

FY 2028 Borough Budget Consultations

Manhattan - Department of Sanitation

Meeting Date:

AGENDA ITEM [1]: Impact of Measures to Close Budget Gaps and Threatened Funding Cuts on the Budget For FY 2028 and Beyond

Mayor Mamdani's Administration took office while facing a reported \$5.4 Billion budget gap for Fiscal Years 2026 and projected FY 2027. While the current Fiscal Year budget gap is reported to have been closed, the Mayor's Administration continues to prioritize finding savings and efficiencies in a variety of agency operations and is convening a charter revision commission to expedite certain efforts to secure and implement those savings and efficiencies.

There are potential severe cuts to or elimination of funding and other resources from the federal government for a host of programs and initiatives. These are exacerbated by actual or virtual elimination of certain federal agencies that supported services for the most underserved.

With these developments in mind, please answer the following questions:

1. Has the funding for any programs or initiatives at your Agency allocated for FY 2026 or projected FY 2027 been cut or reduced as a result of the efforts to close City Budget gaps in FY 2026, FY 2027 or projected FY 2028?
 - a. If yes:
 - i. Please identify the program or initiative, and
 - ii. Please provide an estimate of the amount of the funding cut or reduction in both absolute and percentage amounts.
2. Has the funding for any programs or initiatives at your Agency allocated for FY 2026 or projected FY 2027 been cut or reduced as a result of actual or threatened cuts to or reductions in funding or subsidies directly or indirectly attributable to the federal government for FY 2026, FY 2027 or projected FY 2028?
 - a. If yes:
 - i. Please identify the program or initiative, and
 - ii. Please provide an estimate of the amount of the funding cut or reduction in both absolute and percentage amounts.
3. Has any State or federal funding streams previously earmarked or allocated for programs or initiatives at your Agency been redirected or re-allocated to other uses in order to:
 - a. Close the City Budget Gap for FY 2026, FY 2027 or projected FY 2028?
 - i. If yes, please provide an estimate of the funding cut or reduction in both absolute and percentage amounts.
 - b. Prepare for or respond to actual or threatened cuts to or reductions in funding or subsidies directly or indirectly attributable to the federal government for FY 2026, FY 2027 or projected FY 2028?
 - i. If yes, please provide an estimate of the funding cut or reduction in both absolute and percentage amounts.
4. Have any programs or initiatives, including scheduled or planned expansions of existing programs or initiatives, at your Agency been frozen, postponed, suspended or abandoned as a result, directly or

indirectly, of measures taken to address either the City Budget Gap or the threats to cut or reduce federal funding in FY 2026, FY 2027 or projected FY 2028?

- a. If yes:
 - i. Please identify such programs or initiatives, and
 - ii. Please provide an estimate of the funding needed to restore or continue those programs and initiatives as planned.
5. What other measures is your Agency taking in connection with:
 - a. The calls for greater efficiency in City government operations, or
 - b. Actual or threatened cuts to or elimination of federal funding?
6. What is the current level of vacancies for positions in your agency?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

1. No
2. No
3. No
4. No
5.
 - a) The Department is always looking at ways to be more efficient and productive, especially as it relates to collection truck targets and dump on shift targets. As part of the Chief Savings Officer process, DSNY worked with OMB to identify savings opportunities that do not have an impact on service levels.
 - b) None, as DSNY is almost entirely funded with City tax levy funds.
6. 139 civilian vacancies and no uniformed vacancies as of July 2027 close.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [2]: Vehicle Inventory

Please provide an update of equipment purchases and needs for both replacement and to meet new operational needs. Is expansion of containerization dependent on more Automated Side Loading trucks? Last year DSNY noted delayed receipt of equipment ordered in previous years.

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- Annual equipment purchases are based on fleet age and the funding allocated for that fiscal year. DSNY is funded to replace vehicles of all types on a regular cycle towards the end of their useful life. DSNY currently has over 1000 pieces of equipment on order, including collection and dual-bin trucks, side loaders, mechanical brooms, specialty vehicles, and snow equipment.

- Citywide containerization implementation is dependent on the procurement of additional side-loading trucks. These trucks are specialized in lifting the Empire Bins used in the program for medium and large residential buildings.
- At this time, we do not anticipate any delays in our new equipment deliveries.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [3]: Street Baskets

Do all districts in Manhattan continue to receive street litter basket collection service 7 days a week? Do high traffic areas, such as nightlife areas that draw crowds especially on weekends, receive service as needed to prevent overflowing baskets? Can you give us breakdown of districts receiving supplemental basket service?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- All districts in Manhattan receive 7 days a week litter basket service.
- Commercial corridors receive a minimum of 2 times per day service with many strips receiving a third daily pickup as part of DSNY residential routes.
- DSNY has adjusted pickup times throughout the day to ensure baskets are being tipped during peak hours. We continue to look at routes and times throughout the year to ensure we are providing the most productive service possible.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [4]: Snow Removal

DSNY did an amazing job of snow removal this past winter. What were the additional costs associated with this elevated response, including snow shovellers and energy costs for snow melters? Is DSNY requesting additional funding for snow removal to maintain this level of response? Will DSNY be requesting additional funding for advanced technology such as snow melters to increase faster snow removal ability.

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- \$100M was added to the FY26 budget for costs associated with winter weather operations.

- DSNY is not requesting additional funding for snow removal. Snow operations are funded by a charter-mandated formula, and DSNY works closely with OMB and City Hall to ensure the agency has the resources it needs to maintain appropriate response levels.

MEETING NOTES:**NEW INFORMATION:****FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:****AGENDA ITEM [5]: Unpermitted Sidewalk Vendor Enforcement**

Will the focus on curb and sidewalk use mean more enforcement of illegal sidewalk vending? There appear to be areas of continued illegal vending year after year. Is lack of enforcement due to shortage of staff or is this an unwillingness to enforce without an alternate way for the vendors to vend in a safe place. Is there interagency collaboration to plan for a compliant way for vendors to do business?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- DSNY is the lead agency for street vendor enforcement and works in partnership with DOHMH, DCWP, NYPD, DOT, and SBS to ensure vending enforcement is performed equitably and with a focus on passable streets, cleanliness, and public safety.
- DSNY visits vending hotspots regularly, with a focus on areas that generate complaints from the community, elected officials, and 311. However, to date, DSNY has a limited number of Sanitation Police to conduct this enforcement and cannot provide constant coverage in every location. The FY27 budget included additional funding for DSNY enforcement personnel to specifically implement Local Law 54 of 2026 which will increase the number of vendor licenses available citywide.
- DSNY welcomes community board input on areas with problematic conditions caused by vending.

MEETING NOTES:**NEW INFORMATION:****FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:****AGENDA ITEM [6]: Composting**

What funding is needed to expand composting enforcement services to meet citywide demand? How are smart bins for compost funded, and will funding for out-of-home compost collection continue in FY28?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- DSNY utilizes existing personnel to conduct enforcement for failure to separate compostable material. As New Yorkers take on this new responsibility, DSNY is looking for good faith efforts from buildings and residents to comply, including providing tenants with the opportunity to dispose of their food waste separately and setout of a separate container for organics.
- DSNY has more than 300 composting Smart Bins located citywide accessible for New Yorkers to dispose of organics 24/7. DSNY intends to continue operations of these bins.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [7]: Containerization

Empire Bins are being expanded to 6 more Community Districts. How are these districts chosen? What plans / funding is needed to expand this program citywide?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- DSNY selected the next 6 districts based on population density, waste generation, building typology, and streetscapes to implement and test Empire Bin operations in a range of neighborhoods citywide. DSNY selected at least one neighborhood per borough to kick off the agency's effort to bring Empire Bins citywide.
- The next 6 districts for expansion include: Brooklyn CB 8 (Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, Weeksville), Bronx CB 2 (Hunts Point, Longwood), Bronx CB 5 (University Heights, Mount Hope, Fordham Heights), Manhattan CB 2 (West Village, SoHo, Little Italy, Greenwich Village, Nolita), Queens CB 2 (Sunnyside, Hunters Point, Woodside), and Staten Island CB 1 (North Shore)
- These next 6 announced districts are in addition to the currently operating district in Manhattan CB 9 (West Harlem) and the next district this fall in Brooklyn CB 2 (Downtown Brooklyn, Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Brooklyn Heights).
- DSNY is fully funded for expansion.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [8]: Garages

Which districts in Manhattan are still in need of a garage and / or outdoor space for DSNY District level staff and for vehicle storage. What funding is needed for this?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

The borough of Manhattan presents many challenges in meeting DSNY district garage needs. Although DSNY continues to accommodate the Department's equipment and employee space requirements, several locations face significant parking and equipment storage challenges:

- Manhattan 6:
 - Manhattan 6 shares a facility with Manhattan 3 at Pier 36, which sits adjacent to South Street between Montgomery Street and Pike Slip.
 - M6 was previously located on 30th Street in its own facility. Plans for a new garage at the Brookdale site did not come to fruition, forcing DSNY to fit M6 into an existing space at Pier 36 with M3.
 - Due to the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge-Montgomery Coastal Resiliency wall, available parking lot space for truck storage is limited. This has led to M6 storing trucks at satellite locations throughout the district.
 - During winter weather events, where DSNY trucks are equipped with plows and take up more space, DSNY is forced to utilize Basketball City's parking lot for some M6 equipment.
- Manhattan 8:
 - The M8 District garage is in the old incinerator building on 215th Street off 10th Avenue, which is outside of its service district.
 - There is no space inside the facility for truck parking, forcing staff to park equipment along 215th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues.
- Manhattan 9:
 - The M9 District garage is located at a leased facility at 125 E. 149th Street in the Bronx, outside its service district AND borough.
 - M9 is also housed in a building with extremely limited interior space, forcing DSNY to utilize surrounding streets for parking.
 - As the inaugural district for DSNY's Empire Bin pilot, M9 has increased fleet assigned to this garage, further exacerbating truck storage issues.
- Manhattan 11:
 - Manhattan 11 is currently located at a leased facility at 2495 2nd Avenue, between 127th and 128th Streets in Manhattan.
 - There is no available indoor parking space for equipment, and congestion in the surrounding area makes street parking a non-option. There is a small lot for limited truck storage outside of the facility.
 - DSNY is currently utilizing an MTA lot across the street for supplemental overflow equipment parking.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM [9]: Wish List

For community board advocacy, we need to know which important programs or projects are most in need of funding. If your agency were given a large amount of money, to which staffing need, program, or capital project would you assign it?

AGENCY RESPONSE:

- DSNY is funded for all current programs.
- The agency is pleased to have received funding for full citywide expansion of Empire Bins and looks forward to working closely with each community board on implementation for each neighborhood.
- DSNY also remains laser-focused on cleanliness and is appreciative of Council Members who of generously allocated discretionary funds towards supplemental cleaning in their districts.

MEETING NOTES:

NEW INFORMATION:

FOLLOW-UP COMMITMENTS: