

Commercial Waste Zones (CWZ)

The NYC Department of Sanitation is proposing reforms to the commercial waste hauling industry to:



improve New Yorkers' quality of life



promote a cleaner environment



ensure efficient and orderly collection of commercial waste

What is the problem?

Today's commercial waste hauling system **threatens New Yorkers' safety and quality of life**. Trucks from more than 50 companies may service an individual neighborhood, and **dozens of different trucks may traverse a single block each night**. Individual routes are often over 100 miles long, crossing multiple boroughs over 12 or more hours to pick up stops scattered throughout the City. This increases **pollution in neighborhoods, while also posing significant safety risks**. In the past decade, dozens of New Yorkers—pedestrians, cyclists, sanitation workers and motorists—have been killed by private garbage trucks. By streamlining waste collection, the City will create a system that efficiently manages waste, while minimizing the negative impacts the industry has on the public.

Additionally, the current pricing scheme for waste hauling services lacks transparency and can be difficult to understand for customers. **Rates can vary widely**, even among similar customers in the same neighborhood. This system **benefits large businesses and property owners at the expense of small businesses**, who face higher and more unpredictable costs.

What is the City proposing?

The City is working to implement commercial waste collection zones, a **system of geographic zones** to contain routes and create a modern, efficient commercial waste collection system. The City will use a competitive bidding process to select between three and five carters to collect waste in each zone. This will ensure that **only carters that operate safely and that offer the lowest price and best customer service will serve New York City businesses**.

In each zone, a customer may pick the carter that best meets their needs. **Just like today, customers will be able to negotiate price and pick-up schedules**. In the new system, customers will also have the assurance of the City that the available carters will abide by strict **standards to provide the safest, most efficient, and economical service possible** – or risk financial penalty and the termination of their contract.



What are the benefits?

All parties – carters, customers, and New Yorkers generally – will benefit from commercial waste zones.



For customers, the system will provide **fair, transparent, and low pricing** with **strict customer service standards** enforced by the City.



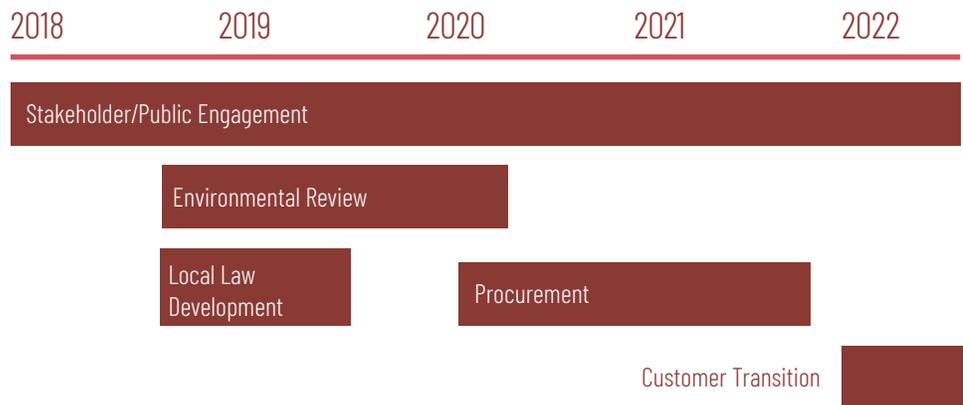
For carters, zones will give access to a **dense customer pool** over the ten-year contract term. New efficiencies will create **operational savings** that are not possible in the present system.



All New Yorkers will benefit from **improved air quality, less traffic, safer streets, and quieter nights** – all of which will make our city more livable and sustainable.

When is this happening?

The City is conducting a **robust, multi-year analysis** of commercial waste zones, ensuring the program meets the diverse needs of New York City. The commercial waste zone **contracts will be awarded in 2021** followed by a **two-year transition period** that ensures customers and carters have the necessary information about changes that may impact them.



How can I find out more?

For more information, as well as for opportunities to provide additional feedback throughout this process, please visit the project website at: **www.nyc.gov/commercialwaste**



sanitation