



sanitation

Kathryn Garcia Commissioner

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To Commercial Waste Zones stakeholders:

This is an unprecedented time for New York City. This disease has taken so many of our friends, neighbors and family members, and it has disrupted every aspect of our way of life and our economy.


I am writing again to update you on the status of the Commercial Waste Zones (CWZ) program in light of the COVID-19 crisis. Since I last wrote in late March, the impact of this crisis on the commercial sector in NYC has only deepened. An overwhelming majority of businesses remain closed or operating at a limited capacity, and commercial waste carters continue to endure the suspension of significant shares of their customer accounts and revenue. While there is hope that the City and State may begin to lift some restrictions in the coming weeks and months, the economic toll of this crisis will continue for quite some time.

I previously stated that the planned CWZ timeline would be delayed by at least one month. It is now clear that this delay will extend much further. At present, the earliest date for the release of the CWZ RFP would be in Fall 2020, preceded by applicable rulemakings.

We need to allow for the business community and the carting industry to begin to recover and stabilize before embarking on this transformative effort that will require bold, forward-looking commitments from our partners in the private sector. We remain committed to implementing this program and fully realizing its benefits for all New Yorkers, but we must take the right precautions to do so successfully. If you have any questions, please contact DSNY's Director of Commercial Waste, Justin Bland.

I hope that you all are healthy and safe during this difficult time.

Sincerely,


Kathryn Garcia