

Chapter 12: SOLID WASTE AND SANITATION SERVICES

12.1 Introduction

A solid waste assessment is performed to determine whether a proposed action would cause a substantial increase in solid waste production that may overburden available waste management capacity or otherwise be inconsistent with the New York City Solid Waste Management Plan (“SWMP”) or with state policy related to the City’s integrated solid waste management system. According to the *CEQR Technical Manual*, if a project’s generation of solid waste in the With Action conditions would not exceed 50 tons per week, it may be assumed that there would be sufficient public or private carting and transfer station capacity in the metropolitan area to absorb the increment. Although the proposed action would not generate more than 50 tons of solid waste per week, the *CEQR Technical Manual* recommends that the solid waste to be generated by a project be disclosed, using the citywide average rates for solid waste generation.

12.2 Principal Conclusions

The proposed action would not result in a significant adverse impact on solid waste and sanitation services. The proposed development would generate approximately 41.42 tons per week of solid waste. Approximately 27.83 tons of solid waste would be attributable to the residential development and would be handled by New York City Department of Sanitation (“DSNY”), while approximately 13.59 tons would be attributable to the commercial development and would be handled by private carters. Per the guidance of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, a proposed action that would generate less than 50 tons of solid waste per week would not result in a significant adverse impact. Further, the proposed action would be consistent with the City’s solid waste management objectives as stated in the SWMP and described below. Therefore, the proposed action would not result in any significant adverse impact on solid waste and sanitation services.

12.3 Methodology

According to the *CEQR Technical Manual*, projects with a generation rate of less than 50 tons (100,000 pounds) of solid waste per week would not result in a significant adverse impact to the City's waste management capacity, and do not warrant detailed analysis. The estimated solid waste generation attributable to the proposed action is estimated per the guidance of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, for conditions in the future with and without the proposed action. The *CEQR Technical Manual* provides waste generation rates for typical land uses and activities.

12.4 Existing Conditions

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT SOLID WASTE SANITATION SERVICES

Solid waste collection and disposal is the responsibility of DSNY and private carters. DSNY is responsible for collecting and disposing of solid waste from public facilities and residences while commercial entities (e.g., restaurants, retail facilities, offices, and industries) in the City contract with private carters for collection and processing and/or disposal of various kinds of solid waste, including municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, non-hazardous industrial wastes, and recyclables. As New York City has no public or private local disposal facilities, solid waste that is not recycled, reused, or converted to a useful product locally must be exported from the City for disposal.

As required by New York State law, the City has adopted a SWMP for the long-term management of solid waste generated within its borders. The current SWMP was adopted in 2006 and covers through 2025. The SWMP takes into account the objectives of New York State's solid waste management policy with respect to the preferred hierarchy of waste management methods: first waste reduction, then recycling, composting, resource conservation and energy production, and, lastly, landfill disposal. The SWMP includes initiatives and programs for waste minimization, reuse, recycling, composting, siting a new waste conversion facility to derive energy from waste, waste transfer, transport, and out-of-city disposal at waste-to-energy facilities and landfills.

Pursuant to New York City's mandatory Recycling Law (Title 16 of the NYC Administrative Code, Chapter 3), DSNY has established and enforces rules requiring that certain designated recyclable materials be separated from household waste for separate collection. New York City residents are required to separate aluminum foil, glass, plastic, and metal containers, and newspapers and other paper waste from household waste for separate collection. Commercial establishments are also subject to mandatory recycling requirements. Designated recyclable materials are delivered to privately-operated materials recovery facilities in the City and surrounding communities

SOLID WASTE GENERATION ON PROJECTED DEVELOPMENT SITES

The project site is currently not occupied. Therefore, no solid waste generation is attributable to the project site in existing conditions.

12.5 The Future Without the Proposed Action (“No Action” Conditions)

No change to City policy regarding the handling of solid waste is expected in the future without the proposed action. Moreover, as no changes to the project site are anticipated in the future without the proposed action, no solid waste will be generated on the project site in the future absent the proposed action.

12.6 The Future With the Proposed Action (“With Action” Conditions)

The proposed action would introduce 1,169 units of affordable housing and up to approximately 122,500 square feet of commercial space. It is anticipated that the majority of planned commercial space in the proposed development would comprise the following: approximately 67,388 sf of local retail; approximately 12,252 sf for a restaurant; approximately 12,252 sf of medical office; approximately 12,252 sf of office space; and approximately 18,380 sf for a day care center. As described in Chapter 3, “Socioeconomic Conditions,” it is estimated that the proposed action would introduce a total of approximately 3,274 residents to the project site. As discussed in Chapter 4, “Community Facilities and Services,” the proposed action would be expected to generate approximately 173 children under the age of six, who would be eligible for publicly-funded child care services. It is expected that such services would be provided on-site.

Per the guidance of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, the solid waste generation rates described in Table 14-1 of the *CEQR Technical Manual* are applied to the land uses that would be introduced with the proposed action. Consequently, it is estimated that the approximately 3,274 residents introduced by the proposed action would generate approximately 55,658 pounds (about 27.83 tons) of solid waste per week, which would be handled by DSNY, as shown in Table 12-1, “With Action Solid Waste Generation by Use.” The total commercial solid waste generation due to the proposed action would be approximately 13.59 tons per week, which would be handled by private carters. Per City regulations, recyclables would be sorted from both the residential and the commercial waste prior to collection of either; as with the waste, the recycled materials generated by residential uses would be collected by

DSNY, and the recycled materials generated by the commercial uses would be collected by private carters.

Table 12-1: With Action Solid Waste Generation by Use

Use	Floor Area (sf)	Population*	Solid Waste Generation**	
			(lbs/wk)	(tons/wk)
Residential ¹	972,787	3,274	55,658	27.83
Retail ²	67,388	203	16,037	8.02
Restaurant ³	12,252	37	9,287	4.64
Medical Office ⁴	12,252	50	637	0.32
Office ⁴	12,252	50	637	0.32
Day Care Center ⁵	18,380	191	573	0.29
Total Solid Waste Generation			82,829	41.42
Notes:				
*Assumptions of employee numbers are based on the <i>East New York Rezoning Proposal Final Environmental Impact Statement ("FEIS")</i> , September 2015				
**Solid waste generation is based on citywide average waste generation rates presented in Table 14-1 of the <i>CEQR Technical Manual</i> , and estimates of workers by use, as follows:				
¹ 17 lbs/week (Individual).				
² 79 lbs/wk per employee (General Retail); assume 3 employees per 1,000 sf.				
³ 251 lbs/wk per employee (Restaurant); assume 3 employees per 1,000 sf.				
⁴ 13 lbs/wk per employee (Office Building); assume 1 employee per 250 sf.				
⁵ 3 lbs/wk per pupil (Public Elementary School).				

Source: STV Incorporated, 2016.

It is noted that the proposed action would involve the development of more than 500 units and also more than 100,000 sf of commercial space; each case, per guidance of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, merits disclosure of the proposed location and method of storage of refuse and recyclables prior to collection. Based on preliminary designs, the proposed residential uses would rely on compactors and refuse containers within the building volume in order to avoid large piles of bags with refuse on the sidewalks or building perimeters, prior to collection. Commercial uses would set refuse out on the sidewalk at store fronts on the evening prior to arranged collection by private carters.

In summary, the total estimated quantity of solid waste that would be generated by the proposed action would be approximately 41.42 tons per week. Per the guidance of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, a proposed action that would generate less than 50 tons of solid waste per week would not result in a significant adverse impact. Moreover, the proposed development would be consistent with the City's solid waste management objectives as stated in SWMP, as well as City requirements for recycling. Further, as explained, the management of solid waste prior to collection would not affect traffic, pedestrians, public health, or community character. Therefore, the proposed action would not result in any significant adverse impact with regard to solid waste and sanitation services, and no further analysis of solid waste is warranted.