



New York City: THE ROAD TO ZERO WASTE – A CHANGING COMMERCIAL WASTE SECTOR

STRIVE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING CONFERENCE *with* TRADE SHOW



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David Biderman, Executive Director & CEO
240-494-2254
dbiderman@swana.org

SWANA By the Numbers

- A professional association with more than **8500 solid waste and recycling professionals** – US/Canada
- New member growth is up **21%**
- **Membership at record high level**
- 60% of our members work for the public sector
- **45 chapters** in the U.S. & Canada
- **7 Technical Divisions** connect members, guide policy, and enhance professional visibility

Providing Value

SWANA has provided valuable services to solid waste professionals in both the public and private sectors for more than 50 years, and will continue to do so, guided by our new Strategic Plan.

- The waste industry is **rapidly evolving and SWANA is changing with it** – including partnering with organizations that share our goals.
- We will be **more visible advocates** for the sector
- We will make the **industry safer**.

2015 Strategic Plan

SWANA's Strategic Plan recognizes the changes in the industry, the association, and the needs of its members.

Purpose Statement: “To advance the responsible management of solid waste as a resource.”

SWANA's core values are: CARE

Collaboration – networking and partnerships

Advocacy – policymakers/media

Respect – encourage diverse ideas/opinions

Education – training/certification/research



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New York City - Commercial

The structure for the current commercial waste system in NYC was established in 1996-2001

-Trade Waste Commission (now the BIC)

- Rate cap
- Licensing/Oversight

-Fresh Kills Landfill closes

- Transfer stations taking more waste
 - Impacts on neighborhoods
- Increased recycling = more trucks



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NYC – Commercial Recycling

- Not all NYC businesses are currently required to recycle the same materials
- Impending rules changes will:
 - (1) simplify requirements and make easier to follow
 - (2) allow single stream or co-collection
 - (3) require recycling facilities to be registered

DSNY providing “business recycling training”

Expect to see increase in commercial recycling rate

New York City - Challenges

New laws and requirements being implemented:

- Commercial Organics Diversion

- Truck Emissions

- By 2020, carters need to satisfy 2007 emissions limit

- Average age of fleet *is more than 10 years old*

- New truck is \$250,000,

- CNG trucks cost more





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New York City - Challenges

There are 2 proposals that could significantly alter the current NYC collection/disposal system:

1. Transfer Station Capacity Reduction (Intro 495)

2. Zoned Collection (franchising)





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Intro 495

New York City generates 24,000 tpd of waste (commercial & residential). Much of the waste is managed at transfer stations – and these facilities are generally concentrated in a handful of neighborhoods in Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens

DSNY's Marine Transfer Stations (MTS) are part of City SWMP to reduce truck traffic – using rail/barge to ship waste out of NYC.

- North Shore Queens opened in 2015

Intro 495

Intro 495 proposes to reduce the ability of transfer stations in targeted neighborhoods to receive waste.

- Undue burden – noise/traffic/odor
- Environmental justice

Intro 495 was initially introduced in 2014 and the City Council has held multiple hearings on the bill.

A revised revision was recently submitted to City Hall.

Issues:

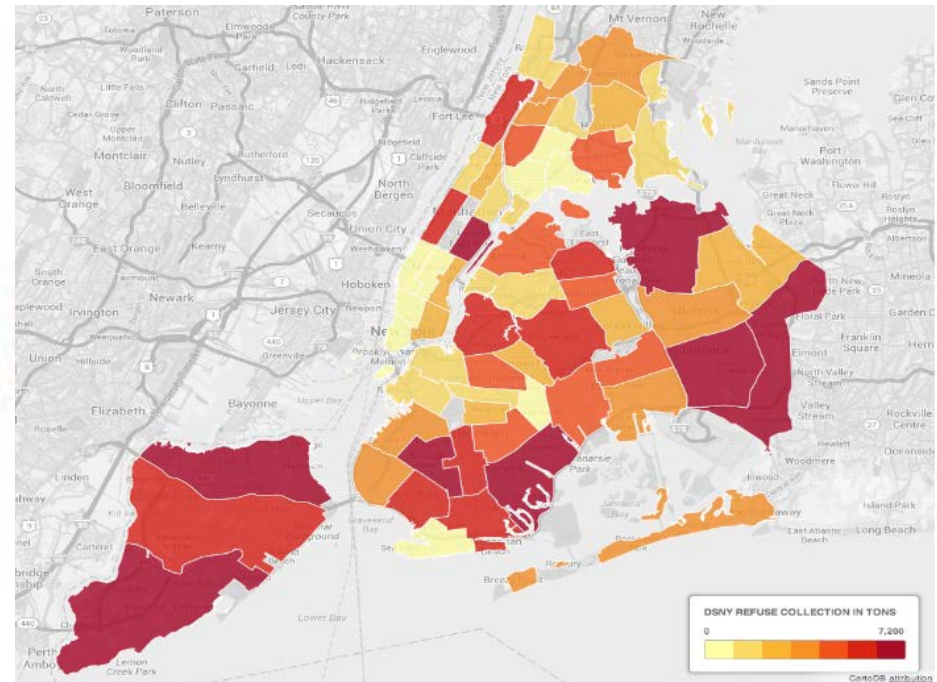
- Where will the garbage go?
- Will transfer stations close/lay off workers?
- Does it add VMTs (vehicle miles traveled) because most of the transfer stations are close to where the waste is generated or carters' garages?
- What happens if there is another Sandy?

The waste industry and a prominent local union (Laborers Local 108) oppose Intro 495.

Zoned Collection

There are more than 200 licensed carters collecting 12-13,000 tpd MSW in New York City. The Teamsters and others are urging the current BIC-regulated system be replaced with zoned collection (franchising):

- Fewer trucks
- Less VMTs
- Lower emissions
- Increased recycling/
wages/standards



Zoned Collection

Issues:

- If the number of trucks goes down, some workers will lose their jobs
- Customers like being able to choose their carter
- Customers benefit from competition
- Small carters may not be able to compete with larger companies in a zoned collection system
- Emissions declining due to 2020 deadline

Zoned Collection

Unresolved Questions:

- How many zones? Los Angeles has 11.
- Exclusive or non-exclusive collection?
- What will be the environmental benefits?
- What recycling requirements will be attached to winning a zone?
- What wage/union/compensation/recycling requirements will be attached to winning a zone?
- Will costs increase or decrease for customers?
- How many carters will go out of business?
- Is franchising safer for workers and public?

Zoned Collection

The City is conducting a study of the current commercial waste collection system

- Market analysis of private carting
- Private carter cost of service
- Carter impact on traffic/air quality
- Evaluation of zone collection
- Private carter safety



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Zoned Collection

- **Study expected to be released “soon”**
- **City Council hearing likely to review results**
 - CM Reynoso supports changes to system
- **Further study may be needed to evaluate options**

SWANA has expanded its safety program over the past year to get the industry off the list of 10 most dangerous jobs

- Safety Ambassadors/data/awards/SDTGA
- NYC carters need to improve on safety
- NYCOSH Report highlights hazards/issues

SWANA/NWRA holding Safety Symposium in NYC

- June 16 – DSNY/BIC involved - please attend!

Conclusions

The way waste is handled in New York City is changing, and there are proposals for further changes.

These proposals require careful evaluation to accurately identify the benefits and costs associated with the changes.

Questions?