

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT

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November 12, 2025
Start: 11:38 a.m.
Recess: 11:45 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 2

B E F O R E: Shaun Abreu, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks
David M. Carr
Simcha Felder
James F. Gennaro
Julie Menin
Frank Morano
Sandy Nurse
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Sandra Ung

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mic check, mic check on
3 the vote on Sanitation and Waste Management. Today's
4 date is November 12, 2025, recorded by Walter Lewis
5 in HR2.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
7 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the
8 Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management.

9 Please silence all cell phone and
10 electronic devices.

11 Chair, we're ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Good morning,
13 everyone, and welcome to today's hearing hosted by
14 the Committee on Sanitation.

15 To minimize disruption, please place
16 electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode.

17 The purpose of this hearing is to hold a
18 vote on Proposed Intro. Number 1123-B, sponsored by
19 Council Member Crystal Hudson. The Committee
20 previously heard Introduction Number 1123 at a
21 hearing on November 20, 2024, where it received
22 testimony from representatives of the Department of
23 Sanitation and interested members of the public.

24 Already with the pilot program for on-street
25 containerization that started earlier this year in

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2 West Harlem, the streets are much cleaner and rat
3 sightings have decreased significantly. No longer are
4 there piles of black trash bags on the sidewalk with
5 rats scurrying amongst them that have been part of
6 New Yorkers' daily lives for as long as many of us
7 can remember. This bill is a huge step in expanding
8 that success citywide, and it will transform our
9 cityscape for decades to come. Having our trash in
10 clean containers instead of strewn about outside of
11 our apartment buildings would be a huge win for
12 sanitation, for public health, and for sightliness.
13 This is one of those rare moments when we actually
14 change what New York looks and feels like on the
15 ground, when we treat trash as something that must be
16 managed as part of our public space. By finally
17 taking waste management seriously and joining the
18 21st century standards that cities like Barcelona,
19 Amsterdam, and Milan have already adopted, we are
20 drawing a hard line between the old New York of black
21 bags and the modern city we expect to be. The
22 Department of Sanitation is in the process of rolling
23 out a program to require all residential buildings
24 with 31 or more dwelling units to place waste in
25 Empire bins, which are stationary on-street

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2 containers placed in the parking lane by the City and

3 assigned to a specific property solely for the use of

4 that property. Under that program, medium-sized

5 buildings with 10 to 30 units would be permitted to

6 opt into the use of Empire bins. The program has been

7 piloted in Manhattan Community District 9, and

8 another pilot is rolling out in Brooklyn Community

9 District 2. A citywide version of the program is

10 currently undergoing environmental review and is

11 expected to be implemented by 2032. Proposed Intro.

12 1123-B would provide authorizations for and place

13 restrictions on any Department of Sanitation program

14 requiring residential buildings to place refuse in

15 stationary on-street containers. Specifically, DSNY

16 would only be permitted to require buildings with 10

17 or more units to use on-street containers, although

18 smaller buildings could be required to share on-

19 street containers. Any building with 10 or more units

20 that uses the on-street containers would be required

21 to provide it to its employees with relevant training

22 and personal protective equipment. The bill would

23 authorize DSNY to impose an annual fee of 55 dollars

24 per unit on buildings with 10 or more units that use

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2 these containers, although this fee would need to be
3 waived for certain affordable housing developments.

4 I would like to thank everyone on my team
5 and in the Legislative Division for their work on
6 this legislation.

7 I will now turn it over to the Clerk to
8 vote on Intro. Number 1123-B.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
10 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
11 vote, Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste
12 Management.

13 Chair Abreu.

14 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: I vote aye.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Salamanca. I
16 pass right now.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Menin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Nurse.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ung.

24 Banks.

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2 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Excuse me. I would
3 like to pause the vote for a second.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Council
5 Member Salamanca.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
8 you, Council Member.

9 Council Member Banks.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye, but definitely
11 with concerns on the bill, but I'm an aye for now.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
13 you.

14 Zhuang.

15 Felder.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yeah. I have
17 concerns on the bill, and I'm voting no.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
19 you.

20 Carr.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Nay.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.
23 Paladino.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Morano.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: No.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
3 you.

4 With a vote of seven in the affirmative,
5 three in the negative, and no abstentions, Proposed
6 Introduction 1123-B has been adopted by the
7 Committee.

8 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Thank you. This
9 Committee hearing is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date November 25, 2025