

**OPENING STATEMENT OF  
ANISSA BADEA  
BUREAU OF LEGAL AFFAIRS  
NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON DSNY’S PROPOSED RULE RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE EIGHTH AND NINTH COMMERCIAL WASTE ZONES AND INFREQUENT WASTE  
GENERATORS (AMENDED)**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026  
10:00 A.M.  
(REMOTE HEARING)**

Good morning and welcome. My name is Anissa Badea. I am Counsel for the Department of Sanitation. 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 implementation of the Commercial Waste Zone program and infrequent waste generators.

This rule was published by DSNY in the City Record on February 3, 2026, with a scheduled hearing date of today, March 5, 2026. 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.

In 2019, New York City enacted Local Law 199 requiring the establishment of a new program for the collection of commercial waste. The program, known as the Commercial Waste Zones program, is a safe, efficient, and competitive collection system designed to provide high-quality service to New York City businesses while advancing the City’s waste diversion and sustainability goals. Pursuant to Local Law 199, codified in Title 16-B of the New York City Administrative Code, the geographic area of New York City has been divided into 20 Commercial Waste Zones. Pursuant to a request for proposals process, three private carters providing commercial waste collection services were selected by the Department to serve businesses within each Commercial Waste Zone, and five carters were selected to provide citywide containerized commercial waste collection services to businesses that use dumpsters and compactors. The selected carters are referred to as “awardees.” The resulting contracts with the awardees include standards for pricing, customer service, safety, environmental health, and requirements to promote the City’s commitment to recycling and sustainability.

Local Law 199 requires the Department to issue rules setting forth an implementation start date and a final implementation date for each Commercial Waste Zone established.

Different implementation start and end dates may be established for different Commercial Waste Zones. The Department previously set the implementation start and end dates for the following Commercial Waste Zones: Queens Central, Bronx East, Bronx West, Queens Northeast, Brooklyn South, Queens West, and Lower Manhattan. This rule would set the implementation start date and final implementation date for the next two zones: Midtown South and Staten Island. This rule would also remove the implementation start date and final implementation date for the Queens West zone. Subsequent rules will set the implementation dates for the remaining 12 zones.

Additionally, Section 16-116(a) and (b) of the New York City Administrative Code require commercial establishments to have a Business Integrity Commission licensed carter remove their waste, and to post a sign noting the day and time that such establishment's trade waste is picked up. If such establishment removes its own waste, the sign must note the registration number issued by the Business Integrity Commission. Section 16-116(c) exempts from these requirements any commercial establishment that generates infrequent or insignificant amounts of waste, and authorizes the Sanitation Commissioner to promulgate rules determining what constitutes infrequent waste or insignificant amounts of waste. Section 1-06 of Title 16 of the Rules of the City of New York currently provides that commercial establishments must generate less than one gallon of trade waste within a seven-day period to meet the definition of infrequent waste or insignificant amounts of waste to be exempt from the requirements of Section 16-116(a) and (b). This rule would create an application process for commercial businesses to apply to be considered a generator of infrequent waste. This rule is necessary to ensure the Department has a system for determining if a business is a generator of infrequent waste and exempt from the requirements Section 16-116(a) and (b).

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@dny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dny.nyc.gov) by 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 oral and 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 asked that persons wishing to testify sign up in advance of this hearing, anyone wishing to testify may sign up to do so by indicating in the chat area your name and affiliation, if any. When you speak, please say 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 three minutes.