

**POSITIVE DECLARATION/NOTICE OF DETERMINATION  
and NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
and NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING**

**Date Issued:** September 17, 2025  
**CEQR Number:** 25DOS003Y  
**Name:** Citywide Containerization Program  
**Location:** Citywide  
**Lead Agency:** New York City Department of Sanitation  
125 Worth Street, New York, NY 10013  
**SEQRA Classification:** Unlisted

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION**

The New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY) has completed its review of an Environmental Assessment Statement for the proposed action referenced above and hereby issues this Positive Declaration/Notice of Determination and Notice of Scoping Meeting.

DSNY proposes to implement a waste containerization program at certain buildings with residential units and schools throughout the five (5) boroughs of New York City (Citywide Containerization Program or Proposed Program).

Under the proposed Citywide Containerization Program, buildings with 10 to 30 residential units would have the option to use stationary on-street containers or individual bins consisting of rigid receptacles with tight-fitting lids, not exceeding 55 gallons in size, for their refuse; residential buildings with 31 or more residential units would use stationary on-street containers for their refuse; and schools that receive DSNY collection would use stationary on-street containers for all waste streams (refuse; organics; metals, glass and plastic; and paper recyclables). The Proposed Program would be advanced throughout the City in phases, with full implementation by June 1, 2032. The Proposed Program would support the City's commitment to improving street cleanliness and reducing potential food sources for vectors. These changes align with other City initiatives to increase the use of containers for waste storage and collection, and to create cleaner, more livable, and more vibrant streets and neighborhoods across the City.

**DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS SUBJECT TO SEQRA AND CEQR**

The Proposed Program will be reviewed for its potential environmental impacts, in accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the City Environmental Quality Review procedures (CEQR) procedures. Implementation of the proposed Citywide Containerization Program would involve a discretionary action and local approvals, and is therefore subject to CEQR and SEQRA and their implementing regulations. The City entities that may potentially be involved in the environmental review and approval process for the Proposed Program are:

- DSNY acting as lead agency for the environmental review for Citywide Containerization Program implementation; and
- Consultations with several City agencies:
  - New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT);
  - New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP);
  - New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYCLPC); and
  - New York City Public Design Commission (NYCPDC).

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECT:**

In accordance with New York City Executive Order 91 of 1977, as amended, and the Rules of Procedure for City Environmental Quality Review found at Title 62, Chapter 5 of the Rules of the City of New York (CEQR), DSNY, as lead agency for the referenced project, has determined that the Proposed Action may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is required to evaluate and disclose the extent to which impacts may occur.

**Statement in Support of Determination:**

DSNY has determined that the Proposed Project may result in the potential for a significant adverse impact with respect to the following technical area, which warrants more detailed study in a DEIS.

- The Proposed Project is expected to affect DSNY collection truck traffic and on-street parking throughout the City. Therefore, a more detailed assessment of the effect of the Proposed Project on transportation is warranted and will be provided.

Additionally, the following CEQR technical areas will be reviewed and detailed analyses, as appropriate, will be provided.

- The Proposed Project may affect existing and planned public policies and initiatives. Therefore, a more detailed assessment of the effect of the Proposed Project on public policy will be provided.
- The Proposed Project may affect socioeconomic conditions due to the placement of stationary on-street containers in the parking lane. Therefore, a more detailed study of the Proposed Program on socioeconomic conditions will be provided.
- The Proposed Program may affect historic and cultural resources throughout the City. Therefore, a more detailed study of the Proposed Program on historic and cultural resources will be provided.
- The Proposed Program may affect the pedestrian experience. Therefore, more detailed assessments of urban design and visual resources, as well as neighborhood character, will be provided.
- The Proposed Project would require the use of stationary on-street containers for the placement of waste by certain buildings with residential units and schools prior to DSNY collection and require the use of new Automated Side Loader collection trucks for the collection of this waste. Therefore, a more detailed assessment of the effect of the Proposed Project on the City's solid waste management system will be provided.
- The Proposed Project is expected to affect emissions from mobile sources, namely waste collection vehicles and its associated greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, more detailed assessments of the Proposed Project's effect on air quality and the Proposed Project's consistency with the City's established greenhouse gas reduction goals will be provided.
- The Proposed Project is expected to affect DSNY collection truck traffic, and its associated mobile-source noise. Therefore, a more detailed assessment of the effect of the Proposed Project on noise will be provided.
- The Proposed Project is expected to affect the storage and collection of waste from certain buildings and schools utilizing stationary on-street containers. Therefore, a more detailed assessment of the positive impact of the Proposed Program on public health will be provided.

**Public Scoping:**

Public scoping is a process whereby the public is invited to provide comments on the planned scope of work for a DEIS. A Draft Scope of Work (DSOW) outlining proposed analysis methodologies for the DEIS has been prepared and is available for public review and comment.

A Public Scoping meeting to receive such comments on this DSOW has been scheduled for October 20, 2025 via Microsoft Teams from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM using the following link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2946568180715?p=niYOPjMI7q40AiAG77>

Meeting ID: 294 656 818 071 5

Passcode: 3nT64Qi3

[+1 646-893-7101](tel:+16468937101), [462681142#](tel:+1462681142) United States, New York City

Phone conference ID: 462 681 142#

Oral and written comments will be accepted on the DSOW at that meeting. The period for receiving written comments will remain open until 5:00 PM on October 30, 2025. Written comments may be sent to the project contact person: Abas O. Braimah, Administrative City Planner, DSNY Bureau of Legal Affairs, 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013. Email: [containerEIS@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:containerEIS@dsny.nyc.gov); Telephone: 646-885-4993.

This DSOW is available on DSNY's website:

<http://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/containerization.page> and at the public repository for the Proposed Program's environmental review documents: New York City Department of Sanitation, 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013. After considering comments received during the public comment period, a Final Scope of Work will be prepared to direct the content and preparation of the DEIS.

This Notice has been prepared pursuant to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law (SEQRA).

Robert Orlin, Deputy Commissioner  
NYC Department of Sanitation, Bureau of Legal Affairs