued to businesses who do not have the lid on the container? I walk down the street and see people opening up people's trash to look for recyclable products or things of value. I have no issue with that but people should not be fined if someone else removes a lid. This is very difficult to implement.

### Alternate Idea

The City could investigate if certain areas of the city are more at risk for garbage on the street and sidewalk. The city can put out a list of approved secure lids.

Please feel free to contact if you have questions about this comment,

Respectfully submitted,

Ethan



**From:** [reva faska](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [district24@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district24@ council.nyc.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on proposed rule change for putting out garbage  
**Date:** Thursday, November 3, 2022 1:10:21 AM

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Here is some food for thought. My mom is visually impaired and does not go out in the dark. She lives alone, and only has a part time aide. If these rules take effect, she would never be able to put out her garbage without risking a ticket, except for the few weeks from the end of May until mid-July or so that it is still light out. There needs to be some thought and accomodation here.

I saw that there may be a time differential for "secure containers" rather than bags on the street. I'm all for garbage cans, but the secure part is very problematic, at least in central Queens where we live. Not all of the sanitation workers are careful with how they handle the cans, and our cans generally outlast the lids by many years. We live on a block of attached houses where a number of us have identical trash cans that we've all had for 5-10 years. I think we are just about the only one whose lid hasn't disappeared. And these are cans where while they do come off, the lids are attached. If we're using cans in good faith, it doesn't seem fair to penalize people whose cans no longer have lids because they weren't handled properly.

We've had several sets of cans in the years that we've lived here. The paper one should never require a lid, because nothing dirty is supposed to go into it anyway. And it doesn't seem fair that because the schedule seems to constantly change, that we should have to replace our cans every time the lids get lost or destroyed, or be subject to the later time period.

Maybe the pickup schedule could always be the same for any given area, and some areas could put out their trash in the late afternoon for overnight pickup, and others could put in out in the morning for pickup during the day, as opposed to the current system, where everyone puts it out at the same time and there's no way to know whether on any given week it's going to be picked up in the early morning hours, or not until almost the next night. Some consistency might help.

I think I remember reading that in certain neighborhoods, trash is never picked up during school bus hours in order to ease the traffic situation. Why can't half of these areas put out their trash in the early evening for overnight pickup, and the other half during the morning for later in the day pickup.

Additionally, if the city is going to require cans with secure lids, perhaps they

need to be provided initially to EVERYONE, not just big apartment buildings, the same as recycling cans were provided when recycling was first made mandatory.

Thank you

Reva Faska





**From:** [Joshua Fogel](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] comment on "Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection"  
**Date:** Sunday, October 30, 2022 7:34:45 PM

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I am against the new proposal for garbage pickup. I have two reasons. 1)The current time of allowing garbage to be placed outside as early as 4 PM, allows people to bring out the garbage while it is still light outside. Elderly people can trip and hurt themselves taking out the garbage while it is dark outside. 2)Once it is dark outside, there is a concern about more crime concerns since criminals like committing muggings at night and do not do so as often during the day.

Sincerely,  
Joshua Fogel

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Sarah Gallagher](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Solid Waste/Recyclable Collection  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 1:15:56 PM

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As in decades past, let it be put out early morning and picked up early morning!!

The less time on the street, the less time rodentlife can access.

If building owners then need to pay overtime, so be it!!

Would Paris or London allow piles of garbage to sit on their streets for 10-14 hours a day, half the week?

Most sincerely,

Sarah Woodside Gallagher

**From:** [Sarah Gallagher](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] TOTALLY SUPPORT LATER WASTE!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:04:08 PM

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8pm's good...

Midnight would be even better...

The fewer hours our millions of rats have to feed, the better!!

Most sincerely,

Sarah Woodside Gallagher

**From:** [SUSIE GRAMA](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Change Garbage Pick Up Schedule  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:05:25 PM

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The proposed change of schedule for garbage pick-up is unfair to the supers and janitorial staff of buildings. It requires them to work at hours outside of their regular work schedule. In the winter, this would be especially difficult, when darkness and cold weather are the norm. Even the possibility of the enrollment program does not really minimize the extra burden to supers, requiring them to get up very early in the morning in order to put out the garbage.

My super, for example, works hard during the day and is always on call for emergencies. He shouldn't have to get up in the middle the night for the garbage.

Would the proposed schedule change really impact the rodent problem in New York City? Do the rodents leave the streets after 4pm and "go home"?

What is considered "within the City", where the rodent problem is prevalent? My property is in Bayside, Queens, and, thankfully, we don't have a rodent problem, except, occasionally, when ConEd works in the area. That has nothing to do with garbage. Perhaps the DSNY should pinpoint the problem areas and, if they must, institute the changes where they might really be necessary. (That is, if the proposed changes would really lessen the rodent problem.)

Thank. You for your consideration.

susie Grama

**From:** [K Green](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection- WRONG WRONG WRONG  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:29:32 PM

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This time is an inconvenience and not cost effective for building/homeowners or DOS. If this suggestion is to control the rotent issue, it's ridiculous; especially since it gets darker earlier and longer. Can rats tell time or measure the distance btwn the curb? Property/building owners would have to pay overtime to the super or porter or staff and I'm sure we would also be responsible for paying extra taxes to cover the DOS overtime or extra employees as well. What is the purpose of this? Doesn't seem logical to me.

KG

**From:** [Martin Hanan](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The new laws regarding sanitation being placed outside  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 6:38:19 PM

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Good evening

I am the owner of a multi family unit in the rockaways.

I understand that new laws and rules will be set in place regarding at what time the garbage can be put outside, the day before pick up. My maintenance man is in his 70s. And I think it's going to be very difficult for him to throw the garbage later at night.

In addition we do not have rat problems , where my house is.

I'm hoping that you will reconsider this decision. I think it's going to make it difficult for everybody.

If someone on the block has a one family house and I have a nine family house, and the one family is allowed to put the garbage out earlier. Wouldn't the rats go to that house?

Thank you

**From:** [Jon Herskovits](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on Proposed New Sanitation Rule  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 1:29:23 PM

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Sir/Madam,

I own a small apartment building. Moving the time that residential rubbish can be put to the curb from 4 pm on the day prior to sanitation pick-up to 8 pm is a bad idea.

The chief justification for the proposed rule is that with the pandemic there have been a lot more complaints about rats. What has changed with the pandemic? It is not putting trash to the curb at 4 pm on the day prior to pick-up---that has been the use & custom in the city and it has worked well. What has changed is the great number of outdoor seating sheds for restaurants which have contributed both to filthy streets because they are obstacles to effective street sweeping and to the rat problem because the rodents have found an another source of food and additional concealment which makes them much more comfortable on street level. Unfortunately, this proposed regulation will do nothing to cut down the rat population rather it strives to cut down the number of complaints about rats. It is true that as it gets darker earlier in the evening, rats will be emboldened to scavenge trash earlier, but this regulation simply embodies the adage: “Out of sight, out of mind.” The rat problem remains; the rats will simply be coming out when fewer people are around. This new rule allows politicians to say “Look I’m doing SOMETHING”, but it is the equivalent of using a bucket to fix a leak. A better solution is to require the restaurants to employ rat mitigation procedures (rat-proof trash enclosures, later commercial trash pick-up for private carters, composting food waste to decrease the rat’s food supply, and rat traps ranging from the old fashioned traps to the newer RTD-type eco-friendly traps).

The old rule should also stay unchanged because it is very inconvenient to deal with routine building management issues outside of normal business hours. In smaller buildings there is not 24 hour maintenance staff so having the owner or porter have to wait until after 8 pm to put the trash out is an onerous hardship. Especially when one considers that it will impact 3 nights every week. In addition, it is a late enough hour that it makes careful evaluation of tenant recycling difficult if not impossible because of the darkness. There is always enough light to carefully screen the recycling carefully with the current 4 pm time. This will lead to more tickets for the building and much more poorly sorted recycling that will give the Sanitation Department headaches.

This rule change is designed to ease the politicians headaches while giving thousands of their constituents a headache without attacking the root cause. It does not address the rodent problem in a substantive way. The number of restaurant dining sheds(café’s?) that arose with the pandemic saw the explosion of emboldened rats. Get rid of the outdoor restaurant seating enclosures or have the restaurants mitigate their non-paying guests to get the rat population down to pre-pandemic levels or below. The politicians will still be able to pat themselves on

the back and the city will be better off.

Sincerely,  
Jon H.



**From:** [D Hollander](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Rules comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 1:58:02 PM

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Also, if you really care about the smell and rats, you should pick up garbage when you say you will. My side of the block was not picked up Wednesday after Election Day per your email. No one came until the next scheduled pick up on Friday.

Also you should pick up recycling every week, and not leave it lying around for multiple weeks, just because of a holiday.

Garbage will smell and bring rats even if it is not by the curb.

> On Nov 14, 2022, at 1:41 PM, D Hollander <[dmhdmhg@gmail.com](mailto:dmhdmhg@gmail.com)> wrote:

>

> As an older person, I prefer to finish work and take out the trash and then not have to go outside again. Especially in the dark and bad weather. If anything, you should leave the rules alone as they are for 4 PM for residential.

> Thank you

>

**From:** [D Hollander](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rules comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 1:41:39 PM

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As an older person, I prefer to finish work and take out the trash and then not have to go outside again. Especially in the dark and bad weather. If anything, you should leave the rules alone as they are for 4 PM for residential.  
Thank you

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Sanitation Rules  
**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022 12:13:31 PM

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Why do you always hold property owners responsible when it is the city's responsibility to get rid of the rat problem? Rats are 24/7 creatures. This extra 4 hours wait In putting out the trash is not going to work.

Sent from [REDACTED]

**From:** [Deborah Hersch](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments  
**Date:** Monday, November 7, 2022 9:37:49 PM

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### Re--submitting this revised:

Regarding changing Sanitation trash collection set-out hours, why not instead focus on:

Expanding curbside organics collection to include the entire city, making it mandatory or giving modest tax breaks to residences/businesses that comply. Increasing outreach/education.

Making Rat Academy mandatory for all New Yorkers, or at least for property owners, building managers/staff/union organizers, DOE/charter/private school principals/staff, school parent organizations. Increasing outreach/education regarding rat prevention/mitigation.

If New Yorkers call to report rats, making part of the inquiry process asking whether or not the caller separates their food scraps; helping them to sign up for curbside organics collection or find food scrap drop-off sites. Educating New Yorkers who may not realize they might be contributing to the problem; empowering New Yorkers to become part of the solution.

Working to eliminate black bags by providing bins with lids, preferably metal rather than plastic, to all NYC residences/buildings; giving modest tax breaks to businesses that use them. Considering retrofitting Sanitation vehicles to pick up/empty bins mechanically.

After a grace period, issuing fines, allowing New Yorkers who receive violations the opportunity to appeal if Sanitation may be deemed at fault.

Providing dog poop bag receptacles throughout the city. Issuing fines to dog owners/walkers who place poop bags wherever they feel it's convenient for them. Increasing outreach/education on the consequence of attracting rats by this continued behavior.

Increasing enforcement of littering and illegal dumping fines by a special Sanitation Task Force.

Thank you very much,  
Deborah Johns

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Deborah Hersch](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments  
**Date:** Friday, November 4, 2022 11:18:54 PM

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Regarding changing Sanitation set-out hours, why not instead focus on:

Expanding curbside organics collection to include entire city, making it mandatory or giving modest tax breaks to residences/businesses who comply; increasing outreach and education.

Making Rat Academy mandatory for all New Yorkers, or at least for property owners, building managers and staff, DOE school principals and staff, school parent organizations. Increasing outreach and education regarding rat mitigation.

If people call to report rats, making part of the inquiry process asking whether or not they separate their food scraps; referring them to curbside organics collection or food scrap drop off sites. Educating New Yorkers who may not realize they are contributing to the problem; empowering New Yorkers to become part of the solution.

Working to eliminate black bags by providing bins with lids, preferably metal rather than plastic, to all NYC residents/buildings/commercial properties. Retrofitting Sanitation vehicles to pick up/empty bins mechanically.

After a grace period, issuing fines, allowing New Yorkers who receive violations the opportunity to appeal if Sanitation is deemed at fault.

Providing dog poop receptacles throughout the city. Issuing fines to dog owners/walkers who place their dog poop bags wherever it's convenient for them. Increasing outreach and education on the consequence of attracting rats by this continued behavior.

May you please provide a receipt of this having been received? I could not find a working link to the online form, nor what the hearing address is.

Thank you very much,  
Deborah Johns

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Deborah Hersch](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Revised Comments for DSNY Proposed Rule Changes  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 11:33:05 AM

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I sincerely appreciate the efforts made by all City agencies, employees, residents, businesses, organizations, and guests in trying to solve this issue.

It appears that the overwhelming view of New Yorkers that I've seen is against the proposed changes, and seemingly not without good reason. Unlike congestion pricing, where people are understandably resistant but the proposal would actually help toward its goal of lowering greenhouse gas emissions, I believe the proposed Sanitation rule changes would have minimal effect on rat activity.

In addition to the thoughtful comments and suggestions made by concerned New Yorkers and business owners here and through public comment submissions, as well as the City agencies' earnest efforts, we could possibly try:

Continuing to expand curbside organics collection to include the entire city, making it mandatory or continuing to work toward it, possibly giving modest tax breaks or other incentives to residences/businesses that comply. Announcing an estimated date that organics recycling would become mandatory, and giving incentives for participation in advance of compulsory compliance. Examining occurrences of rats chewing through brown bins and if this is related to set-out/pick-up schedules. Personally, I'm not aware of any such occurrences in the co-op where I live.

Finding new ways to promote awareness of the direct link between our organized as well as personal trash disposal practices and the increasing presence of rats. Launching a campaign that illustrates our dysfunctional relationship with rats. We react with disgust to their presence, yet continue to invite them over for dinner. Creating a hotline for people reaching out for help with these rattachments. Expanding mental health benefits to include therapy for this condition (Co-Ratpendency). Creating a 12-step program (RAA) to help sufferers get support and confront their rat partners expressly where they might show up, i.e., church and other basements. Getting the message across that refusing to engage in organics recycling is guaranteeing that we will continue to engage with our active rat. If the City helps make this clear, as well as expand curbside collection for community boards across the city, participation in organics recycling will likely increase, our incentive being that we can get the rat off our backyard and let it go.

Making Rat Academy mandatory for all New Yorkers, or at least property owners, building managers/staff/union organizers, DOE/charter/private school principals/staff, school parent organizations. Increasing outreach/education regarding rat prevention/mitigation, continuing to provide incentives for participation.

Making part of the rat complaint reporting process requesting permission for optional

additional information after the complaint is logged -- is the person aware that NYC has a food waste recycling program; do they separate their food scraps; would they like info or help signing up for curbside organics collection or finding food scrap drop-off sites. Educating New Yorkers who may not realize they might be contributing to the problem; empowering New Yorkers to become part of the solution.

Working to eliminate black bags by providing bins with lids, preferably metal rather than plastic, to all City residences/buildings; giving modest tax breaks or other incentives to residents/businesses that use them. Revisiting the possibility of retrofitting Sanitation vehicles to pick up/empty bins mechanically.

After a grace period, issuing warnings/fines, allowing New Yorkers who receive violations the opportunity to appeal if Sanitation may be deemed at fault.

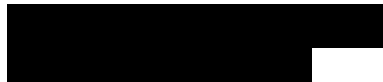
Providing dog poop bag receptacles throughout the city. Issuing warnings/fines to dog owners/walkers who place poop bags wherever they feel it's convenient for them. Increasing outreach/education on the consequence of attracting rats by this continued behavior. Helping community boards or City Council districts host dog poop bag drop-off events for dog owners/walkers to drop off their poop bags and receive a sustainably sourced *My Human Disposed of My Poop Responsibly NYC* or *My Poop Isn't Rat Food NYC* dog tag.

Increasing enforcement of littering and illegal dumping warnings/fines by a special Sanitation Task Force.

Outreach/education/warnings/fines regarding the hazards of feeding wildlife, such as birds and squirrels, with the resulting excess becoming a ratfeastation.

Thank you kindly for your time, efforts, consideration and attention.

Deborah Johns



**From:** [Jerzy Karle](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] rats  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 10:06:59 AM

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I would add one more line:

It is very common to see people (usually elderly) feeding birds and squirrels with lots of food, which eventually becomes a feast for rats; that's stupid, and reckless.

JK



**From:** [Ruth Katcher](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] new rules for putting out garbage and recycling  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 1:35:48 PM

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I'm writing to say that I would not like to see the rules for putting out garbage changed to 8:00 PM. As a small woman, I feel vulnerable if I take out the garbage after dark. Moreover, the sanitation workers don't always pick up if we leave the lids on our cans.

Instead, I would like to see the city increase resources for the compost program. The containers provided for compost are effective against rats if used properly. By diverting food scraps and other compostable material from the garbage stream, we can help to make less food available to rats and other creatures.

Ruth Katcher  
Brooklyn

**From:** [Siridatar Khalsa](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DSNY proposal for time to place waste and recyclable materials  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:06:29 PM

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I **oppose the DSNY proposal** for changing times waste and recyclable materials can be placed. I don't think the few hours are going to make a difference on the rat population. It could cause porters in larger living coops to have to work later hours so they can put out garbage after 8 PM. This is not agreeable to the workers as well as paying overtime costs to the coop. Or it will cause the entire workforce to change hours, just to accommodate this ruling.

Why not change the sanitation hours and have them start picking up earlier?

The change is not necessary and could cause undue hardship to larger apartment complexes as well as religious observers on Friday night.

Sincerely,  
Siridatar Khalsa

[REDACTED]

**From:** [David Kim](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 8PM Garbage Time Change (Title 16)  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 3:19:30 PM

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I think this is a terrible idea. Putting out garbage four hours later won't have any effect on the rat population. It will only inconvenience homeowners who would have to put out their garbage late at night.

Reducing the rat population should be done by extermination. Hire exterminators to kill them by all necessary means, including physical methods, trapping, poisoning. Eliminate their nesting areas. Create a rat patrol.

Garbage should be collected more efficiently by increasing staff and allocating smaller pickup areas for pickup on a designated day. It should be done mostly at night. Only 25 percent of pickup is done at night? And you call that something to brag about? It should be 75 percent. Most garbage should be picked up by dawn the next day.

In my neighborhood, pickup rarely happens before 9AM the next day! Even if the rule is changed to require garbage to be put out after 8PM, that's still more than 12 hours that the garbage is sitting on the curb. You people have to make yourselves more efficient and hire more staff if necessary. Where does all the property tax money go? This problem shouldn't just be pushed onto homeowners.

**From:** [nku kum](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 4:13:04 PM

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Hey,

As an experienced superintendent of a 6 stories building with 40 units. This measure would be totally useless. 2/3/4 hours of difference won't have ANY effect on rodents. ANY (the person/persons at the source of this idea doesn't have any real field experience). The only effect would be a toll on superintendent family life and health.

Since a couple of years, the sanitation is coming later and later to pick up the garbage. It's obvious. A solution would be for them to pick it up on time more than asking people to put it later.

Have a great day.

**From:** [SUSAN KUSHNER](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Opinion on new garbage proposal  
**Date:** Friday, October 21, 2022 11:27:28 AM

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This is the most ridiculous proposal. The building unions are going to fight you on this. Most building workers work 8am- 6pm. They are the one's taking out the garbage for every residential building in NY. This is just another ploy to make it harder for NYers to stay living in this city. We pay the highest taxes and get the least amount of normal service. Please through out this proposal.  
Susan Kushner

**From:** [Irving Lee](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] On Proposed Rules to amend Garbage placement  
**Date:** Sunday, November 20, 2022 6:18:23 PM

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As a small mom and pop property owner, we oppose the amendment taking out the garbage at 8pm. This will create difficult hardship and added expense for little or no gain in the fight against rodent infestation. The law will discriminate against owners of 8 or fewer residential apartments since we don't have the resources of larger corporate entities that can staff their buildings 24 hours a day.

1. Keeping an enclosed garbage container which allows property owners to place garbage on the curb at 6pm will not be an option in New York City since these containers will be stolen. Containers can not be secured to a building if garbage is to be placed on a curb.
2. Sanitation must develop appropriate strategies and work with the Health Department on realistic plans to reduce the rodent population.
3. Small Property owners should be consulted on the best means for their garbage to be picked up expeditiously.

Irving Lee

**From:** [Jonathan Lefkowitz](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Saturday, November 5, 2022 11:00:05 AM

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These rules will put a burden on small landlords who already are disproportionately impacted by most rules.

And why? This will not solve the problem. Rats come out late at night not at 4, 6 or 8 PM. This is simply a weak attempt to address a larger problem. Putting trash bags on the street will result in rats no matter what time they are placed outside. Think bigger! We need systematic change in how NYC deals with trash not a change that will have little to no impact on the rat problem.

The end result, smaller landlords will spend more resources to do something for no real reason. Who will benefit in the end is not the community but larger landlords that are not part of the community and who do not care about it.

-Via mobile

**From:** [Lesley](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal to move trash out time  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:37:33 PM

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By delaying the trash out time to curve will not solve any rats or raccoon problems. These animals can easily ransacked the trash cans whether they are in a driveway or at the curb. This proposal will only cause more troubles and accidents to people since they have to go out at night to move the trash. We should propose moving the time up to 3:00 pm as people return home from schools, they can move the trash out and cleanup after themselves.

Lesley



**From:** [IRWIN LEVENBROWN](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Garbage Pickup Schedule Changes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 9:57:44 PM

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I am a property owner of a 32 unit building in Queens. I have a resident superintendent who always puts the garbage out after 4PM the day prior to garbage collection. The proposed change to putting out the garbage after 8PM the night prior to collection is not a good idea at all. In my situation, as I'm sure in many other landlords' situations, my super goes to sleep very early because he's up early, so putting garbage out after 8 would not be an option. In addition, during the cold, blustery winter nights, it would be very unfair to ask anyone to leave the warmth of their homes to go outside when it's dark and cold, to put out garbage. In many neighborhoods it might not even be safe to go out in the dark to take care of the garbage. I urge you to please reconsider and keep the time of 4PM the day prior to pick up. In addition, many superintendents' days officially end at 5PM unless an emergency occurs, so why would you expect them to go out at 8PM which is way past their work hours, to start dealing with the garbage.

Esther Levenbrowm

**From:** [Yongfeng Liu](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Queens please don't change night time  
**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022 8:46:12 PM

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I'm living elmhurst queens please don't change to night time is unsafe to the landlords .last week a small landlords he working in restaurant come back about night 10pm when he drop garbage.someone show gun ask him money!Real danger for small landlords. Please please please don't change the time

发自我的iPhone

**From:** [Kandhaiya Mahadeo](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Regarding sanitation rules  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 4:26:35 PM

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Hi, my name is Ryan mahadeo and I am a building Superintendent in Tribeca area, my work schedule is Monday thru Friday,8AM-4PM, I am not a 24 hrs super, I deal with 3 building, 1st 16 apts,2nd 8apts and 3rd 4apts, it would be very difficult for me to place my garbage out after 8pm, I don't have any help and I am the only super to work in these buildings,no porter), please reconsider to change the sanitation rules for placing out garbage, thank you very much

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [S. Malkah Cohen](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Change in Trash Rules  
**Date:** Monday, November 7, 2022 9:12:46 AM

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Dear Sirs:

Will exceptions be made on this rule? It occurs to me that this will be quite a strain on the Orthodox Jewish community and on senior citizens in general.

For example, at Passover, we must remove all traces of leavened grain from our homes. In prior years, the Sanitation Dept has been very helpful in arranging for the safe ritual burning and extra pick ups we generate the day before. Since our holiday will begin at sundown (7:42p, I believe, April 4th, 2023), we must put our trash out well before your 8p rule.

Elderlies like my husband and I will also find 8p problematic. Many of us rely on paid help with heavy chores, like schlepping trash to the curb. That help often clocks out at 5 or 6p. I am limited to a wheelchair or walker & my husband has back & knee problems. How are we to handle the new deadline?

I hope that your office will soon outline how exceptions to this rule will be granted. I look forward to hearing from you..

Sincerely,  
Sarah Malkah Cohen

**From:** [markkozaki \(null\)](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] problem regarding proposed new rule for trash collection  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 6:28:16 PM

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Hello: Requesting your help please. Regarding the proposed rule change for time to place trash at curbside: The proposed rule change isn't feasible for my elderly, disabled relative who is unable to leave the house. My relative has aides who come to the house daily but they leave at 4:00 PM daily and they are not able to stay any later than 4:00PM. Nobody else is available to take out the trash later than 4:00 PM. Either the status quo currently existing time of 4:00 PM has to remain or a waiver needs to be granted for my relative. Please reply, Thank you.

**From:** [Beverly Maysonet \(Reliant Realty\)](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed garbage set-out times rule  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 10:06:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good Day,

Please provide information about the OPT-IN period of 4am-7:00am set-out window. How will property managers be able to opt in?

Respectfully,

Beverly Maysonet,  
Director of Violations & HQS Compliance  
Reliant Realty Services, LLC  
909 Third Avenue, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022  
Cell: 917.979-0792 | Office: 646.618.8727 | Fax: 212.758.8090

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**From:** [Navarro, Francisco](#)  
**To:** [Liguori, Madelynn \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: City of New York - Correspondence #1-1-7696620 Message to Agency Head, OPS - Other  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 1:38:51 PM

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Hi Madelynn,

This person sent their comment on the "placement of garbage" rule via our website.

Best,  
Francisco

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**From:** agencymail <agencymail@customercare.nyc.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2022 1:33 PM  
**To:** Navarro, Francisco <fnavarro@cityhall.nyc.gov>; Puzo, Stephanie <SPuzo@cityhall.nyc.gov>  
**Subject:** City of New York - Correspondence #1-1-7696620 Message to Agency Head, OPS - Other

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, October 24, 2022, at 01:27:03 PM

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This form resides at  
[https://www1\[.\]nyc\[.\]gov/site/operations/about/email-the-director\[.\]page](https://www1[.]nyc[.]gov/site/operations/about/email-the-director[.]page)  
-----Form: Customer Comment

Organization Name: OPS

Message Type: Misc. Comments

Topic: Other

Message: Please consider the senior citizens, especially those who have health issues, and/or live alone as well as those who live in questionable areas, when the times to put out the garbage is under consideration. Myself and my neighbor are almost 80 and have health problems. Just getting the garbage out now is a struggle especially for my neighbor who has to call on others to assist her. Keeping the time as it is now while there is still light out is important to us. I understand how changing it for large apartments buildings could be helpful but for seniors those whose health is comprised and the disabled it is very problematic. "One size (time) does not fit all" Thank you for your consideration, Dorothy McNamara, Franklin Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301

First Name: Dorothy  
Last Name: McNamara  
Street Address: [REDACTED]  
City: [REDACTED]  
State: NY  
Postal Code: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

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**From:** [mostreliablemgmt@aol.com](mailto:mostreliablemgmt@aol.com)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: DSNY Garbage Pickup - Proposed changes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:30:27 PM

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### To Whom It May Concern,

This email is in response to the proposed plan of limiting the presence of garbage on the sidewalks by changing the hours in which building owners & staff may place garbage out on the curbside from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. This will negatively impact the building owners, tenants and staff in several ways:

- 1) Buildings will have to store their garbage in their basements and yards, where space is already limited, for several additional hours or until the next day. This will increase the rodent infestation in and around the buildings, especially for larger multi-family buildings where dozens of bags are generated and collected per day, putting additional burdens on owners and staff while creating health and safety concerns for all.
- 2) Building staff (both union & non-union) will be forced to work beyond their regular work hours of 8am-5pm and be made to wait until the proposed time of 8:00pm (or 6:00-7:00am the next morning) for garbage to be put out on the curbside. It will be darker and mostly colder during these hours creating difficult and unsafe working conditions for the building staff.
- 3) As it stands now, DSNY is very inconsistent with it's garbage pick up in many areas of Brooklyn as well as other boroughs throughout the city, especially in inclement weather and days surrounding legal holidays. The garbage is left outside for days at a time until building owners and/or staff are forced to call 311 to report a missed pick up. This leads to DSNY inspectors issuing undeserved violations to building owners for keeping garbage out on non-collection days. The proposed change is simply a means to give the DSNY another reason to issue undeserved violations in the event building staff put out garbage a few hours early on a particular day.

The real issue is NOT that garbage is being kept out on the curb for a few hours extra during the daylight hours, supposedly creating a rodent problem. The rodents rarely come out during the day time. The DSNY is shirking it's responsibilities to properly collect the garbage on the regular scheduled days and times. In fact, there are times when the DSNY will collect only some of the bags due to garbage trucks being overloaded, or rip full garbage bags right on the curbside spilling garbage all over the sidewalk and street. What we really need is an *additional* collection day of the regular garbage pick up, especially for the larger multi-family buildings. Instead of two collection days per week, there should be three! Large multi-family buildings should be given the option to register for an additional collection day! That will greatly reduce the rodent problem- both on the streets AND in the buildings! NOT postponing the times for bags to be placed out for collection!

Sincerely,

Michael W.  
Most Rel. Mgmt. Corp.



**From:** [Lauren Millan](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 10:19:41 AM

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I OPPOSE

**From:** [mobarakh@aol.com](mailto:mobarakh@aol.com)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rats, Bags and proposed changes to DS  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 7:46:44 AM

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Anything we do to reduce rats feeding on our garbage will cost us at a time when every other costs are going up. We also face another significant cost to bring every building in NYC up to energy saving standards. All of these increase cost will force more affordable people to abandon our city.

Maybe we can look in technology to tie garbage bags with some sort of ties with rat poison that attract rats to that area of the garbage bags or have rat traps along the sidewalks when garbage are placed and removed with garbage are picked up.

I object to do anything that will add significant labor cost to residents or the sanitation department.

Mobarakh Mohammed  
[REDACTED]

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

**From:** [Ryan Monell](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments - Waste Set Out Rules  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 5:06:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [20221020 REBNY Comments Trash Set Out.pdf](#)

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Good evening – please see attached REBNY comments regarding waste set out rules. Thank you.

---

**Ryan Monell**  
*Vice President of Government Affairs*

The Real Estate Board of New York  
570 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022  
p: (212) 616-5247 | e: [RMonell@rebny.com](mailto:RMonell@rebny.com) | [www.rebny.com](http://www.rebny.com)

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**From:** [Allison Allen](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for today's public hearing on trash set out rule  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 12:35:55 PM

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I am a member of the MSWAB (Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board) and Chair of its Organics Committee. It was puzzling to watch the [Mayor's Press Conference](#), on October 17, introducing this new rule where he clearly stated how he hates rats and how rats will hate this new rule. This new rule does nothing to remove the rat's food from black plastic garbage bags. They will now just be placed out later - at 8pm instead of 4pm. I understand that less people will be out on the streets at 8 vs 4pm, so they will see less rats. But the rat food is still there and no one is talking or doing anything about that.

No one is acknowledging that the city actually has a program that is specifically designed to remove rat food from plastic garbage bags and divert it into rat proof brown bins as part of DSNY's curbside composting program. Meanwhile, there's a lot of talk about how we need to focus on containerizing waste - just put the same black plastic garbage bags filled with rat food into a container to solve the problem. Why is no one talking about how we should actually focus on removing the rat food from garbage bags as the first step?

This simple message needs to be made loud and clear. If you don't like to see rats, if you have a complaint about rats, you should enroll in the DSNY curbside composting program ASAP, if you are lucky enough to live in the 7 districts currently receiving service (plus all of Queens). Just as important, you should help pass Intro Bill #244 (mandatory city wide curbside compost collection), so that all New Yorkers can start diverting the rat food into DSNY's rat proof brown bins.

Disappointing that the city would spend \$4M for a consultant to study containerization when we have an existing rat food containerization program with the curbside composting program. The city could have chosen to fast track this program instead of delaying it. That \$4M could have gone a long way towards expanding and promoting curbside composting. Once we actually remove the rat food from plastic garbage bags - and if we would focus on improving recycling overall and even add textile recycling - we would have much fewer bags in need of containerization to begin with - possibly close to 50% less bags! Not sure why that is not a priority for funding and attention.

DSNY and DOH (with their Rat Portal and Academy) should be partnering to a much

greater extent, to make the connection between rats and the compost program. It makes absolutely no sense that there is so little, if any, cross promotion. The Mayor needs to get those agencies working together so when people call 311 with rat complaints and when DOH sends out communications related to rats - it all includes information and reasons why people should enroll in the compost program. That could be done at minimal, if any, cost.

As no one is making the strong connection between rat food and the compost program, the MSWAB will be announcing its Rat Food Reduction Plan shortly to encourage New Yorkers to compost as part of rat mitigation. For more information, or to join us, please contact us via our [website](#) or [allisonaallen@aol.com](mailto:allisonaallen@aol.com).

There are also other reasons for not supporting this rule, as it reduces the opportunity for reuse of the countless items that are placed out for garbage that are not really garbage - just no longer wanted by the current owner. If the city moves forward with this plan, they must dedicate resources to addressing reusables and repairables in the waste stream - which should be included in the current waste characterization study.

Thank you.

Allison Allen  
Member of the Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board (MSWAB)  
Organics Committee Chair  
<https://www.manhattanswab.org/organics>

DON'T DISCARD - DONATE, REUSE, REPAIR & SHARE  
<https://www.manhattanswab.org/donate-reuse-repair>

**From:** [ELENA NACANTHER](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Sanitation Rule Changes  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:22:59 PM

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As a Senior Citizen Homeowner, your new time change to 8 pm is dangerous for me. Not only is there a greater chance of my falling carrying out the trash in the dark, but also a greater chance of my falling prey to criminal elements.

I put out my trash, which is meticulously separated and bagged, at around 4:30-5pm all the time with no sign of bag damage from rodents.

I think that this time change might be good for large apartment buildings that have Supers, but for us already struggling single homeowners, this is just another thing to worry about, which is so unfair.

I pay a lot of taxes, I follow the rules, and I feel like what I have to do is never enough. There is always add ons to make life more difficult.

I would really appreciate consideration in this matter. Is three hours really worth my worrying about my safety every week, twice a week?

Thank you,  
Elena Nacanthor

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone



12 w 37th street, 7th floor  
new york, ny 10018

646 472.0262  
646 472.0266 fax  
newdestinyhousing.org



**new destiny**  
housing

## **COMMENT ON PROPOSED RULE FOR TIME FOR PLACING SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS OUT AT THE CURB FOR COLLECTION**

**Gabriela Sandoval Requena, Sr. Policy Analyst**

**November 18, 2022**

Thank you, Commissioner Tisch for the opportunity to comment on the Department of Sanitation's proposed rule on behalf of New Destiny Housing.

Founded in 1994, New Destiny Housing is a New York City-based nonprofit committed to ending the cycle of violence for low-income families and individuals experiencing homelessness and domestic violence. We build and manage supportive, affordable housing and through our rapid rehousing program, HousingLink, we connect survivors with safe, permanent housing. New Destiny also advocates for housing resources for domestic violence survivors and their families. We are a member of the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD).

As an affordable housing developer and operator, we urge you to strongly consider our input as the administration makes changes to the regulations affecting the hours property owners and managers are able to place trash at the curb for collection.

While we support efforts to mitigate rat infestations throughout the city, the approach presented by the proposed rule would disrupt everyday management and tenant services and cause financial hardship for nonprofits operating affordable housing. Inflation, increasing interest rates and insurance premiums, and reduced rent payments during the COVID-19 pandemic are just some examples of the economic headwinds we are faced with. Limiting the times residential buildings can place trash curbside will represent an unfunded mandate and will force us to extend hours or hire additional staff, which implies additional expenses. Nonprofit landlords already operate on extremely thin margins. We urge the administration to grant special consideration and assistance to those who develop and manage permanent affordable homes for New Yorkers in need. This support can be in the form of waivers that allow for flexibility, special funding to hire additional staff, and lidded receptacles for solid waste and recyclables free of charge.

New Destiny echoes ANHD's concerns that the proposal will negatively impact the rate at which affordable housing is created in the city. This policy will increase the cost to operate buildings and lead to the decrease of total number of new affordable units over the coming years. Given how much of a priority increasing the affordable housing stock is to the administration, we strongly urge you to consider the feedback of nonprofit developers and operators on this proposed rule.

We appreciate your efforts to address this challenging issue facing our city and look forward to working with you on a solution that balances the interests of these critical citywide priorities. We welcome any questions you may have.

**Gabriela Sandoval Requena**  
Senior Policy Analyst at New Destiny Housing  
[gsrequena@newdestinyhousing.org](mailto:gsrequena@newdestinyhousing.org)

**From:** [Natalie Nussbaum](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 8 pm garbage take out.  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 1:54:38 PM

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Living in Hillcrest, area code 11366. I am a widowed senior citizen, with double vision, neuropathy in my toes and vertigo. Very unstable walking. Walking in daylight is a huge effort filled with fear because I have fallen twice. I **CANNOT** take garbage out at night. On Friday afternoons before the Sabbath is when I take out my garbage, weekly at 4 p.m.  
This law is insane.  
Natalie Nussbaum

**From:** [Amanda Ottaway](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public comment on trash time rule  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 3:59:05 PM

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Hi there,

As a Brooklyn resident, I'd like to echo the good points made by my NYC neighbors about the proposed rule to change the trash put-out time from 4pm to 8pm. I believe this rule will be utterly ineffective at deterring rats and will only cause inconvenience and possible harm to NYC residents.

Our Jewish neighbors observing Shabbos won't be able to put out their trash in the winter. Elderly residents and those with mobility issues will face challenges taking their trash out in the dark. Unionized building employees will charge overtime (as they should!) for this inane task.

And of course, the bottom line is, this proposal is utterly silly. Rats are nocturnal. They'll still have all night to get into garbage bags. Garbage bags will still block our sidewalks. This will change absolutely nothing.

New York City should use our tax dollars to implement a civilized trash collection system like basically every other city in America and Europe. Read: CONTAINERS.

Thank you for your time,  
Amanda Ottaway

**From:** [CURES](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CURES: re. Rules - Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 9:06:07 PM

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide this public comment. We are writing to support Mayor Adams's rat abatement program. In the Borough of Queens the Mayor's rat abatement rules will be amplified by his DSNY curbside composting program, which uses rat-proof Brown Bins. We hope that the Mayor will expand the use of Brown Bin composting city-wide so there is even less of a "rat buffet" available.

In addition to supporting the Mayor's new collection rules and expansion of DSNY curbside composting as part of rat abatement, we also support composting as part of our advocacy for the modernization of freight locomotives, rail cars, rail containers, and freight rail operations that are used to export waste-by-rail. This includes the city's MSW-by-rail from Varick Avenue and Review Avenue. Today communities in Queens breathe community air that is fouled by emissions from 1970's locomotives and waste blowoff and odors from rail cars of waste. If the 41% of what goes into black bags today is composted instead of being exported to landfills, it means less pollution and fewer quality of life problems for Queens families.

Mary Parisen-Lavelle-Lavelle, Chair CURES - 718-772-6563

Civics  
United for  
Railroad  
Environmental  
Solutions  
[civicsunited@gmail.com](mailto:civicsunited@gmail.com)

**From:** [Sherrie Pasarell](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rat proliferation: Our most urgent public health matter.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 6, 2022 10:34:10 PM

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Hello New York City Department of Sanitation:

**All sincere efforts to address our huge rodent problem are to be applauded. I trust that lessening** curbside time from 16 to 12 hours, as currently being considered, is well intended. Unfortunately, that is not enough. The reality is that rats can and will adapt, adjust their feeding schedule. They learn, and do so quickly.

Understood, lessening curbside times may present challenges, such as manpower issues. Nevertheless, we must do all we can to reduce the rodent population as much and as quickly as possible. Twelve hours curbside is far too long. An hour or two at most could begin to mitigate our sanitation-public health crisis which, without more drastic measures, can only worsen.

Aside from radical reduction in curbside times, we need to institute use of rat-proof receptacles: Metal or at least thick, rubber bins, like the ones currently used for organics collection. Put simply, we need bins that cannot be bitten through. Plastic bags currently in use are unacceptable, as we can all see.

Those are changes that need to be made throughout Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island, with no time to waste.

Thank you in advance for your reply.

Sherrie Pasarell  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Elvis Perez](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:11:20 PM

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This new proposed rule is not fair to building superintendents like myself or building porters. We work a schedule from 8am - 5pm. We have families and lives that we must tend to after work hours. Children to help with their homework and cook dinner for. For us to come back to the building at 8pm just to throw out trash is ridiculous. Travel time, dangerous areas after dark, the chance of getting bit by a rat or raccoon because we can't see them in the dark. I am 100% against this new rule. Does it matter what the little guys like myself have to say? We shall see.

**From:** [Liz Picarazzi](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Frank Picarazzi](#); [Alejandro Bautista](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Specifics about "receptacles with tight-fitting lids"  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 3:11:22 PM

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Are there examples of receptacles with tight-fitting lids? Could you provide some pictures or links to trash can models that meet the requirements?  
Do the cans need to be labeled with addresses?

Thanks,  
Liz Picarazzi

**From:** [Susan Pivnick](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Changes to garbage rules  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 1:26:49 PM

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Hi. I love what is being proposed for changes to garbage pickup parameters (i.e., timing and requirement for garbage containers in some cases). Since this is such a significant change, might I suggest making it a bit more significant? Why not require everyone to put garbage out in containers, no matter who, what time or how much? This might give us an even better chance of defeating rats.

Also, (and I'm not sure this next point should be directed to you) if we are going to keep outside dining, someone needs to direct that the structures do not have underneath access to rats. I see them all the time around some of the dining venues with space between the platform and the street. I would be afraid to walk a dog near one of those in the evening, as I have seen rats come out from underneath them.

Thank you for listening.

Susan Pivnick  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Michael Pollack](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment re Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 9:56:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [NYC Mayor Eric Adams" Rat Plan is a New Tax on Trash](#) [New York Law Journal.pdf](#)

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Faculty Development at Cardozo Law School here in New York City. My research focuses on municipal law, property law, and agency design. I am also a longtime resident of the City. It is both in my capacity as a legal expert and a resident of the City that I must strongly urge against the adoption of this rule. In support of my comment, I attach hereto a piece I published a few days ago in the New York Law Journal setting out the reasons why this trash collection rule is misguided, costly, and a distraction from the more meaningful solutions to the very real rat problem the City faces. My piece can also be found here:

<https://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/2022/10/28/nyc-mayor-eric-adams-rat-plan-is-a-new-tax-on-trash/>

Yours sincerely,

Michael Pollack  
Professor of Law  
Associate Dean for Faculty Development  
Co-Director, Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law  
55 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10003  
646-592-6541  
[michael.pollack@yu.edu](mailto:michael.pollack@yu.edu)  
[SSRN](#)

**From:** [eric porco](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Garbage Pick Up Schedule  
**Date:** Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:31:45 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I just read the article in the RSA reporter about the proposed time change from 4pm to 8pm. This, simply said, is not feasible. This means I would have to pay someone overtime just to place the garbage out.

This is not just a money issue. 8pm is time to be spent with family. Dinner, homework, bed time etc. This proposal would absolutely get in the way of how many families operate.

This is one of the problems with the many changes that have occurred in NY's real estate industry. Changes are proposed and/or made without thinking of the long term and subsequent consequences.

For the sake of all New Yorkers, please do not change the time to 8pm.

Thank you.

Eric Porco  
Property Manager  
Enrann Property Management Inc.  
212.595.0377

**From:** [shorerd8801@aol.com](mailto:shorerd8801@aol.com)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Garbage  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 9:33:07 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I have been a landlord in Bay Ridge Brooklyn for over 40 years! We put our garbage out at approximately 4pm , the day before pickup ! In all my years of doing this , I have Never seen a Rat, in the Garbage ! I've seen Cats , but Never Rats !

If there is a concentration of Rats in a certain Area, why is it Universal for the whole City !

We do not have the same problems as NYC , why is it the same rule for everyone?

Putting the Garbage out 4 hours later will have no effect ,except to inconvenience management to have someone there to do this , when they should be home with their families! Worry about the Area's you have problems, and leave the other Area's alone !

Very Truly Yours,

Howard Poret

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Anderson, Gregory \(DSNY\)](#)  
**To:** [Liguori, Madelynn \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Concern related to proposed changes in trash collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 5:08:25 PM

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See email below for the record

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Circharo, Nicholas (DSNY) <[ncircharo@dspy.nyc.gov](mailto:ncircharo@dspy.nyc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 3:59 PM  
**To:** BCA-Managers <[BCA-Managers@dspy.nyc.gov](mailto:BCA-Managers@dspy.nyc.gov)>; Goodman, Joshua (DSNY) <[JGoodman@dspy.nyc.gov](mailto:JGoodman@dspy.nyc.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Concern related to proposed changes in trash collection

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Brian Straub <[bstraub@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:bstraub@advocate.nyc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2022 11:03 AM  
**To:** Circharo, Nicholas (DSNY) <[ncircharo@dspy.nyc.gov](mailto:ncircharo@dspy.nyc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scandole, Steven <[sscandole@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:sscandole@advocate.nyc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Concern related to proposed changes in trash collection

Hello Nicholas,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am reaching out with regards to concerns constituents have brought to our office's attention pertaining to the proposed changes in when trash will be collected.

The concerns revolve around the proposed change from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, which would affect seniors who are unable to put out their trash without assistance from aides or family members, particularly if they live on their own.

The proposed time change is of concern because the seniors that would be affected would not have anyone to help them put out the trash this late at night.

Are there any proposed protocols that would be put in place for these situations should there be a change in collection time?

Many thanks in advance for any insight that you can provide.

Sincerely,  
Brian

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--



**Brian Straub** | Constituent Services Associate  
**Office of NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams 1 Centre  
Street, 15th Floor North, New York, NY 10007**  
**Email:** [bstraub@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:bstraub@advocate.nyc.gov) | **Phone:** 646-397-4773  
**Fax:** 212-669-4701  
[www.advocate.nyc.gov](http://www.advocate.nyc.gov)

November 12, 2022

Rule changes – curb placement times.  
DSNY – Department of Sanitation  
125 Worth Street, Room 710  
New York, NY 10013

Comments on rule changes from 4 PM to 8 PM to place trash at curb –

1. It is easier to place trash at the curb during DAYLIGHT hours. Residents can see inside their trash and recycling cans that sit outside and can remove items and bags to place at the curb. People are walking around, so it is safer. If there is a rainstorm or snowstorm or ice storm, people can decide if it will be better at 4 PM or 8 PM and not get soaked or frozen. Young and old people cannot see if driveways and sidewalks are icy at night, and they might slip.
2. Placing containers or trash cans at the curb is not sanitary. Dog owners do not keep their dogs away from the trash cans, so the outside gets dirty. The inside gets dirty and breeds flies and bugs if trash bags are not used.
3. In the winter, the sidewalk curb area is buried under snow and ice, so it is impossible for trash cans to sit flat by the curb. There are mountains of snow from shoveling the sidewalk and driveway. Trash cans and covers slide into the street due to high winds and icy streets.
4. Sanitation workers will have to lift heavy bags out of trash cans. Sometimes the bags rip. They will have to handle heavy trash cans, and lids. They cannot see if a can contains trash or paper or bottles.
5. If large buildings place trash out from 4 AM to 7 AM, they miss the midnight collections. What happens if trucks are being used to plow streets in the morning and afternoon? No collection.
6. Sanitation should mail notices to everyone picturing how to sort various items, such as cardboard egg cartons into paper bins, and plastic foam egg cartons into trash bins. Many people move here or forget. Also include sidewalk snow removal rules.
7. The city should distribute sticky bug and rodent traps to everyone. The city must be sure that the adhesive is very sticky. Could the city do more to kill rats and bugs?
8. Sanitation should also have 6 inch long stickers and PDF cut-out pages online that say TRASH, BOTTLE & CAN RECYCLING, and PAPER RECYCLING.
9. PLEASE KEEP THE 4 PM TIME.

A Queens resident.

---

**From:** Saloni Sharma <ssharma@brooklynchamber.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 4, 2022 3:24 PM  
**To:** Riel, Rayn (DSNY) <RRiel@dny.nyc.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Timing changes

I have a comment - that businesses and no one really is aware of this and it can be disastrous to implement these changes without some input from the business community. What is DSNY doing to spread the word? Would someone from your end want to come on to our BIDs call next week to make an announcement? I can call you if you need to talk.

***Saloni Sharma***

Senior Director, Neighborhood Economic Development

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

[ssharma@brooklynchamber.com](mailto:ssharma@brooklynchamber.com)

718-875-1000 x 138

REBNY Testimony | November 18, 2022

## The Real Estate Board of New York to the NYC Department of Sanitation Regarding Proposed Rules on Trash Set-Out Times

The Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) is the City's leading real estate trade association. Founded in 1896, REBNY represents commercial, residential, and institutional property owners, builders, managers, investors, brokers, salespeople and other organizations and individuals active in New York City real estate. REBNY strongly supports policies that expand the local economy, grow, and improve the City's housing stock, enhance streetscapes, and create greater opportunities for all New Yorkers. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposed rules.

It is no secret that most New Yorkers are concerned about the quantity of trash bags on city streets for growing periods of time, and the pests and problems they bring. As a result, REBNY was pleased to have the opportunity to work with the Department of Sanitation (DSNY), the City Council, and other stakeholders on the rules being proposed today to identify opportunities to decrease the amount of time trash is on the streets.

For residential waste, the proposed rule would require that buildings could place solid waste and recyclables on the curb for collection by DSNY no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day before their scheduled collection, provided such materials are placed out in lidded receptacles. Those residential buildings using bags would be allowed to place their materials out at the curb for collection by DSNY no earlier than 8:00 p.m. on the day before their scheduled collection. DSNY also proposes to create an enrollment-based Multiunit Building Collection Program for multiple dwellings that contain nine or more dwelling units. This program will allow approved buildings with on-site maintenance or janitorial staff to opt to set out waste for collection between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection, rather than after 6:00 p.m. (if in a container with a lid) or 8:00 p.m. the night before collection.

For commercial waste, current DSNY rules allow commercial establishments to set out solid waste and recycling one hour before closing or two hours before a scheduled collection. Under the proposed rules, waste may be placed out for collection within one hour of closing, provided that the scheduled collection occurs before the establishment next reopens for business and only if such materials are placed out for collection in receptacles with tight-fitting lids. Those establishments that place materials out for collection in bags, regardless of the time they close, may place such materials at the curb no earlier than 8:00 p.m. The proposed rules would not apply to buildings that utilize containerized or off-street collection, including collections that take place in a loading dock.

REBNY appreciates that DSNY's proposed rules allow for multiple options for both residential and commercial owners, managers, and businesses. In doing so, DSNY shows that they understand the reality that no two buildings or businesses are alike. Allowing for multiple ways towards compliance is a necessity for any successful regime. With this said, REBNY believes that even with options,



these rules will nonetheless disrupt building operations and businesses. DSNY must account for these impacts going forward for this program to be successful.

The most significant challenge buildings and businesses will face in complying with the proposed rule is adjusting their labor force to accommodate these new set-out times. Specifically, these new rules will require changes to be made to the schedules of the workers (porters) who bring trash and recycling to the street. To accommodate this change, some buildings may then need to either hire additional staff or adjust the work hours of other staff members at the building to ensure that an appropriate number of staff persons are available to put out trash and recycling at these new times.

All these changes will result in higher operating costs for the building. This is true not just for large, unionized buildings where managing waste and recycling is a full-time job for several workers, but also for smaller rentals, cooperatives, and condominiums. Indeed, it is these types of buildings that could face the most significant compliance challenges as they may have fewer staff and will be most sensitive to the cost impacts that result from amending workers' schedules and building operations. While the proposed Multiunit Building Collection Program option will help address this issue in some buildings, this program should not be perceived as a panacea.

As these reforms are implemented, DSNY should prioritize helping owners make better use of containers. As in many cities throughout the world, increased containerization is a natural solution to the problems New York City experiences by having trash bags placed directly on our streets. For smaller buildings and storefronts, containers can provide additional flexibility as proposed in the rules. However, without the DSNY and other City agencies providing the ability for containers to be utilized effectively, success could be hampered. For many buildings, the purchasing of enough containers to accommodate the entirety of a building could be costly. In addition, finding room to store containers and/or to place them on the street or sidewalk, many of which are already being utilized for parking, outdoor dining, or other uses, could be challenging until DSNY or DOT works to establish space that can be utilized for this purpose. REBNY encourages DSNY to help more buildings adopt this type of system through greater outreach and support.

Lastly, REBNY encourages DSNY to do all it can to educate and support buildings as they work to meet compliance prior to penalties becoming commonplace. Regardless of the size and circumstance of a building, particularly residential buildings, it would behoove DSNY to understand the challenges that will arise surrounding these new rules and identify solutions to best address them. REBNY looks forward to supporting DSNY in this effort.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

## **CONTACT:**

### **Ryan Monell**

*Vice President of Government Affairs*  
Real Estate Board of New York  
212-616-5247  
rmonell@rebny.com

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] NYC Rules (DSNY)  
**Date:** [EXTERNAL] Trash Collections  
Tuesday, November 8, 2022 10:40:06 AM

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No matter how DSNY "designs" the routes - the garbage sits out on the curb until they get darned good and ready to pick it up? Countless times I report that my garbage sits out there for DAYS and yet the only DSNY retort is "Well, after all - we have 24 hours to do our job?"

The question is less about when we put it out but - WHEN WILL IT BE PICKED UP, RELIABLY???

Michael Riley

**From:** [E Rollins](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposal- trash time change  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 2:25:59 PM

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I am OPPOSED to the city's proposal to change the time that trash can be placed on the curb for removal. This will not resolve the issue of rats.

Not every home has a trash bin.

Please consider the safety of the members of the communities, as it gets darker in the fall/winter months. We already have a public safety issue as it pertains to crime. Please consider the safety of persons who are working (e.g. to come home and have to wait until 8pm to take out the garbage), and the safety of our senior citizens and those with disabilities. It is darker in the fall/winter months. Please also consider our work schedule (e.g. if someone leaves home before 8pm for work, when will s/he take out the trash?).

Please leave the current time where communities can set out their trash as is.

Thank you,

Concerned NYC resident

**From:** [michelle rosenblatt](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trash collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 10:35:25 AM

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8pm is way too late to put out trash and no co-op will have supers willing to work that late.

**From:** [Ellen](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [district24@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district24@council.nyc.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Changes to Trash Pickup  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 12:51:00 PM

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I am opposed to this change for this area—it means that seniors such as my mother and myself cannot take the garbage out in the daylight when we feel secure, but in the dark, and especially in the winter months, at a time of day when it is much colder.

As for the part that says you can put it out earlier if in pails, that is not acceptable because depending on the hour of the pickup, sometimes in the middle of the night, the pails have to be taken in at times when people are generally not home—during working hours—or else you run the risk of a ticket. In addition, the pails are too heavy, and securing them in garbage bags which can be made to be any weight, is more effective and safe.

The rule changes should not apply to single family dwellings—only to apartment buildings, buildings with more than 3 or more families, and areas that are high garbage areas.

Ellen Rothstein

=====  
=====X

Ellen Rothstein

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] X

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## Rent Stabilization Association Comments on DSNY Rodent Mitigation Zones Amendments

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Rent Stabilization Association of New York City represents 25,000 diverse owners and managers who collectively manage more than one million apartments in every neighborhood and community throughout the city. RSA supports the City and DSNY's commitment to cleaning up New York City streets, however, rodent mitigation programs throughout the boroughs should be further amended.

We understand the desire for change. Rodent complaints have reached record highs in 2022 and continue to be an issue throughout the city. Changes need to be made and efforts by both building owners and DSNY in unison are how such improvements will be achieved.

There is a discrepancy between the proposed rules for residential buildings and commercial buildings that should be further addressed to create a more integrated residential and commercial waste program. The Department will collect waste from occupants of residential buildings and commercial waste in the same building will be picked up by commercial carters at varying times. Adjacent buildings at yet another. With all the different schedules established for types of residential and commercial waste, collection time will be inconsistent. Waste will always be idle before collection and rats will continue to feast. The Department should reconcile the time that all waste is collected to minimize the number of hours it is out.

Waste in the same area should be picked up altogether, regardless of who it belongs to. The rodents cannot tell time. While set out times attempt to resolve the issue, ultimately to make sure that collections are going to be staffed in such a way that waste is removed quickly, limiting the amount of time that any is out, will be most effective. For many buildings, evening set out will be challenging. Keeping waste inside on premises for longer periods will only drive the problem inside and spread the rodents' search from place to place. While we agree in theory, a better solution would be an opt-in option for those that can adhere to evening pickups. An opt-in option will ensure that DSNY can remove waste by midnight, and residential and commercial buildings will have waste sitting out for less time.

Not only is there an inconsistency between residential and commercial rules but also within the standards being established for residential pickup. The Department should amend the schedule for multiple dwelling units and to whom it applies. To give all buildings no matter the size the opportunity to opt-in for later scheduled set out. While RSA does not object to limiting the amount of hours waste is out, waste kept in receptacles should be included. But while receptacles may conceal the rodent problem, it can be understood that buildings using the DSNY-provided

receptacles will be doing so because of pre-existing sanitation and hygiene violations. These areas may already be established headquarters for rodents, and removing all waste as quickly as possible will help curb the problem.

The Multiunit Building Collection program should be expanded to optimize the proposed beyond buildings with nine units or more, to include those with less than nine units. We support early morning set-out time, with the inclusion of greater flexibility for set-out shifts to support multifamily buildings. Consider small building owners who are likely to struggle with an early morning set-out time. For the buildings with nine units or fewer, most often there is no staff other than the building owner themselves. If buildings' cannot put their waste out to make these schedules, stagnant waste will continue to be an issue. The simple solution would be to have all waste put out by 7:00 am and collected within a six-hour period for all buildings. Just as waste should not be out for more than four hours before collection, it should not exceed more than a certain amount of hours before being removed.

Amending the proposed rule to be more cohesive and consistent will more effectively mitigate rodents in the city. RSA respectfully requests that the proposed regulations be attended to following the comments set forth above.

**From:** [Fred Rufrano](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] PUBLIC COMMENT ON EARLIER GARBAGE PICKUP  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 1:28:13 PM

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To Whom it May Concern:

Moving the garbage put out time will not help any rat infestations and will inconvenience many New Yorkers

who do the daily work of putting garbage at the curb for pickup. It will make it worse! 100%.

The rats will just stay out longer to eat. It will worsen the situation.

I watch my cameras and the rats mainly come out after 10pm anyway. WE NEED EXTERMINATION AND MUST GET RID OF THE "TEMPORARY" OUTDOOR DINING SHEDS!

I have Brute Garbage pails that are very strong plastic and rat proof but the rats have eaten thru the pails

and eat the garbage even when the pails are in my gate. Rats don't care if the garbage are at the curb or behind the gate, they will jump and get in or just eat a hole in the bottom of the pails. Walk around and look at the garbage pails

in front of houses and you will see. I'm not making this up.

Moving the time of trash put out will not help - it will only inconvenience people that want to be home for dinner with their families.

The rats eat whenever they want and this will not help a bit. Every time NYC tries to make things better

it gets worse. We need the city to exterminate the rats!! Want to cut down on rats then get rid

of the "Temporary" outdoor eating sheds!!!! All the rats live under these sheds that take up parking and are totally filthy. I mean filthy!!! The water can't get thru the shed and the rats peek out

and eat what the diners drop on the floor. The city is so messed up with stupid rules that don't make sense.

Do you want everyone to move out? Seriously NYC is making it impossible to do business here or live here.

I'm ready to pack it in. NYC is chasing every working producing person out.

If NYC is trying to make money off of tickets for putting garbage out too early like another tax on people then this will

work. It's probably just the case.

Rats Will Eat Whenever They Want and This New Rule Will Not Help. I exterminate my garbage area and all owners should

and NYC Should help too. Get Rid of the "Temporary" Eating Sheds and this will help!!

That's right they were supposed

to be "Temporary" so get rid of them - that's where the rats are living. Does anyone question the increase in rats timeline to coincide with the "Temporary" Outdoor dining Sheds? No one looks at this as it does not fit their narrative.

The garbage put out time has been 4pm for many years and the rats are a problem now?

NO ITS DIRTY BUILDINGS

WHO DON'T TAKE CARE OF THEIR RECYCLING AREA AND THE "TEMPORARY" OUTDOOR DINING AREAS!!!!

Very simple. But I know the City will pass another stupid law. It Seems Like No One With A Brain in NYC -They are all



brain damaged from the "Legal Marijuana"!!!!!!  
Very Truly Yours,  
Another Person Sick of NYC,  
Fred Rufrano

# Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection

 [rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/time-for-placing-solid-waste-and-recyclable-materials-out-at-the-curb-for-collection/](https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/time-for-placing-solid-waste-and-recyclable-materials-out-at-the-curb-for-collection/)



**Rule status:** Proposed

**Agency:** DSNY

**Comment by date:** November 18, 2022

## Rule Full Text

HEARING-DATE-AND-CERTIFICATIONS-DSNY-Proposed-Rule-re-Times-for-Placement-of-Refuse-and-Recyclable-Materials-on-Curb-for-Pickup-Preliminarily-Certified-10.3.22.pdf

As part of the City's commitment to cleaning up New York City streets and reducing food sources for rats, DSNY is proposing to amend its rule governing the time for placing solid waste and recyclable materials out at the curb for collection.

Attendees who need reasonable accommodation for a disability such as a sign language translation should contact the agency by calling 1 (646) 885-4996 or emailing [eluna@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:eluna@dsny.nyc.gov) by **November 10, 2022**

## **Send comments by**

- **Email:** [nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov)

- **Mail:** DSNY, 125 Worth Street Room/Floor: Room 710 ; New York, New York 10013

## Public Hearings

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### Public Hearing

Date

November 18, 2022

9:30am - 10:30am EST

Location

Connect Virtually

<https://departmentofsanitationnewyork.my.webex.com/departmentofsanitationnewyork.my/j.php?MTID=m9f4276d56e81d2728812d66c46adfd12>

Meeting number: 2633 801 7914

Password: TubpXV6ny27 (88279866 from phones and video systems)

IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE LINK HERE, OPEN THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND CLICK ON THE LINK IN THAT DOCUMENT

Join by video system

Dial 26338017914@webex.com You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 263 380 17914

Disability Accommodation

**Online comments:** 74

**johncampanie@msn.com**

As a Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn resident, I strongly oppose this rule change.

Like most residential homeowners, I am concerned with the cleanliness of our streets. Yet this initiative, like most the City implements, puts yet another onus on residential community members, rather than where actual improvements in the situation could be made.

1. We cannot trust our sanitation workers to responsibly treat our trash pails (they are strewn over the street itself after every weekly pickup, sometimes a house down the block, and THEN they are only half-emptied – if we are lucky). How can we expect that they will spend the additional 1/2 of a second required to keep a lid associated to it's pail? They will be lost within a month.

2. How about getting the sanitation teams to actually show up on a reliable schedule? Ours frequently show up many hours, even into the late afternoon, for morning pickups.

3. How about the crews not leave trash strewn throughout the street after emptying the pails?

4. How, pray tell, is keeping our pails 6 feet from the eventual curbside location another two hours going to solve this rat problem?

5. And finally, how about focusing on businesses dealing with food and the large mountains of refuse regularly in front of apartment buildings, rather than pulling individual households into this issue? If rats are being attracted to garbage in any numbers it's from the piles upon piles upon piles of garbage lining our streets – NOT our residential trash pails. Do you really need a study to realize this?

One decision after another this City's management makes increases the difficulty of actually living in this City and ever pushes me to leave it.

John Campanie

Comment added October 17, 2022 9:03pm

**Mike**

This will be forcing small building owners or those paid by them who don't live at the premises to now travel at night in an unsafe city to put garbage to the curb, or even if the person does live at the premises, it would require venturing out after dark increasing risk of attack, it is not worth the risk.

Comment added October 18, 2022 1:42pm

## DAVINDRANAOUTH SHIWRATAN

This rule is unfair to small homeowners, who are paying their quarterly property tax hikes, to be in compliance or be issue DSNY violation in the City Hall revenue collection scheme. "Rats" is the pretext to collect revenue in enforcement violations and shaping living in New York City to be difficult.

Comment added October 18, 2022 5:04pm

## MN

While I highly doubt this rule will change anything for the rats, they'll just wait another 2 hours for their dinner.

But I have no problem with placing my garbage out later on regular days, so if someone thinks this will help I'm ok with that in general.

BUT there must be an exception for Friday evening for anyone who has collection on Saturday morning. 8pm is too late for us to be able to place the garbage out before sundown on Friday as required by jewish law.

Thank you

Comment added October 19, 2022 2:22pm

## BA

### Cambria Heights Cares

Why do the New York “powers that be” continuously change the rules for the residents of New York but not change the rules for their Agencies?!! The Dept of Sanitation is NOT consistent when it comes to garbage pick-up. Regular garbage MIGHT be picked up by 9am but the recycle sits at the curb until 12:30 pm and sometimes later. The Sanitation workers are not made to adhere to a strict time to collect the garbage so why should New Yorker’s be fined for when garbage and recycle is placed at the curb. Where are the Sanitation supervisors that monitor the efficiency and work ethic of its workers?

Trashcans that are paid for by residents are thrown and tossed carelessly and/or left in the street by sanitation workers. Garbage and recycle that drops out of trashcans when being emptied into the Sanitation trucks are left in the street by sanitation workers.

Importantly, It gets darker earlier at this time of the year and not all residents are comfortable with taking out their garbage after dark. I DO NOT AGREE with this new proposal. How about focusing on this proposal...amend the rules concerning flyers, paper advertisements, notes, business cards from realtors, restaurants, construction companies and other businesses that are constantly being left on the outside doors of private homes! Make it illegal to put this type of trash on the doors of private homes. If it’s illegal to place or leave this type of trash on City buildings, it should be the same set of rules for New Yorker’s private property!

Comment added October 20, 2022 7:06am

## Mays

How exactly is it going to make a difference if I move the garbage from the side of my house to the curb 2 or 4 hours later. The rats can either come to the side of my house or they can wait a few more hours. This also places an extra burden on the elderly as they will have to go out at night to take care of the garbage. Also, for anyone that keeps Shabbos it will not be possible to take out the garbage so late on Fridays. Please reconsider this idea!

Comment added October 20, 2022 7:47am

## AH

On winter Fridays the Jewish Sabbath begins around 4 pm, so Orthodox Jews who have Saturday pickup will be unable to put out their trash. (And, while many Orthodox Jews live in heavily Jewish neighborhoods, not all do, so exempting said neighborhoods won't solve the problem.)

Aside from which, consider. Where is trash kept during the days between one pickup and the next? Often outside the building, as there's too much to keep indoors. I live in a private house, and there are perhaps 15 feet from the area of my property where I keep my trash and the spot on the curb where I put it out for collection. In apartment buildings, too, it's not that far from one to the other. Do the framers of this proposal think that rats can't run that distance? It sounds like something dreamed up by someone who can't think past the end of their own nose.

Comment added October 20, 2022 11:45am

## Dd

Why don't you make the garbage collection happen at nighttime and not the wee hours of the morning? Less likely for rodents and cats to eat at the bags when there are people around. If you leave it out all night the problem won't change.

I have a system now with someone who takes out our garbage and a few of the tenants the live with us. I can't imagine coming home from work in the evening (yes, I'm one of the few NYers that have a job) and then have to start dealing with garbage removal as well!

Comment added October 21, 2022 3:17pm

## Sal

I disagree with the requirement that lids must be placed on garbage cans when placed at curb side. Typically my garbage is picked up early in the morning or overnight and Sanitation crew end up grouping cans with other cans 2 or 3 houses away. I have no issues with recovering cans a couple of houses away, however the odds of me recovering the lids are slim to none. The lid requirement is a means for sanitation to enforce fines and homeowners to repeatedly purchase new lids.

Comment added October 22, 2022 9:56am

## SDB

I am both a homeowner and property manager. I do not agree that this proposal is trying to dominantly control the rat population mainly due to the fact that rats are nocturnal animals. This law proposes that we place trash on the curb during peak rat activity. Many people have already brought up the fact that trash already lives outside in front of houses so it truly makes no difference the hour at which it goes out if it's in a bin as it's been outside the entire day.

This mostly effects the supers and homeowners responsible for bringing trash out. As you are now asking them to place our trash outside in the dark every evening. Our supers assist with multiple buildings and are often older community members. I think it's an unfair ask considering that it will have no to minimal effect on the rat activity.

I wonder if exterminators were consulted when determining the best way to rid of rats? I think this is a poorly constructed plan that cares more for beautification of the blocks. If they cared for rats, we'd be asked to place our garbage out after sunrise with collection prior to the afternoon.

Comment added October 22, 2022 11:45am

## Anne

The sanitation workers need to be responsible, ensure all the garbage is emptied from the containers, and then place the covered receptacles back in place. Their work is rushed and sloppy. If this means hiring more workers to accomplish the clean city goal, then that should be done.

London has a good system with garbage containers that have covered receptacles. Garbage bags are never left on the streets for rats to pick over. The city and its sidewalks are much cleaner and pedestrians have room to walk. Please take a look at their system.

The sidewalks of Manhattan are filthy with dog excrement, often smeared all over the sidewalk from irresponsible dog owners who permit their dogs to relieve themselves in the middle of the sidewalks. When will this be addressed? The sidewalks need to be power washed, and dog owners need to be fined for not curbing their dogs. It is egregious enough that those fines would probably pay for extra sanitation workers! Why are the hygiene laws being ignored in our city?

Comment added October 22, 2022 12:31pm



## **mike from queens**

I believe there is a simple solution to this problem. Have trash collections start at 8am-10pm. Have residents of NY put out trash at or after 5am. Rats and rodents are known to feed at night they are nocturnal creatures and focus on smell to dictate where to find food. After each garbage collection residents are required to clean and disinfect area at curb where trash is to be put out for collection. Also in these rain gardens that have been placed all over the city, we need to have parks department plant various plants known to deter mice and rats such as peppermint, basil, marigold, rosemary and others it will also provide each community a fresh supply of these plants for cooking as the inflation seems to be heading higher while deterring rodents. As it is now these rain gardens have just the right environment to house these creatures. They are constantly damp and have plenty of foliage for them to use as homes. All trash collections that are done at night are on main roads so residents can sleep through the night without hearing a truck crushing garbage early in the morning. New York City needs to have experts who are specialized in rats and rodents behavior to change the problem instead of concentrating on the source of their food, find their homes or environments that house them and change it so it is not suitable for them.

Comment added October 23, 2022 9:28pm

## **Deane**

The current 4pm timeframe for putting out garbage and recycling is not being enforced? How do I know this? I've lived at the same address for over forty years and I constantly see the same houses and apartment buildings putting out their garbage and recycling well before 4pm the day before their pickup day. This wouldn't be so common if NYC was issuing warnings and, if necessary, fines to the offending parties. If NYC is not willing to enforce 4pm how can we be certain they'll enforce a later time?

Comment added October 24, 2022 8:57am

## **Tracy Scott**

I oppose the proposed rule. As a senior, I prefer to put my garbage and recycling out earlier, before nightfall. Putting the trash out at 8 pm, particularly during dark, cold, and possibly icy winter months, makes it more likely that I and other older people could fall.

Comment added October 24, 2022 1:02pm

## **Dorothy McNamara**

Please consider the senior citizens, especially those who have health issues, and/or live alone as well as those who live in questionable areas, when the times to put out the garbage is under consideration. Myself and my neighbor are almost 80 and have health problems. Just getting the garbage out now is a struggle especially for my neighbor who has to call on others to assist her. Keeping the time as it is now while there is still light out is important to us. I understand how changing it for large apartments buildings could be helpful but for seniors those whose health is comprised and the disabled it is very problematic. "One size (time) does not fit all"

Thank you for your consideration, Dorothy McNamara, Staten Island, NY

Comment added October 24, 2022 2:04pm

## **Muhib Rahman**

This is going to be a big problem for residential building with 32BJ unionized staff. Many building staff ends their shift well before 8pm. If this is to go in effect, how will the building take trash out? Its not easy to change staffing, not to mention the cost associated with it. DSNY should consider night pick up. Less traffic in the city and Rodent will be disappointed.

I DISAGREE with this proposal.

Comment added October 24, 2022 2:56pm

## **James A. Liubicich**

To curtail the rat population, lids should be kept on the garbage pails until pickup. To place pails on the curb with lids would be impossible. My lids are tied up, so they don't fly away during wind storms. At the curb, the sanitation crew will have no choice but to toss them off. The lids will fly away or get crushed. Then lids won't be available to place back onto pails to prevent rats from getting in. The only solution is for the sanitation crew go to where the pails are secured & drag them to the curb & to the truck. That way garbage would never be exposed. Also, bags should not be allowed to be used for disposing of trash. A rat will easily get in within a short timeframe being left exposed on the curb.

Comment added October 24, 2022 3:02pm

## **Susan Fowler**

I appreciate the attempt to make garbage slightly less accessible to our neighbors, the rats, raccoons, and possums (on Staten Island), but I'm in my pajamas at 8 p.m. Requiring better containers instead of letting people/superintendents put out loose bags (no one would think of doing that in my neighborhood—re. rats, raccoons, and possums) makes more sense and could be phased in over time.

Comment added October 24, 2022 3:17pm

## **MSKK**

Hello: Requesting your help please. Regarding the proposed rule change for time to place trash at curbside: The proposed rule change isn't feasible for my elderly, disabled relative who is unable to leave the house. My relative has aides who come to the house daily but they leave at 4:00 PM daily and they are not able to stay any later than 4:00PM. Nobody else is available to take out the trash later than 4:00 PM. Either the status quo currently existing time of 4:00 PM has to remain or a waiver needs to be granted for my relative.

Comment added October 24, 2022 6:20pm

## **BRIAN L LAWELL**

I agree with almost everything said in the comments submitted so far above (i.e. not one positive/pro comment so far for this proposal) especially the comments of "johncampanie", "BA", "Dd", "Anne", and "mike from queens". I am AGAINST this proposal unless significant changes/additions are made per the comments above (such as making the sanitation workers more responsible, making the on the curb time after sunrise, etc.).

Comment added October 24, 2022 9:52pm

## **Micha**

Larger buildings have porters who finish their shift well before 8pm. Smaller buildings have visiting supers who usually service multiple buildings and not being able to take trash out until after 8pm is dangerous and not practical especially in the winter months. During Covid no one was in the streets after 7pm and in the winter that is often the case. Having an evening garbage pick up would make it more practical for buildings and mean the garbage is not out on the sidewalk all night – when the rats are also out!!

Comment added October 25, 2022 3:07pm

## **Kathleen**

This is horrible with the crime rate as it is you want the elderly to now put the trash out when it is dark. If they use a trash can the drivers toss the cans around and the covers never get put back on.

Comment added October 26, 2022 11:23am

## **Linda Sperling**

Our porters are unionized which means that they work from 8:30 AM to 4:30-5:00 PM. If we cannot put out the garbage until 8 PM, that means we have to pay the porters significant overtime. We would have the same problem if the garbage has to be put out between 4 AM – 7 AM. something that will be a burden on the shareholders of co-ops. Putting the garbage out at 4 PM and having the SDNY pick up at 8 PM would work better.

Comment added October 26, 2022 3:11pm

## betty

I disagree with this proposal for several reasons:

1. Jewish people cannot put out the garbage after sundown, when the Sabbath starts.
2. Many elderly people have health aides that put out the garbage. But they only work until 4 PM, so that would be a major problem for many people. The elderly can't put it out themselves. Also, its dangerous, in some areas, to go out at night when no one is in the street. Besides, in the winter, the elderly are more susceptible to catching a sickness or slipping, especially when it's dark and their vision and mobility are poor.
3. This creates a hardship for stores that close at 5. It doesn't make sense for the storeowners to travel back later just to put the garbage out.
4. Besides the fact that the Sanitation workers don't put back the garbage cans near the house, we have a problem that the new, or metal or good garbage cans get stolen.
5. This would not solve the rat problem, it would maybe partially solve the garbage being an eyesore. Rat problems have to be dealt with through exterminators. Two hours will certainly not make a difference or dent in the rat population.
6. The ONLY ONE TO GAIN FROM THIS IS THE CITY OR SANITATION DEPARTMENT, THROUGH THE REVENUE THAT THEY WILL GAIN THROUGH GIVING FINES TO HARD WORKING NEW YORKERS. This is not a solid or fair solution and does nothing to solve the rat problem. It's just a smoke screen.

Comment added October 27, 2022 1:51am

## Nancy Nisselbaum

This new rule will force coop, condo, and rental apartment buildings to pay their staff overtime. What building has a super or porter who works past 8pm? And in our building, this is a two-person job. It's seriously not in our budget to pay OT for for the super and porter two nights a week.

Comment added October 29, 2022 7:19pm

## **Rob Green**

This is just another rule that will raise money for some NYC department and continue to cause people to move out of NYC. We already have so many rules in place as homeowners.

It would be much wiser to expend more effort towards fighting real crime, instead of finding ways to raise money by fining unaware and overburdened homeowners/taxpayers.

Comment added October 31, 2022 12:38am

## **James**

I too oppose this rule.

I have to do my trash as well as my elderly mother's. I fear that when travelling so late in the evening via the subway that I may get mugged or maimed.

Comment added October 31, 2022 2:33pm

## **Dee See Passmore**

I oppose this change as it will not address the issue of rats or other animals getting into the garbage. It only makes it more convoluted for NYC residents to comply with a ridiculous rule. For the elderly, religious people, and NYers, in general, to be told they must venture out after dark in the winter to put out the garbage is an undue hardship. If you pay someone to put out the garbage which is the case in many instances you will now have to pay more and possibly not get someone to take on the task. How will it help the issue if the garbage is allowed to pile up because one cannot put it out at a later time? Since the sanitation dept does not make sure your can lid stays with your can how can this be a means to comply with this proposed rule? Please go back to the drawing board and rethink this proposal.

Comment added October 31, 2022 6:33pm

## Nataliya

I oppose the proposal.

It makes no sense since rats feed at night and garbage is not picked up until the following morning.

The lids will be everywhere and will pose a hazard on the streets and sidewalk.

It is also unsafe, especially for the elderly to put out the garbage so late in the dark especially in the cold winter months.

Comment added October 31, 2022 10:52pm

## Ethan Krantz

see attached comment

[Comment attachment](#)

Ethan-Krantz\_Comment.pdf

Comment added November 2, 2022 10:43pm

## Tina in Hatlem

There are plenty of people who work nights. Let's put garbage curbside between, say, 2-6 pm and the trucks can start pickup at six- as rush hour winds down and people still populate sidewalks- keeping down rat-traffic.

Only the latest pickups will be vulnerable to any rats, so vary truck routes to spread out risks

This way older folks, employees and others who can't comply with such late hours or practice religious customs, won't have to be so terribly impacted.

Is there some rule against sanitation working at night?

Comment added November 4, 2022 12:06pm

## Karen

As several other people noted, most buildings, especially the smaller buildings, do not have live in staff. That means hiring either an additional person just to take out trash, or to pay overtime, as per the new prevailing wage rules. Whichever it is, it's a burden on the buildings and for what? For a couple of hours less of garbage sitting on the street? Does any reasonable person think that's going to make a difference? Hiring more sanitation workers makes sense. Having a regular schedule where trash gets picked up at approx. the same time makes sense. Our trash got picked up today as per normal. Same with paper recycling. The rest of our recycling is still sitting there, and probably will be until Saturday – that's what happens almost every week. And finally, bring back composting for all buildings. That was a most unfortunate move – just as so many people got used to doing it. Now, whenever it returns, there will have to be a learning curve all over again.

Comment added November 4, 2022 1:31pm



## Simone from Brooklyn

I object to this proposal of property owners putting their containers with garbage out at the curb after 6 pm. Rationale:

In the 1980's it was the practice to put our garbage out in containers, But the sanitation workers would throw our garbage containers in their truck. This happened a lot.

I saw this happening and when i ran the truck down the sanitation worker just shrugged his shoulder.

My parents would come home and we had no garbage containers.

Then many times we would see our neighbor's garbage bins rolling in the street, cars would hit the bins and they would go sailing on to other blocks. I have seen garbage cans taken up by the wind, fly in the air and hit parked cars while the owner is away at work.

Who is at fault? The owner left garbage in the cans, The owner has no control over wind lifting up objects, but now you have a damaged car.

You came home and no garbage bins

NYC residential trash rules state "Trash cans must be covered unless all refuse inside is in a securely tied bag".

If the trash cans must be covered, how do you want us to leave them at the curb??

Now we will lose our trash containers and the covers

How will they be secured at the curb?

My neighbors and I have received sanitation tickets for uncovered trash cans in the past

How do you write violation for uncovered trash receptacles and now will be asking us to put our containers to the curb???

NYC sanitation requires us to secure our garbage bins. An agency cannot ask us to secure our garbage bins and then require us to leave them out at the curb to be all over the street

I have lived in the same house and have seen the changes over 40 years

4pm is late enough to put out garbage not later.

Comment added November 4, 2022 2:08pm

## Angelo

I am a building superintendent in the Bronx. There is no way this rule is going to work. I have two porters and our work schedule is from 7:30 am till 4 pm. We are 32bj members. And there's no way we going to work 8 plus hours overtime each every week. That's 24 hours total. one of my porters live upstate. I think we should put out the trash no later than 8am and Sanitation should pick up by 9 am..also what would definitely be easier if sanitation picks up on alternate side parking..let's say on Thursday is my side no parking then that day they pickup. That way no traffic jam. And traffic would be flowing smooth..I mean this is thought it's better than what's being proposed..

Comment added November 5, 2022 2:35am

## Katherine Fritchie

I live in Brooklyn and also in Spokane Washington. There, we have garbage trucks outfitted with an arm that picks up the trash cans (that the city provides) and dumps them into the truck. The lids are attached and just open when dumped. I never use plastic bags, which seems like a huge waste for the citizens of NY and also for landfills or wherever the trash is being taken. We are given three different colored bins, one for trash, one for recycling and one for clean green. The receptacles are on wheels so it's easy to take the cans out and the cans are not something that a rat could chew through easily. We have mice and other rodents, but getting into the trash is not a problem we have with them.

Comment added November 6, 2022 12:55pm

**JML**

I live in a Mitchell-Lama co-op in Manhattan with unionized (non-32BJ) maintenance employees. We have seven buildings on ten acres and over 1200 units. Our maintenance employees work 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with limited staff on the weekends. It requires multiple maintenance men to collect all the garbage and place it at the curb. We don't have the staff to put out the garbage late at night or between 4-7 a.m. The staff does not work at those times. It also isn't safe for the men to be outside too late or too early. There are now too many homeless drug addicts wandering the streets.

If this rule takes effect, we will have to pay multiple maintenance staff overtime to stay late just to put out the trash. This cost will get passed on to residents, who are already seeing maintenance increases due to inflation and other economic issues.

Moreover, putting out the garbage a few hours later won't stop the rats. The rats will have all night to feast on the garbage if they want. What is the difference of a few hours? It is non-nonsensical. I can't understand how anyone could think this would help the rat problem. If you want to do something about the rats then you need to:

1. Stop people from feeding the pigeons. People dump bird seed, rice, and other leftover food to feed the pigeons, when all it does is feed the rats;
2. Make sure nearby parks are clean of food. Too many homeless drug addicts spill or dump food in parks, all for the rats to enjoy;
3. Make sure garbage cans on street corners are picked up and are not overflowing; and
4. Make sure the streets in front of bars, \$1 pizza places, and other party places are kept clean and are not littered with food.

Comment added November 7, 2022 10:07pm

## Henry Y

The I am a business owner working part time. I leave the office by 5 so I would not be able to place my trash out at 8. The option of putting the trash out at 5 in a container with a lid does not work as I am not always in the office the next day to bring the container in; this would lead to a summons for not bringing my container in.

There are more and more of these seemingly harmless rules that in fact place a greater and greater burden on the citizens of NYC. The proposed rules for trash is another regulation that will drive people out of NYC. I for one am I looking at retiring sooner rather than later due to all these “harmless” regulations. The outcome? Less tax revenue for the city, less employment, less renters of commercial property.

Comment added November 8, 2022 2:58pm

## Joel

Right now, if I leave garbage bags out on the curb after 4pm, the garbage men pick them up sometime between 6am to 9am the next morning. So with this new regulation that I have to now put out the same garbage bags out on the curb starting at 8pm, it's best to change all the garbage men hours to night time shifts so that they can pick up all those bags between 10pm to 1am instead. So problem solved with the rats issue!!!

Comment added November 9, 2022 11:31pm

## S. Cunningham

Who puts these crazy ideas out there? Are you just trying to push everyone out of this once great City? Rats are nocturnal; mostly active during nighttime hours; dusk to dawn. That being said this idea makes no sense.

Small property owners/absentee owners (like myself) who may or may not have a part time helper generally work until 4:00PM where the last chore of the day is to put the trash to the curb. In this instance, what are we to do; work until 6PM or 8PM for an idea that will NOT decrease the rat population? How are Sanitation workers going to drag the cans to the back of the garbage trucks? There is barely enough room to walk between parked cars let alone get a trash can between them.

Creation of unnecessary noise pollution- by having trash picked up after midnight will be a sleep disruption for hundreds of thousands of people. Hard working citizens and their families will be woken up in the wee hours of the morning by the sounds of loud garbage trucks loading and compacting trash. School children's sleep will be interrupted; this "graveyard shift" trash pick-up is wrong!

Some solutions- the City needs to exterminate for rats in the street and subway system. Less people are using the subway system which means less trash in the subway, therefore the rats are forced out of the subway and into the street to seek food. This is exactly what happened during COVID! Restaurants were closed and rats migrated into residential areas in search of food; not a theory, a fact. If the City wants the trash on the street for less time it's very simple. Keep the same time the trash goes to the curb; 4PM-5PM. Have the Sanitation Department pick up the trash on a 4PM to midnight shift. Closely monitor missed collections. I can tell you from personally experience at least two to three times per month there is a missed collection in my area, not just my trash but the entire block and adjoining blocks.

Eliminate restaurant street sheds- these sheds only create a haven for rats to nest and feed off the food that falls underneath the shed. Obviously the street sweeper cannot clean the street with these eye sores still in place. The City needs to enforce alternate side street parking. You drive throughout the Greenpoint/Williamsburg area, for example, and cars are illegally parked for alternate side and are not ticketed. Each side of street needs to be cleaned twice a week.

In closing, there are more negative reasons than positive ones to go forward with this "silly" idea. I believe these ideas are put on the table by people that have no "hands on" experience. I have yet to read one positive reaction to this idea on the Sanitation forum. This is just a horrible idea that will inconvenience more people and will have nearly no impact on reducing rats in the city.

The only way to reduce the rat population is to exterminate for rats!

S. Cunningham

Comment added November 10, 2022 10:40am

**AW**

see my attached word doc

[Comment attachment](#)

trash.docx

Comment added November 11, 2022 12:03pm

## Deborah Hersch Johns

I sincerely appreciate the efforts made by all City agencies, employees, residents, businesses, organizations, and guests in trying to solve this issue.

It appears that the overwhelming view is against the proposed changes, and seemingly not without good reason. Unlike congestion pricing, where people are understandably resistant but the proposal would actually help toward its goal of lowering greenhouse gas emissions, I believe the proposed Sanitation rule changes would have minimal effect on rat activity.

In addition to the thoughtful comments and suggestions made by concerned New Yorkers and businesses here and through public comment submissions, as well as the City agencies' earnest efforts, we could possibly try:

Continuing to expand curbside organics collection to include the entire city, making it mandatory or continuing to work toward it, possibly giving modest tax breaks or other incentives to residences/businesses that comply. Announcing an estimated date that organics recycling would become mandatory, and giving incentives for participation in advance of compulsory compliance.

Finding new ways to promote awareness of the direct link between our organized as well as personal trash disposal practices and the increasing presence of rats. Launching a campaign that illustrates our dysfunctional relationship with rats. We react with disgust to their presence, yet continue to invite them over for dinner. Creating a hotline for people reaching out for help with these rattachments. Expanding mental health benefits to include therapy for this condition (Co-Ratpendency). Creating a 12-step program (RAA) to help sufferers get support and confront their rat partners expressly where they might show up, i.e., church and other basements. Getting the message across that refusing to engage in organics recycling is guaranteeing that we will continue to engage with our active rat. If the City helps make this clear, as well as expand curbside collection for community boards across the city, participation in organics recycling will likely increase, our incentive being that we can get the rat off our backyard and let it go.

Making Rat Academy mandatory for all New Yorkers, or at least property owners, building managers/staff/union organizers, DOE/charter/private school principals/staff, school parent organizations. Increasing outreach/education regarding rat prevention/mitigation, continuing to provide incentives for participation.

Making part of the rat complaint reporting process requesting permission for optional additional information after the complaint is logged — is the person aware that NYC has a food waste recycling program; do they separate their food scraps; would they like info

or help signing up for curbside organics collection or finding food scrap drop-off sites. Educating New Yorkers who may not realize they might be contributing to the problem; empowering New Yorkers to become part of the solution.

Working to eliminate black bags by providing bins with lids, preferably metal rather than plastic, to all City residents/buildings; giving modest tax breaks or other incentives to residents/businesses that use them. Revisiting the possibility of retrofitting Sanitation vehicles to pick up/empty bins mechanically.

After a grace period, issuing warnings/fines, allowing New Yorkers who receive violations the opportunity to appeal if Sanitation may be deemed at fault.

Providing dog poop bag receptacles throughout the city. Issuing warnings/fines to dog owners/walkers who place poop bags wherever they feel it's convenient for them. Increasing outreach/education on the consequence of attracting rats by this continued behavior. Identify a day for dog owners/walkers to drop off their poop bags in exchange for an I Disposed of My Poop Correctly NYC or My Poop Isn't Rat Food NYC dog tag.

Increasing enforcement of littering and illegal dumping warnings/fines by a special Sanitation Task Force.

Outreach/education/warnings/fines regarding the hazards of feeding wildlife, such as birds and squirrels, with the resulting excess becoming a ratfeastation.

Thank you kindly for your time, efforts, consideration and attention.

Comment added November 12, 2022 5:56pm

## **P from Brooklyn**

I say no to the later time of 6 pm to put out garbage out. New York City does not provide good street lighting. NYC goes through Daylight Savings Time and Eastern Standard time. We have many months when it gets dark at 4:30pm. If NYC does not provide adequate street lighting on our streets, it is not safe for us to be putting out garbage in the dark, We cannot see to separate our recycling in the dark

So we should not be asked to put out garbage after 6 pm.

There is an increasing over 50 years population in NYC. This is will be a safety hazard.

Comment added November 12, 2022 8:25pm



**Joanna P.**

I strongly oppose this rule change.

This would require home owners, small building owners, and anyone in charge of taking out the trash for friends, family, or an elderly parent or neighbor to venture out in the dark, late at night to comply with these new rules.

As a woman, I certainly do not feel comfortable being forced to commute so late at night to set out the garbage for my tenants.

As a hospital worker that occasionally works night shifts, the new time constraints would render me unable to set out my garbage at all without hiring someone else or getting ticketed for being early.

It is unreasonable to expect everyone to comply with such a drastic rule change. This will not solve the rat problem, but rather make it worse when garbage ends up hoarded week to week by people unable to comply with the timing being proposed. Quite frankly, it doesn't matter to a rodent if my garbage can is placed curbside or within my yard at any given time, but it matters a lot to the members of the community. This is a massive inconvenience to the community, as voiced by several comments and testimonies.

I suggest alternative rodent control methods such as increased street cleaning. Perhaps hiring people to sweep sidewalks, emptying public garbage bins regularly, or requiring restaurants to hose down their sidewalks of spilled condiments and liquids after having their rubbish collected. Personally, I think these would make a beneficial impact in my local community, as these are issues I witness on a daily basis.

Comment added November 13, 2022 3:02pm

## John

While I appreciate the initiative to solve the city's rat problem, this is not the solution. Rather than burdening small business owners with having to pay extra to have the garbage put out later or have to travel themselves, why not have the garbage collected early (or timely) which would actually shorten the amount of time trash is curbside?

I have noted on many occasions the trash just sitting in front of my home and building the entire day! Putting it out later will not help the rat problem in the city. Having the trash collection collect it timely basis or on an earlier schedule would be a better solution without burdening homeowners and have a greater impact on the issues facing NYC for the last year +. Asking home owners to put their trash out later will only led to the trash being picked up later, it will not actually reduce the time which the trash is out.

Thank you,  
John

Comment added November 14, 2022 11:12am

## CM (South Queens)

Question regarding new trash time.

This is hypothetical but I'm sure it can apply to somebody.

Let's say I work from 6 PM to 3 AM, I have to leave by 5 PM. I know Sanitation pickups in my area between 1 & 2 AM. There is no one else to put out the trash.

What am I supposed to do?

Will I get a violation if I put it out at 5 PM?

The 8 PM time to set everything out is geared to people who work 9-5. This is NYC, not everyone works from 9-5. What about evening and overnight residents?

Comment added November 15, 2022 12:56pm

## **JW Lower Manhattan**

This proposal is silly. Moving the trash put out time by a few hours will do nothing to help with the pest issue & cleanliness of the city. It would make more sense if (1) DSNY would pick up the trash on time, (2) the time trash is put out was close the time DSNY picks up the trash so there is less lag time in between.

Comment added November 15, 2022 1:11pm

## Rich

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

When I was younger I needed to obtain a food handlers license for my job. At the time, I was required to go to the health department and watch a film. The film showed garbage including food waste breaking down with bacteria multiplying exponentially while leaving excrement in its wake. The decomposition/bacteria excrement odor is a clarion call to vermin(rodentia) and insects. Garbage/trash containing any organic/food matter will begin to break down and send out a massive “soups on”/”dinner ready”/”come and get it” signal to bugs, mice and rats both near and far. (Composting can work in single family homes and in the city if there are community drop-off sites, but not inside or outside of central city residential or commercial buildings as many people are not neat and it will draw bugs/rodents to the area by their inattention to maintenance and unsanitary conditions).

SO, when this proposed rule change was advanced, I wondered if the people writing the rule knew what would happen if it was actually implemented.

If you make this rule law (and if we were in a position physically and financially to follow it) – you would force us to keep the smelly garbage inside our buildings with the children and seniors for a longer period of time. In many cases it would be stored in the basement which is conveniently adjacent to the rat tunnels whose veins course throughout the city. This will give additional time to nocturnal rodents to snoop around in the dark basements for the nourishment that we provide to them so they can multiply. Or, we could store it in front of our buildings in wooden, plastic or metal containers. Then the rats would not be at the curb or in the basement, they would be right at the building facade near the front door. People walking by love to help by adding to the piles of trash including sugary drinks, dog poo and fast food leftovers placed in the open right on the lids. Not at the curb, but leaning on the building just a few feet from where you are proposing to keep the sidewalk clean.

Unfortunately, your well-intentioned proposal is similar to moving the deck chairs on the Titanic. But in NYC parlance, it’s almost exactly the same as Three-Card Monte or a shell game. Hey, rats – can you find the garbage? Is it by the curb? How about the basement? No, it’s over here – in front of the building. You are almost literally sweeping the problem under the rug. Less rats by the curb, more rats by the kids, especially the less advantaged and lower income.

Possible Solutions –

Be the “no garbage mayor”. No other city official has ever succeeded in taming the trash. Do it because you can. You self-cured diabetes. You reinvented ice cream (it’s really

good :). You fought injustice from the inside and won many victories. Beat garbage because you can –

Here's how:

After police/fire/safety, prioritize garbage near the top of the budget. I was sent on a field trip as a kid to the Staten Island Zoo. I think that kids (especially less-advantaged kids with limited building workers) would much prefer that the city would have collected all the smelly trash every day then look at animals in cages for a few hours. Cancel every unnecessary item in every departmental budget. Stop handing out money like candy to win the favor of a lucky few. How about helping millions over decades with permanent infrastructure instead of squandering it on temporary band-aids? Who built New York? Long-term thinkers who cared more about the many in the future than the few today. They built Central Park for people they would never meet. Who is helping the future generations? Put in the infrastructure necessary to remove all the garbage from Manhattan and the urban centers of the boroughs each day. Yes, every commercial and multi-family residential property should have the garbage picked up each day. Our NYC budget is approximately 100 BILLION DOLLARS. The only reason that we have any garbage on the city streets at all is a lack of imagination. You can always find something that seems worthwhile to fix, but the trick is to do the most for the most with what you have available.

Additionally, you may not think of it this way, but, you are using each building in NYC as a waste storage and transfer station – and charging us a monthly fee to boot! You are making us store and create unsanitary and unsafe situations for only one reason: You have not made the removal of trash from the city EVERY DAY a #1 priority.

Until you do, the city and its buildings will be unsanitary and the department is a failure. Not the people who work there who are just following instructions – but the leaders, yes. If the city is unsanitary and it is – then the Department of Sanitation cannot be considered successful. This has been the case prior to your administration and prior to the tenure of current Sanitation leaders as well.

Inertia and momentum in an adverse direction can be hard to change. But what good thing has come easy to you or this City? The job of city government is to be facilitators. To set the table so the people can live and work. As an entrepreneur, you already inherently know this.

It's not about imposing rules on the citizens, it's about setting the citizens free to create and prosper by making the city safe and clean without fanfare, in a simple programmatic way.

Specifics-

Set up a multi-prong approach with many discrete solutions.

1) Are the Sandhogs done with the water tunnel? Let's start a garbage tunnel. Get them

in there to begin to create the infrastructure to add a system similar to the one Roosevelt Island has (but updated). Do something that future generations will be proud of. Just like fios, buildings can connect to it as it reaches their block over time. Every time a building connects, there will be no need to place garbage outside at all.

2) Supplement the pneumatic garbage tubes with garbage trains.

Move some of the trash on currently unused, newly created or existing subway lines that can haul trash to transfer stations. Buy small buildings like the air shaft buildings dotted throughout the city so trucks can pull in – change batteries and dump their trash into a hopper for the next garbage subway train.

3) Lease or buy a landfill site which can contain a large energy co-generation (garbage to power) plant and solar farm. Create an RFP that will only be responded to by municipalities that want us there – no nimbys. It can use the trash to generate electricity and the solar farm can create and store energy in a battery farm that can power electric garbage trucks that go there and back with no pollution. Maybe Elon Musk can help regarding the electric garbage trucks/solar panels/storage batteries and even the tunneling. Be bold! He's busy, but if you think he won't take a call from the mayor of New York, guess again.

4) Add more trucks to the "Avenues". We need to pick up trash from the corner waste baskets on a constant and consistent basis. We WANT people to throw their trash in there – otherwise they just throw it on the street. This is not a job that is ever finished. It's an ongoing and never-ending task. Right now it's an embarrassment that they get full and overflow. The reason people sometimes throw their own trash in there is that they are forced to store rotting garbage in their home, business or basement like animals (actually animals don't usually live with their garbage, perhaps with the exception of pigs). We need to pick up all the corner garbage all the time. The city looks highly dysfunctional to residents and visitors alike. You mean in 2022 we can't keep the trash cans on the corners clean? Yeah, actually we can if we apply focus to the issue.

5) Consider supplementing DSNY with outside vendors. Pay everyone in DSNY what they were promised and keep the existing employees, but there may be a need for outside help as well to achieve all the goals related to moving the city to the next level in this area. Remember, after the garbage is picked up each day from Manhattan and other urban city centers, there will be much less garbage for anyone to pick up each day. Less garbage in the buildings and less garbage in front of the buildings. So, we'll need some flexibility in terms of scaling up and scaling down depending on the garbage flow. I don't think we can hire additional permanent city employees for this because we will need significant scheduling flexibility. This flexibility is easier to achieve through a vendor process which identifies this requirement up front than it would be to do this through the maze of civil service rules.

6) Buy, lease or convert an existing motor-home type vehicle for use as a mobile Mayoral daily command center. You may already have such a vehicle.

This command center should allow you to conduct all your regular Mayoral business whilst visiting every block in the city. This may not be an every day exercise for you based on your schedule but we are in a mobile-first society, so accomplishing work on the fly is a part of the new reality. You should be accompanied (in their own trucks) by a recycling and trash team (including a rotation of Sanitation Department leadership). It is likely that by their attendance and help, the DSNY will gain a tremendous amount of information from this daily activity which they can convert into actionable ideas to improve cleanliness and service. Each block that you go to could have all the street/sidewalk trash picked up by your team as you visit with some of the merchants and residents. You may want to personally let them know that you and your team are doing some cleaning today on their block and thank them for anything that they can do to help in the future. As you move through the city block by block, I believe that you and your constituents will derive immense pleasure from the immediate results of your/their efforts. Put out a call for a rotational part-time volunteer brigade to accompany you to help clean up the blocks that you visit. You may be surprised how many people want to help keep the city clean. My guess is that your team will have more volunteers than you can use each day. Especially in underserved and lower-income areas, this will show that you care and may inspire residents and businesses to continue the clean-up effort even after you're gone. Leadership is needed in this area and is best provided by you. What makes people feel good about themselves and their city is real, tangible, highly visible PROGRESS. Getting something done, not talking about it, doing it.

Do NOT include anyone on the team whose job it is to hand out "violations".

This is a goodwill and inspirational accomplishment tour. If you knew how the people felt about a department that does not meet basic standards sending enforcement officers (whose salaries are paid for by the citizens) out to charge citizens for minor rule infractions as the judge, jury and executioner, while they leave the cities cleanliness in its current state, you'd find a way to stop it now.

7) Part of your new proposed rules include the use of containers. Containers like garbage cans roll around the streets, are stolen, look horrible and add significantly to noise complaints. They wind up making the street look like something from the 1920's. People chain them to the railings and they become dirty almost immediately. They also mean that everyone (especially buildings with little or no staff) need to make additional trips to try and find the containers and lock them up. But they don't know when to go back to the building because they can't be sure when the garbage will have been picked up. Containers and sheds like those in front of most smaller midblock buildings are a harborage for rodents. Please don't ask for more containers. They are almost

immediately food encrusted and dirtied by passersby and residents alike despite efforts to maintain them. Please don't ask us to store trash in or around our homes and businesses. Take away the trash every day so citizens can live their lives in dignity.

Please don't make this more complicated than it needs to be. Until the new infrastructure is ready and instead of the new proposed list of rules and regulations, how would this be?

- 1) We place our garbage in black bags by the curb every day from daybreak until 9AM.
- 2) You pick up the garbage every day by 3PM

No garbage in the buildings, no garbage out at night when nocturnal creatures roam, no dirty containers, smooth traffic flow due to limited amounts of trash each day as it is spread out over the week, less noise-peace.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Rich

Comment attachment

NYC-trash-proposed-garbage-rules-November-16-2022-.pdf

Comment added November 16, 2022 12:01pm

## Robyn Siegel

I appreciate these issues are getting addresses, and until we have proper containerization, it'll definitely a positive to have "trashbag mountain-free" sidewalks from 4 pm to 8 pm. However, as a rat mitigation strategy, I wonder if this will have much impact? How much rat activity occurs during these hours, given that they are nocturnal animals? Bags will still be out for 10+ hours and during their most active hours.

I know other measures are occurring as well, which will help. But, is it enough?

Additionally, I know steps are being taken to study how best to implement proper containerization, however, this should be prioritized and expedited with much more urgency, as it really is the main and only solution for these issues.

And, in the interim, I do ask why continue to allow items to be put out in bags, at all? Why not require receptacles with tight-fitting lids across the board?

Lastly, what will be done to address the challenges in enforcement to ensure compliance? Education is great and important but insufficient.

Thank you

Comment added November 16, 2022 2:57pm



## West P

I spoke to my porter about this rule and he absolutely hates it. He said he wants to put out the trash and be able to get back home at a reasonable time to have dinner with his family. More effective means to reducing pest include (I) DSNY should be better on picking up trash on-time, (II) Ensuring all outside garbage are placed in tightly sealed bins, (III) Regulate outdoor dining to ensure spaces are kept tidy & clean. Many restaurants and bars just sweep the food scrap down the block & have have created garbage bins that are on the street 24/7 that are often overflowing. I see rats running in and out of these bins.

Comment added November 17, 2022 10:00am

## Robyn Siegel

Please also streamline and improve bringing curbside composting to buildings with 10+ units. As a rat mitigation strategy, in addition to all of the myriad other benefits (and as a solution to other issues).

Comment added November 17, 2022 11:26am

## Vanie (Queens)

I dont want my elderly mother putting out garbage after dark, especially in the winter.

It's not lost on anyone and not appreciated that NYC is once again making rules that only sets up home owners to fail. It's another way to create revenue from all the fines the city will happily hand out.

Comment added November 17, 2022 3:05pm

## Briana Spariosu

RSA comments are attached.

[Comment attachment](#)

RSA-Rodent-Mitigation-Amendments.pdf

Comment added November 17, 2022 3:34pm

## 2041 HDFC

Echoing many of the comments made previously and reinforcing the concern that thousands of affordable housing buildings in this city – with 1 million + tenants will be impacted financially due to having to pay additional maintenance staff, or worse, impacting current staff hours and livelihoods. Our porters are people who have families and need to be home to take care of their children. They do their jobs during traditional business hours. The reverberating economic impact of this proposed rule on working class people should be taken into account and a more innovative solution should be considered.

Where is the data that shows the positive impact of this proposed change? Why not try a small pilot for an area that doesn't have any of these concerns?

Comment added November 17, 2022 4:01pm

## Helen

I don't want to put out garbage after dark.

Comment added November 17, 2022 4:55pm

## F.I.

I oppose this change.

The homeowner are the person who put out the garbage, the city should listen to the voice from them.

Comment added November 17, 2022 5:13pm

## Jessica Leung

I don't want to put out garbage after dark.

Comment added November 17, 2022 5:42pm

## Ning

This change is meaningless. Just force people to sleep few hours later and let people get more tired the next day. Dumping out few hours later may increase the volume of garbage, which giving more works to sanitation workers. Dumping out few hours later may decrease quality of life because people can't take care of the garbage before they enjoy their nightlife.

Comment added November 17, 2022 5:51pm

## Jess

It is hard for us that we work night shift.

Comment added November 17, 2022 5:57pm

## Rachel

As a business owner whose shop closes earlier than the proposed times this proposed change places an unfair burden. I either have to stay hours later or pay an employee to do so. Or will the City shoulder that extra cost for me?

Comment added November 17, 2022 6:25pm

## Kate

The extra work you are giving small property owners will do nothing to lower the rat problem. Is there data or studies suggesting that moving trash from one location to another will make a difference? Nope. The overflowing public trash bins and street litter cause a 24/7 problem and nothing is done to address that. These new regulations hand off meaningless work to citizens but do nothing to solve the problem.

### Comment attachment

Confirmation-for-preregistration-for-visiting-Iceland.pdf

Comment added November 17, 2022 7:02pm

## JinYue you

I am required keeping same time as before 4pm

Comment added November 17, 2022 7:06pm

## Johnny Rocket

I am a resident of Brooklyn district 10. This idea to place trash out after 8pm is terrible and outrageous.

I go to sleep early and cannot wake until 8pm to sleep, how can I take out trash when I am already sleeping.

Government officials should not tell us when to do this and when to do that.

Comment added November 17, 2022 7:54pm

## Anita C.

I oppose this rule change. As several people have already pointed out, putting out waste a few hours later and still letting them sit out overnight is not solving the issues of (1) unsightly piles of waste, (2) obstruction of sidewalks, (3) smells, (4) sidewalk cleanliness, and (5) rats feasting on the waste before they are picked up. The best solution to solving the issue of rats eating through the bags of trash to get to the food is to have universal curbside composting where the organic waste is placed inside sturdy sealed bins. When the organic waste is taken out of normal "trash", what you have left would attract rats much less..maybe it is still a warmer place for them to stay in but it will not contain food for them to eat.

Simply pushing the time when waste is put out on the curb in residential and commercial areas is just inconveniencing people who are less mobile, people who feel unsafe at night, business owners, and building staff, etc. On top of having organic waste collection, starting waste collection earlier such as evenings after rush hours where possible would cut down the time waste is on the street significantly and not have it sit overnight. I often see commercial waste collection at night and it is easier for them to make their way around and not get stuck in traffic. Angelo, who commented earlier, had an interesting point about utilizing alternate side parking for smoother waste pickup. When car owners comply, streets with alternate side parking should be empty for a certain duration so sanitation workers can ideally access the waste that needs to be collected more easily. This will also make it possible for every waste stream to be in secure bins (something that I heard was difficult for sanitation workers to accommodate in some cases because the bins can't fit between parked cars). Proper education and enforcement on how to separate organics, recyclables, and trash is crucial. There are many cases where residents and businesses may not comply with rules, but on the other hand there are many accounts of missed pickups and mistreatment of bins and lids so there really needs to be sweeping accountability for all parties.

Comment added November 17, 2022 8:11pm

## **Xiao Yang**

No change

Comment added November 18, 2022 4:38am

## **Xiao Yang**

Keep 4:00pm

Comment added November 18, 2022 4:39am

## **Li REN**

Don't change, keep 4pm.

Comment added November 18, 2022 9:08am

## **Li qing fang**

保持下午4点 [Keep the time at 4 PM]

Comment added November 18, 2022 9:25am

## **myrtle smith**

Dangerous to put trash out at 8PM in NYC. I tried cans they disappear or blow away.

Comment added November 18, 2022 10:32am

## **Claire Hilger**

See attached comments

[Comment attachment](#)

WSFSSH-Comments-Rat-Plan.docx

Comment added November 18, 2022 11:35am

## Sara Schoenwetter

I oppose the proposal to change the earliest time garbage may be placed at the curb. First, the proposed rules do not address whether recyclable yard waste in large leaf bags, recyclable paper and recyclable metal, glass, and plastic in clear plastic bags, and recyclable cardboard tied in bundles, all as allowed by current regulations, could be placed outside at 6 pm when trash and compostables in closed, lidded containers may be placed at the curb. Would a homeowner with a bag of leaves have to wait until 8 pm to place it at the curb if trash in containers could be put at the curb at 6 pm? Second, I agree with the comments you have already received that the change in time from 4 pm to 8 pm will cause a hardship for many seniors, among whose number I and my husband are counted, who do not want to traverse darkened sidewalks dragging their garbage cans, compost bins, and bags of recyclables to the curb when standard time kicks in.

Comment added November 18, 2022 1:48pm

## allison allen

I am a member of the MSWAB (Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board) and Chair of its Organics Committee. It was puzzling to watch the Mayor's Press Conference, on October 17, introducing this new rule where he clearly stated how he hates rats and how rats will hate this new rule. This new rule does nothing to remove the rat's food from black plastic garbage bags. They will now just be placed out later – at 8pm instead of 4pm. I understand that less people will be out on the streets at 8 vs 4pm, so they will see less rats. But the rat food is still there and no one is talking or doing anything about that.

No one is acknowledging that the city actually has a program that is specifically designed to remove rat food from plastic garbage bags and divert it into rat proof brown bins as part of DSNY's curbside composting program. Meanwhile, there's a lot of talk about how we need to focus on containerizing waste – just put the same black plastic garbage bags filled with rat food into a container to solve the problem. Why is no one talking about how we should actually focus on removing the rat food from garbage bags as the first step?

This simple message needs to be made loud and clear. If you don't like to see rats, if you have a complaint about rats, you should enroll in the DSNY curbside composting program ASAP, if you are lucky enough to live in the 7 districts currently receiving service (plus all of Queens). Just as important, you should help pass Intro Bill #244 (mandatory city wide curbside compost collection), so that all New Yorkers can start diverting the rat food into DSNY's rat proof brown bins.

Disappointing that the city would spend \$4M for a consultant to study containerization when we have an existing rat food containerization program with the curbside composting program. The city could have chosen to fast track this program instead of delaying it. That \$4M could have gone a long way towards expanding and promoting curbside composting. Once we actually remove the rat food from plastic garbage bags – and if we would focus on improving recycling overall and even add textile recycling – we would have much fewer bags in need of containerization to begin with – possibly close to 50% fewer bags (or more)! Not sure why that is not a priority for funding and attention.

DSNY and DOH (with their Rat Portal and Academy) should be partnering to a much greater extent, to make the connection between rats and the compost program. It makes absolutely no sense that there is so little, if any, cross promotion. The Mayor needs to get those agencies working together so when people call 311 with rat complaints and when DOH sends out communications related to rats – it all includes information and reasons why people should enroll in the compost program. That could be done at minimal, if any, cost.

As no one is making the strong connection between rat food and the compost program, the MSWAB will be announcing its Rat Food Reduction Plan shortly to encourage New Yorkers to compost as part of rat mitigation. For more information, or to join us, please contact us via our website or [allisonaallen@aol.com](mailto:allisonaallen@aol.com).

There are also other reasons for not supporting this rule, as it reduces the opportunity for reuse of the countless items that are placed out for garbage that are not really garbage – just no longer wanted by the current owner. If the city moves forward with this plan, they must dedicate resources to addressing reusables and repairables in the waste stream – which should be included in the current waste characterization study.

Comment added November 18, 2022 2:25pm

### **Benjamin Spero**

I writing because I'm in opposition to Mayor Adam's plan and the Sanitation Commissioner to change the time for the curbside trash collection from 4:00PM to 6:00PM and 8:00PM starting next spring. I saw the Mayor complain on the news about all the rats from the garbage and I totally agree but this problem is coming from the apartment buildings. It is the apartment buildings that the Mayor and the Sanitation Commissioner should be targeting, instead they are punishing the whole city changing everybody's time to take out the trash at the curbside. I live in a private home and I've been taking out the trash at 4:00PM on my collection days for many years and I never had a problem with the garbage. I knew someone who lived in an apartment building and this person saw people in the building throw their trash out of the window. This is how you get all the rats. I'm sure you will agree. People in private homes don't act like this and throw trash out the window. This is the reason I'm writing this letter hoping Mayor Adams and the Sanitation Commissioner will reconsider their new curbside plan and instead go after all these apartment buildings in NYC and order them to take the trash out between 6:00PM and 8:00PM. I think this would be only fair to NYC residents. Thank you for reading my concerns.

Comment added November 18, 2022 3:53pm



## Gabriela Sandoval Requena

Thank you, Commissioner Tisch for the opportunity to comment on the Department of Sanitation's proposed rule on behalf of New Destiny Housing.

Founded in 1994, New Destiny Housing is a New York City-based nonprofit committed to ending the cycle of violence for low-income families and individuals experiencing homelessness and domestic violence. We build and manage supportive, affordable housing and through our rapid rehousing program, HousingLink, we connect survivors with safe, permanent housing. New Destiny also advocates for housing resources for domestic violence survivors and their families. We are a member of the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD).

As an affordable housing developer and operator, we urge you to strongly consider our input as the administration makes changes to the regulations affecting the hours property owners and managers are able to place trash at the curb for collection.

While we support efforts to mitigate rat infestations throughout the city, the approach presented by the proposed rule would disrupt everyday management and tenant services and cause financial hardship for nonprofits operating affordable housing. Inflation, increasing interest rates and insurance premiums, and reduced rent payments during the COVID-19 pandemic are just some examples of the economic headwinds we are faced with. Limiting the times residential buildings can place trash curbside will represent an unfunded mandate and will force us to extend hours or hire additional staff, which implies additional expenses. Nonprofit landlords already operate on extremely thin margins. We urge the administration to grant special consideration and assistance to those who develop and manage permanent affordable homes for New Yorkers in need. This support can be in the form of waivers that allow for flexibility, special funding to hire additional staff, and lidded receptacles for solid waste and recyclables free of charge.

New Destiny echoes ANHD's concerns that the proposal will negatively impact the rate at which affordable housing is created in the city. This policy will increase the cost to operate buildings and lead to the decrease of total number of new affordable units over the coming years. Given how much of a priority increasing the affordable housing stock is to the administration, we strongly urge you to consider the feedback of nonprofit developers and operators on this proposed rule.

We appreciate your efforts to address this challenging issue facing our city and look forward to working with you on a solution that balances the interests of these critical citywide priorities. We welcome any questions you may have.

Gabriela Sandoval Requena  
Senior Policy Analyst at New Destiny Housing

### Comment attachment

New-Destiny-Comments-DSNY-November-18-2022.pdf

Comment added November 18, 2022 4:52pm

### **Elizabeth Cooper**

I write on behalf of the five owners of our Brooklyn condo to oppose the plan to shift the time at which we can put out trash from 4 to 8 pm. We rely on a part-time worker to assist with our garbage management. While she is able to come at 4 pm, when it is light and safe, we expect that she would be unable to come at 8 pm—long after she is home for the night with her family. We are confident that we are among many New Yorkers who would face this bind.

If we believed this policy would actually help with rat mitigation, we might feel differently. In reality, rats are nocturnal and they won't be coming out until after dark—meaning, they aren't out at 4 pm! It is very hard to see how there is anything to be gained from this proposed policy; at the same time, it will cause significant problems for those of us striving to keep our properties and city sidewalks clean and rat-free. Thank you for your consideration.

Comment added November 18, 2022 4:54pm

### **Comments close by November 18, 2022**

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### **Add a comment**

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**Notes.** \* indicates a required field. Your email address will not be made public.

**From:** [Andrew Russakoff](#)  
**To:** [AmPark Eco-Group](#); [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: I Love Rats  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 2:05:43 AM

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I understand the problem with rats. I see that time change might help in some areas.

Like all "simple" solutions, this seems too simple to actually work.  
Perhaps try in worst affected areas, but do not stop looking for a better answers.

AR

On Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 01:28:38 AM EST, AmPark Eco-Group <[amparkeco@gmail.com](mailto:amparkeco@gmail.com)> wrote:

JK (just kidding), but we have only a few more days to submit public and online comments regarding DSNY's proposed rule changes that unopposed could cause our porters to possibly have to work until 8pm.

As of now 44 out of 44 people who submitted online comments are opposed. Maybe you like the proposed rule changes. It doesn't matter, what does is our voices, that we are being given the opportunity to use them and that doing so just might make a difference. New Yorkers spoke out about curbside composting expansion, and as a result the entire borough of Queens is now eligible to receive service. Thanks to one cooperator who made us aware of this upcoming hearing, and one cooperator who replied to our previous mailing, others have been able to submit comments, and I have been able to submit and continue to revise mine. Collectively we can garner momentum hopefully toward a sound resolution.

Even something such as, "I am in favor" or "I oppose" is a legitimate voice.

The deadline is this Friday, November 18, 2022.

Email: [nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov)

Mail: DSNY, 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013

Online comments:

<https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/time-for-placing-solid-waste-and-recyclable-materials-out-at-the-curb-for-collection/>

Thank you to those who have already participated.

In the interest of time,  
Debbie [REDACTED]

If you wish to be removed from this mailing, please reply *Unsubscribe*.

**From:** [Loretta Ryan](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on recent proposals to change Sanitation set-out hours for garbage  
**Date:** Sunday, November 13, 2022 1:43:05 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing as a 10-year resident of a large affordable housing co-op in the west Bronx. In my time here, I have been active in supporting a variety of environmental causes, including educating neighbors about the benefits of the city's curbside collection of brown bins which we have participated in for a number of years.

I realize that DSNY has been experimenting with a variety of holiday trash collection schedules and the most recent proposals to ask small property-owners to wait until 8 pm to put black trash bags or containers on the street on a regular basis, while providing for other buildings to put out trash in lockable containers at 6 am, and multi-family buildings to put bags on the street between 4 am and 6am for immediate collection by DSNY close to 4 am represents a serious attempt to reduce rat infestation in various neighborhoods.

However, I understand that Mayor Adams has proposed a "Get Stuff Clean" initiative to invest \$14.5 million this year to add more trash cans, rat exterminators, sanitation workers and security cameras to neighborhoods in need of more attention. Could some of these funds be used to strengthen Sanitation's efforts to support new collection times, lockable rat-resistant containers, and overtime costs for buildings that must recruit staff to put trash out very early in the morning.

It will also be important for Sanitation to give plenty of notice to neighborhoods and buildings about the rules and financial support available to meet new requirements.

Thank you very much for your efforts to improve our city.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Tina Schnall](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Proposed NYC Rules to place garbage at curb after 8 pm  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 9:21:55 PM

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I am a senior citizen live in Queens. My sanitation pickup days are Wednesdays and Saturdays. This means having to put my pails out on Friday evening after 8 pm which would be prohibited on my Sabbath.

- > How can this be remedied??
- > Thank you.
- >
- > Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shani Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Garbage  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2022 8:52:02 AM

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Good morning,

Please do not limit the time that we are allowed to put our garbage out on the curb. If you are concerned about keeping our streets clean then get rid of the homeless people and the criminals cool room freely knowing that there are no consequences to their actions. The loyal, responsible, tax paying citizens should not be the ones who have our rights limited.

Thanks

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] re garbage rules  
**Date:** Friday, November 4, 2022 8:51:47 AM

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some landlords do not live close to their property and putting garbage out at 8 pm. is not conducive to traveling at that hour.

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

**From:** [Trina Semorile](#)  
**To:** [Liguori, Madelynn \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Corey Johnson](#); [MBP Info](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed DSNY Changes to Curbside Trash/Recycling Collection  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 8:37:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [DSNY - Testimony.docx](#)

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Attached is my testimony regarding the DSNY proposals for changing rules for Curbside Trash and Recycling Collection.

Please be advised that this correspondence is directed to DSNY, my Council Member, and Borough President. If my testimony is posted online, or otherwise publicly, please redact my address, as a matter of privacy; they are included so that DSNY or my elected representatives may contact me about this testimony, if necessary for any reason.

Trina Semorile.



Trina Semorile

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16 November 2022

Department of Sanitation  
125 Worth Street, Room 710  
New York, NY 10013

via e-mail: [mliguori@d sny.nyc.gov](mailto:mliguori@d sny.nyc.gov)

Re: DSNY Suggested Rules Changes to Curbside Collection of Trash

Dear Department of Sanitation:

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) is asserting that the suggested changes to when and how trash is set at curbside will address problems with rats. I believe this to be both untrue and the rules to be ineffectual. DSNY has stated:

New York City became noticeably dirtier during the pandemic. While some of this was due to behavioral change and budget cuts, it also highlighted a need to update the Department's rules associated with waste setout for the first time in decades.

New York City became "noticeably dirtier" as a direct consequence of budget cuts—an ongoing problem with respect to trash collection for years—which was simply exposed by the pandemic (as were so many other conditions consequent of poor judgment and worse planning with respect to essential public services which, in the case of garbage collection, are also public health issues). Cuts to pickups of public trash cans (over many years) have resulted in overflowing cans and garbage strewn in the street and on sidewalks. As with other public services, poorer communities and communities of color have disproportionately been denied the "cleanliness" and prompt pickup DSNY provides wealthy neighborhoods.

Commercial buildings routinely illegally dump their trash in or by public cans. Worse, to "accommodate" bar/restaurant sheds and excessive taking of public sidewalks (which impedes the flow of pedestrian traffic 24 hours a day) they have been moved into the small flat areas between curb cuts, blocking crosswalks in both directions and the curb cuts, violating disability access.

I am particularly concerned about the suggested time changes, which allegedly allow for a narrower window for rat attraction. That window will make no difference and is primarily a public relations and political bandaid, alleging effectiveness, which is illusory.

DSNY also proposes to create an enrollment-based Multiunit Building Collection Program for multiple dwellings that contain nine or more dwelling units. This program will allow approved buildings with on-site maintenance or janitorial staff, to opt to set out waste for collection between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection rather than after 6:00 p.m. (if in a container with a lid) or 8:00 p.m. the night before

collection. This will provide flexibility to building staff in terms of changes to scheduled shifts necessary to implement this rule change.

Apparently, the DSNY is unaware that there is a noise code in effect from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., and permitting handling of trash in residential buildings up until midnight and between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. is wholly unacceptable because of the noise it will generate. Equally problematic is an assumption that “multiunit buildings” are all enormous, with no apartments affected by the handling of trash during the suggested hours. In fact, most residential buildings are older stock/old law and will be adversely affected by such changes/permissions. In no way will this increase the “quality of life” for those of us suffering the impact of such practices.

I live in a “multiple dwelling of nine or more units” in Hell’s Kitchen—my building has 22 units and is composed of two slum tenement buildings which were made into one building in 1971 – 72. My apartment is front facing, street level and sits between the garbage area of my building, and that of the building to the east. I spent years fighting the noise created by the super (various over the years) of my building, and the owner next door—this included noisy handling of garbage after 11 p.m (sometimes until after 1:00 a.m.) and often starting at 5:00 a.m., leaving little time for sleeping. The problem became so extreme, and involved the use of noise as harassment in retaliation for noise complaints, that it was necessary to involve Midtown North precinct, which repeatedly notified both building owners to address and cure the problem. And up through this year I continued to have to notify the owner of my building to remind the super to stop handling garbage before 7:00 a.m., as well as late at night (after 11:00 p.m.). I really do not want the city making that nightmare return, in addition to the problem of screaming drunks waking me at all hours of the night and early morning—a result of the uncontrolled pandering to the bar/restaurant industry, sheds, creation of bar corridors on Ninth and Tenth Avenues, in direct violation of legal limits on proximity of bars. This also contributes to the proliferation of trash thrown in the streets by aforementioned drunks, urination on my building and others, and empty alcohol bottles by the “freelance” drunks; like people, rats and cockroaches also enjoy booze and are attracted to the dregs of the “empties”.

In other words, DSNY is proposing the creation of conditions which will prevent any ability to sleep at night, sanctioned by the mayor, city council and DSNY. The recommendations are an assault on “quality of life”, not the enhancement or protection of it.

Creating an “enrollment” for buildings, with “automatic renewal” unless the program becomes a “nuisance” is, already, a nightmare foretold. Given experience of prior schemes of this sort, it means that tenants will be forced into Herculean tasks to try and rescind policies which should never be put in place, as the consequences are easily foreseen.

The “campaign” for closed boxes for trash are not only cumbersome, they are unworkable in neighborhoods with very narrow sidewalks, and will directly block most of the sidewalks, if permitted.

While the DSNY most certainly needs to “update the rules”, the recommendations will not solve the problem. What will solve the problem is providing timely pickup of trash in every neighborhood, providing public composting containers for every building, and enforcing the requirement for tight-fitting lids on cans. I personally witnessed a fat, sleek rat going from one can at my building to the can beside it, foraging. I see rats at all hours, day and night, and the increase is a direct consequence of the sheds of bars/restaurants.

In addition, public education would be useful. On Sunday, November 14, I was waiting at the M42 bus stop on 42nd Street at Ninth Avenue. A man walked into the bus shelter, sat down, peeled an orange,

threw the peels onto the sidewalk, then got up and walked away after finishing his snack. Residents and tourists alike routinely throw garbage in the street (including half-eaten food), perch food trash on cans/containers of private buildings, and dump trash on bags at the curb, with no regard for proper disposal. I've seen food garbage tossed from car windows and, once, when I pointed out to a driver in a parked car (New Jersey license), who threw the remains of his lunch onto the sidewalk on 47th Street, near Eighth Avenue, that a can was six feet away, he responded, "This is New York", as a "legitimizing" argument. He was simply too lazy to properly dispose of his trash and of the opinion that, since it's "New York", this is acceptable behavior. These are not problems consequent on when buildings set trash at the curb.

Collection days for my building are Tuesday, Thursday (+ recycling), Saturday. Last week, the garbage was set out on Monday evening, but there was no pickup of any trash or recycling until Thursday morning. The DSNY cannot claim that "less time" for trash sitting at the curb is a solution, if you do not pick up the trash in a timely fashion under the current rules and regulations; this practice is not uncommon.

In even the best scenario (which is unlikely, in any case)

The proposed rules will not create "cleaner, more vibrant neighborhoods" but will, instead, create additional problems without solving those for which DSNY is claiming a need to change the rules. What is needed is to fully fund the DSNY, reinstate more frequent collection of pickups for public trash cans, and an extensive public education campaign about littering, recycling and proper handling/management of trash/recycling. Requiring buildings to keep their sidewalks free of food (and food related) waste, particularly those housing restaurants, bars, and fast food places, such as pizza and other fast food.

The noticeable increase of rats in public is a direct result not only of the amount of food waste littering the streets, but the habitat created for rats by the sheds being permitted by the city and the refusal to both control the garbage they generate and the cozy homes for rats created by the shoddy building practices.

Please go back to the drawing board and work to create a genuinely effective set of policies and practices, not "cosmetic" and impractical surface "solutions".

Trina Semorile

**From:** [Davindranauth Shivratan](#)  
**To:** [NYC News Desk](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] OFFICE TIMES RULE: Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 5:12:34 PM

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"This rule is unfair to small homeowners, who are paying their quarterly property tax hikes, to be in compliance or be issue DSNY violation in the City Hall revenue collection scheme. "Rats" is the pretext to collect revenue in enforcement violations and shaping living in New York City to be difficult."

View rule: <https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/time-for-placing-solid-waste-and-recyclable-materials-out-at-the-curb-for-collection/>

-Davindranauth Shivratan  
Richmond Hill, Queens, New York



**From:** [DSNY, FOIL \(DSNY\)](#)  
**To:** [Liguori, Madelynn \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] New Rules and Regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 10:46:41 AM

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**From:** rpsbc rpsbc [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, October 17, 2022 2:26 PM  
**To:** DSNY, FOIL (DSNY) <dsnyfoil@dsny.nyc.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Rules and Regulations

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To whom it may concern:

I've read about the fact that there will be NEW RULES ABOUT TRASH COLLECTION in NYC. I hope there are NO SPECIFIC RULES in which you will specify WHAT COLOR the bags residents, who are not in big buildings, are to use for garbage. CURRENTLY, I try to use bags that I have at home [East 49<sup>th</sup> St. Brooklyn, NY 11203]. Generally, I do not have sufficient trash to fill either a LARGE BLACK OR BLUE BAG. To make it easier for Sanitation, I've tried to color code my trash. I place BLUE ties on the recycling paper/glass/plastic bags and RED ties on the actual garbage that can't be used again. [I'M RECYCLING BUT my bags may actually be of a totally different color.] I hope that I will be able continue to do this when the new rules are announced and enforced. [AT PRESENT, sometimes, my actual garbage trash has been left by Sanitation on the sidewalk even when it is in the "appropriate" color bag. The bag is just not huge since I don't have a gigantic amount of garbage waste.]

Please let me know your response to my note and if I have reason to be concerned when the new rules are posted and/or come into effect.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

RUTH SCHOENBERG  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Linda Sperling](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed New Garbage Collection Rules  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:15:14 PM

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"Our porters are unionized which means that they work from 8:30 AM to 4:30-5:00 PM. If we cannot put out the garbage until 8 PM, that means we have to pay the porters significant overtime. We would have the same problem if the garbage has to be put out between 4 AM - 7 AM. something that will be a burden on the shareholders of co-ops. Putting the garbage out at 4 PM and having the SDNY pick up at 8 PM would work better."

Linda Sperling  
Forest Hills, NY

**From:** [Benjamin Spero](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Curbside trash collection  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 3:42:27 PM

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I writing because I'm in opposition to Mayor Adam's plan to change the time for the curbside trash collection from 4:00PM to 6:00PM and 8:00PM starting next spring. I saw the Mayor complain on the news about all the rats from the garbage and I totally agree but this problem is coming from the apartment buildings. It is the apartment buildings that the Mayor should be targeting, instead he is punishing the whole city changing everybody's time to take out the trash at the curb. I live in a private home and I've been taking out the trash at 4:00PM on my collection days for many years and I never had a problem with the garbage. I knew someone who lived in an apartment building and this person saw people in the building throw their trash out of the window. This is how you get all the rats. I'm sure you will agree. People in private homes don't act like this and throw trash out the window. This is the reason I'm writing this letter hoping Mayor Adams will reconsider his curbside plan and instead go after all these apartment buildings in NYC and order them to take the trash out between 6:00PM and 8:00PM. I think this would be only fair to NYC residents. Thank you for reading my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Benjamin Spero



**From:** [Frank Lang](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Will Depoo](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on Solid Waste Curbside pick up  
**Date:** Thursday, November 17, 2022 6:21:53 PM  
**Attachments:** [221118-St. Nicks - comment on solid waste plan.pdf](#)

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Please find attached the testimony by St. Nicks Alliance on the NYC Department of Sanitation for the Proposed Rule for Time for Placing Solid Waste & Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or follow-up.

Frank Lang  
Deputy Executive Director for Housing  
St. Nicks Alliance  
(718) 388-5454 x 105  
Pronouns: He, Him, His



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**From:** [Tamar Stone](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] proposed sanitation rules  
**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2022 9:02:14 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to object to the proposed sanitation collection rules which greatly reduce the time garbage may sit in anticipation of collection.

For those of us who are Sabbath Observant and who have a Saturday collection day, we are not permitted by Jewish Law to carry outside of our houses and therefore won't be able to put out the trash and recyclables after 8pm on Friday night when the sun sets and Sabbath begins. The sunset is after 8pm only about 8 weeks during the year. If I don't put out my garbage for Saturday collection, then I will have a larger mound of trash sitting in my backyard attracting more rats than I already have. In addition, since Recycling day is Saturday on my block, I would only be able to recycle 8 weeks per year. What do you propose I do with all those stuffed blue and clear bags for the rest of the 44 weeks of the year? Keep it in my backyard for the local homeless people to rip open in search of bottles?

In addition to our Sabbath issues, I would like to point out that going outside when it is dark is no longer a pleasant proposition. Personally, I am scared to be outside at night. There have been numerous attacks on people in that alley at night, and we have witnessed people breaking in or attempting to break into our neighbors' houses. Please do not force residents to go outside at night, especially the vulnerable like the elderly or children. NYC no longer has a system of arresting criminals and taking them out of circulation, and the neighborhoods are not safe. This proposed plan will increase the opportunities for assaults and that will cost the city money in police and EMT and hospital fees.

One more point about this plan: There are many apartment buildings in my neighborhood. The owners employ janitorial staff on a daily basis. Those janitors spend hours of their day packing up and taking out the trash from the building. With the proposed law, the apartment owners will either have to hire additional staff to take out the trash at night or early morning, or pay overtime to their current staff to do this. In either case, the owners will then have a reasonable excuse to raise the rent or condo fees for the residents. In my neighborhood, where many residents are living in Section 8 Housing, that means that the owners will demand higher compensation from the city. So, overall, this plan will be costing the city more.

thank you for your time,

Tamar Stone  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Sung Kim](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raymond Pultinas](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Regarding DSNY-Proposed-Rule-re-Times-for-Placement-of-Refuse-and-Recyclable  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2022 9:04:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [JBOLC logo.png](#)

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To whom it may concerns,

First of all, I would love to thank you all for your dedication and hard work to make our city a better place for all. Thanks for trying to address the unpleasant and disturbing site of piles of garbage bags along the streets, not to mention the strong smells that linger, especially during hot weather.

After reading through all the comments, it seems like the proposal is not realistic for many reasons and poses inherent problems, including safety.

Below are a few thoughts I'd love to share: Personally, I feel that food scrap collection is one of the ultimate solutions for the problems of rats and uncleanness. Though I understand that it takes time and effort for organic waste collection to be successful, my family has been separating and dropping off food scraps and it has become a habit. Presently, we could not imagine disposing of food scraps with the trash. Our hope is that DSNY sets a clear plan for when organics collection will be mandatory for all New Yorkers. Meanwhile, I understand the effort that will go into educating the public.

In my home country of Korea, residents are charged by the weight of the trash they dispose of. I think this kind of policy can be one of the best solutions to achieve the 30x30 zero waste goal set by the city. In this way, there is a positive incentive to separate recyclables and food scraps from trash - it will save residents and businesses money. Making our city a clean and pleasant place requires collective effort to be sustained.

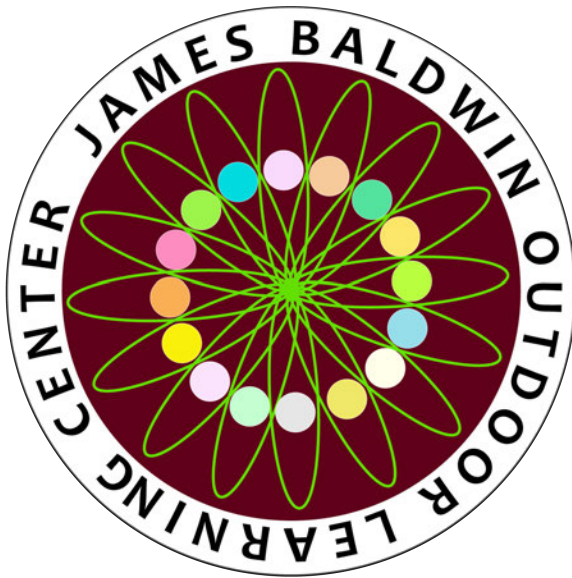
I wonder if it is more feasible to move trash collection time to the afternoon especially in the residential areas. People and building personnel could take out the garbage in the morning after morning rush hrs from 10 - 1pm, then the city could collect it from 1 - 4pm before evening rush hrs. This way, it is likely the sleep disturbing noise issues of trash collection, rat problems and safety issues will be more effectively solved and our streets will look much more beautiful to most people.

And lastly, would you consider engaging local environmental nonprofit organizations who are able to accept and process food scraps? These same groups might also help beautify and clean the streets and/or help with more regular collection of garbage with the help of local residents, students and seniors who could be awarded with small stipends as incentives. When it comes to dealing with waste issues, I think that managing locally can

be more efficient, sustainable and more ethical.  
Thank you again for your time and all you do!

Sincerely,

Sung Kim  
Assistant to the Director  
James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center  
contact@jamesbaldwinoutdoorlearningcenter.org  
<http://www.jamesbaldwinoutdoorlearningcenter.org>  
she/her/hers



**From:** [Charlie Todd](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - DSNY Proposed Rule re Times for Placement of Refuse and Recyclable Materials on Curb for Pickup  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 11:09:37 AM

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I strongly support the move to put curbside residential trash out 4 hours later. This will greatly improve the lives of pedestrians for the afternoon and early evening rush. However, I would like to ask DSNY to more aggressively pursue a containerized trash solution. Such a solution should be implemented in the roadbed, in place of parking. It is frustrating to have to navigate a narrow sidewalk past mountains of trash bags with my stroller while we allow the free storage of private vehicles for the small minority of car owners on the other side of the mountains. Please speed the pilot programs up as much as you can and move us towards a solution where we are not putting out embarrassing out trash mountains on our sidewalks for rats to enjoy. The 4-hour delay is appreciated, but I imagine the rats will adjust their eating schedules accordingly.

Charles Todd  
Manhattan



## **Comment on Proposed Rule for Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection**

**November 18, 2022**

Dear Commissioner Tisch,

My name is Will Depoo, and I'm an organizer at the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD). ANHD is one of the City's leading policy, advocacy, and capacity-building organizations. Our membership consists of over 80 neighborhood-based and city-wide nonprofits that have affordable housing or equitable economic development as a key part of their mission. We work with our members to build community power and ensure the right to affordable housing and thriving, equitable neighborhoods for all New Yorkers.

I coordinate ANHD's Community Development Corporation (CDC) Advocacy Committee. This committee consists of our members who are mission-driven non-profit affordable housing developers and managers. As leaders in the affordable housing development and management community, we implore you to strongly consider our input as it relates to making any changes to regulations affecting the hours property owners and managers are able to place trash curbside.

### ***Cost to CDCs***

While we support efforts to implement policies that mitigate rat infestations throughout the City, our CDC members are concerned the proposed time changes would severely impact them. This would be a major cost to CDCs. Inflation, increasing interest rates and insurance premiums, and environmental policies that are slated to materially raise energy costs are just some examples of the financial headwinds faced by owners and operators of affordable housing real estate; these current challenges exacerbate the nightmare faced by property owners during the pandemic where they received reduced rental payments from tenants. For ANHD's CDC members, delaying the time buildings can place trash curbside will function as an unfunded mandate and will force building owners to extend hours or hire staff – both of which require money that is absent in the affordable housing finance. In some instances, property owners will be forced to pay a premium



rate for the trash to be removed during night hours. As changes to regulations are considered, action must be taken to directly address these existential concerns as operators in the space are already managing properties within extremely thin margins. **We urge you to provide trash disposal allowances for those who develop, manage, and reside in residences intended to provide affordable homes to New Yorkers in need.** This can be by providing funding to CDCs to hire additional staff; the funding can come from charging a fee for restaurants having outdoor dining & use the money from the fees to support CDCs in hiring additional staff. Another option is providing CDCs rat-proof bins as this is a cost

### *Disrupting everyday management and tenant services*

Coinciding with the fiscal challenges to implement the potential policy change are the logistical oversights of the proposal. Given building operators will not be offered resources to implement the policy, they may be forced to amend the schedules of staff to accommodate the change. Assuming an 8-hour workday, this would create a scenario where building staff was rarely, if ever, available to residents during mornings given a typical shift would have to generally start no earlier than noon so that the evening garbage removal rule could be adhered to without triggering overtime thresholds. Or if they choose the early morning option, staff would leave much earlier, meaning tenants would not receive services during the day. Furthermore, this shift to the cadence of how most buildings operate would raise an equity issue as the harm would only be felt by residents who lived in buildings that were unable to fund increased staffing costs. It is imperative that we recognize these inequitable realities and ensure that if a change must be made, the new policy is not overtly or unintentionally discriminatory against those without means.

### *Effect of Affordable Housing Development*

Given the aforementioned concerns, it is all but certain that the proposal will negatively affect the rate at which affordable housing is created in the city. Developers are already faced with the task of underwriting deals as the cost to develop continuously increases. This policy will increase the cost to operate buildings; and as such, will either decrease the total amount of affordable units to be developed and/or, the amount of units developed at area median incomes levels consistent with the salaries of low-income and working class New Yorkers. Given how much of a priority increasing the availability of affordable housing is to the administration, we strongly urge you to prioritize the sentiments of CDCs as you decide how best to move forward.



We appreciate your efforts to address this challenging issue facing our City and neighborhoods. We look forward to working with you on a solution that balances the interests of these extremely important citywide priorities.

Sincerely,

Will Depoo



**From:** [a vegh](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Cc:** [district24@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district24@council.nyc.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reduced Trash Hours  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 9:41:46 AM

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Hi, I wanted to comment on the proposed hours to place garbage by the curb.

First of all, thank you for all of your efforts in keeping this amazing place where so many people call home clean!

However, I am concerned about this proposal. NYC never sleeps and along with it comes a very hectic lifestyle. I have obligations to my job. I have obligations to my spouse and children. At the same time I try to also self care for myself in all of the shuffles. I think we should make it easier for NYers to get their garbage picked up, not harder. This proposal will make our lives more difficult.

I also don't understand how it will solve the rat issues. Do the rats only come if the garbage is by the street, but if it's in my yard, then they respect the boundaries??

It seems that there is 2 reasons why this bill is being passed: 1) By passing bills it makes our politicians look like they are accomplishing, even if it ends up making things worse. (Think Covid, when many laws were passed that accomplished nothing, and created problems.) 2) NYC is now infamous for giving fines for every little infraction , while the real criminal activities are not enforced. I fear that this will just be a money making law to nickel and dime hardworking NYers.

Thank you!

-AVrohom Vegh  
<http://jewish-links.yolasite.com/>

**From:** [Tricia Weber](#)  
**To:** [NYC Rules \(DSNY\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Trash and Our City Streets  
**Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 3:57:36 PM

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Hi,

As a homeowner of a small building with only 3 tenants I sweep the area in front of my building and the sidewalk of my 2 next door neighbors. I do this mostly so that it doesn't end up in my yard. Also, one neighbor is older. The other is a big landlord. We try to be neighborly here on West 77th Street.

If building owners are too busy to sweep in front of their buildings can they pay for services or hire the **Doe Fund** or groups like them to clean and sweep properties? If they collect rents they should have enough to keep their storefronts clean. Who wants to eat at a dirty food place? It clogs the drains and attracts rodents.

We started using **garbage pails** with secure lids. I don't see rat droppings in our vestibule any more. When I see the garbage men I thank them for doing (one of) the hardest jobs in NYC.

I think we need a PSA campaign. Remember "**Please Don't Be A Litterbug**"  
**I'm happy to speak with whoever needs creative services!**

Thank you!  
Tricia Weber

--

Tricia Weber  
The Weber Group • *Artist Representatives*  
[thewebergroup.net](http://thewebergroup.net) • [212-799-6532](tel:212-799-6532)  
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West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing  
2345 Broadway, New York, NY 10024 • T. 212.721.6032  
www.wsfssh.org

## **Comment on Proposed Rule for Time for Placing Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Out at the Curb for Collection**

November 18, 2022

Dear Commissioner Tisch,

My name is Claire Hilger, and I am the Deputy Director/Chief Operating Officer for the West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing (WSFSSH), a community development corporation (CDC). WSFSSH provides housing and services to some of our City's most vulnerable residents, seniors with low incomes, many of whom have histories of mental illness, substance abuse and homelessness.

### ***Support Needed***

While we support efforts to implement policies that mitigate rat infestations throughout the City, we are concerned about the impact of the proposed time changes. Delaying the time buildings can place trash curbside will function as an unfunded mandate and will force us to extend hours or hire staff – both of which require money. As an operator of affordable housing, we voluntarily opt to sign regulatory agreements that limit our ability to raise rents because we believe that New Yorkers have the right to affordable housing. By voluntarily limiting our income, we have less money to cover unfunded mandates like this one. Please provide us with the support we need to help the City control its rat problem which impacts all of us. **Provide us with rat-proof bins at no cost. Consider a fee on restaurants to provide outdoor dining. Proceeds of the fee should go to community development corporations** like ours who cannot afford this additional cost.

### ***Impact on Lives of Residents and Staff***

We will have to change the schedules of staff to comply with this new mandate. Assuming an 8-hour workday, this would create a scenario where building staff are rarely, if ever, available to residents during mornings given a typical shift would have to generally start much later so that the evening garbage removal rule could be adhered to without triggering overtime thresholds. If we are accepted to the early morning option, staff would leave much earlier, meaning tenants would not receive services during the day. This harm would likely only be felt by low-income residents like ours who live in buildings that are unable to fund increased staffing costs. This will also impact our maintenance staff who will suddenly find themselves commuting to work at odd hours. We expect some of our maintenance staff will opt to find another job that does not require them to ride the subway at 4 am and allows them to drop off their kids at school and daycare.

### ***Composting***

We strongly urge that you roll out this program at a later date in conjunction with composting City-wide. Composting has the greatest potential to make a true and lasting impact on the rat problem. At a minimum restaurants should be required to compost. By placing food waste in rat proof



West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing  
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containers for composting, the City would remove the main food source for rats, and really attack this issue at its heart.

We appreciate your efforts to address this challenging issue facing our City and neighborhoods. We look forward to working with you on a solution that balances the interests of these extremely important citywide priorities.