



## Committee on Environment & Health

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

1:00 PM

**DRAFT**

Committee Chair: Nancy Barr

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

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### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Public Works & Transportation and Planning, Economic Development & Energy.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Nancy Barr	Chair	Present	
Catherine Borgia	D9 Legislator	Absent	
Kitley Covill	D2 Legislator	Present	
Catherine Parker	D7 Legislator	Present	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Leader)	Present	
Ruth Walter	D15 Legislator	Present	

BOL: James Silverberg, Brandon Lloyd, OTHER: Allison Forstmann, Caroline Anders-Marshall.

### MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Monday, February 10, 2020 at 10:01 AM

**Moved by Legislator Shimsky and seconded by Legislator Covill, the minutes were approved with a vote of 6-0.**

2. Monday, February 10, 2020 at 1:01 PM

**Moved by Legislator Shimsky and seconded by Legislator Covill, the minutes were approved with a vote of 6-0.**

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Food Waste Study Report

Guests: Commissioner Vincent Kopicki, Lou Vetrone and Melissa Rotini - DEF

The Department of Environmental Facilities will be speaking about the recent Food Waste Study Report.

Commissioner Kopicki began the presentation by stating that the Food Waste Study was completed by their consultant Woodard & Curran, and was focused on determining need, potential, and long term solutions for food waste recovery.

Lou Vetrone followed up by giving a brief explanation into why the DEF conducted this study. He stated that over the past 15 years, Westchester County has reduced residential waste by 26%. With the passage of the Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Act by New York State, Lou mentioned that the DEF would like to grant small businesses the opportunity to efficiently dispose of their food waste and scraps.

For the analysis conducted by Woodard & Curran, they conducted studies of two different waste streams, which include Commercial food waste and Residential food waste. On the commercial side, they identified 125,000 tons of waste generated each year, with 103,000 of those tons being disposed of. On the residential side, they identified 85,537 tons of waste generated and disposed of each year.

Chair Barr asked Lou Vetrone if he could make the distinction between food waste and food scraps. Melissa Rotimi answered, stating that food waste is more of an umbrella term that encompasses everything from food that is expired at a supermarket to food that is just prepared and not utilized. It also encompasses food scraps which is referred to as peelings, excess food in the home, and what you scrape off your plate.

Legislator Parker asked if Scarsdale was using the "Rocket" brand of In-Vessel composting. Lou Vitrone replied that only the schools were using.

Legislator Shimsky asked if the DEF had a sense of how much transportation of food waste contributed to green house gases. Melissa replied that it wasn't really contemplated in the study, however, since the study was completed, they can add these factors into the final model.

Legislator Colin Smith asked if there was any consideration from the DEF in partnering with "Wheelabrator" to which Vincent replied that they currently are, and that they currently are giving a reduced waste stream to them.

Legislator Shimsky then asked how many tons can the tractor trailers can hold, to which Lou replied that they hold over 80,000, but he will get back to her on the exact average.

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

### III. RECEIVE & FILE

#### ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Shimsky and seconded by Legislator Covill, the committee adjourned at 2:25 PM.