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THE NEW SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
FOR THE PROPOSED GREENPOINT CONVERTED
MARINE TRANSFER STATION
HELD AT: 211 Ainslie Street
Brooklyn, New York
July 1st 2004, 6:03 p.m.

Reported by: MARC RUSSO
Job#: 161268

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 2 A p p e a r a n c e s:
 3
 4 HARRY SZARPANKSI, P.E., Assistant Commis-
 sioner,
 5 DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION, 44 Beaver Street,
 12th
 6 floor, New York, New York 10004
 7
 8 WALTER CZWARTACKY, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION
 9
 10 SARAH DOLINAR, DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION
 11
 12 ALSO PRESENT: JORGE FREIRE, HOWARD FREIRE,
 13 Spanish Interpreters
 14
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1
 2 MR. SZARPANSKI: Good evening,
 3 my name is Harry Szarpanski, I'm
 4 Assistant Commissioner for the bureau
 5 of long-term export of the New York
 6 City Department of Sanitation.
 7 I welcome the opportunity to
 8 appear before you tonight and with me
 9 are Walter Czwartacky and Sarah Dolinar
 10 of my staff. We also have Susan Raila
 11 and Dan Harkins of the firm of
 12 Henningson, Durham and Richardson, HDR,
 13 they're our consultants for conducting
 14 the environmental review of Department
 15 projects. We also have representatives
 16 of the firm of Ecology and Environment
 17 who helped organize this meeting.
 18 As you may know, the Department
 19 of Sanitation is preparing a new
 20 comprehensive solid waste management
 21 plan for the City to replace the plan
 22 that will expire at the end of October
 23 of this year.
 24 The new solid waste management
 25 plan, or as we refer to it as the new

1
2 SWMP, will plan for the management of
3 all of the solid waste generated in the
4 City of New York over the next 20
5 years.

6 We expect to issue a draft of
7 the new SWMP in September. It will
8 need to be approved by the City Council
9 and by the State. The SWMP will be
10 supported by an environmental impact
11 statement.

12 The new SWMP will rely on
13 current programs to recycle, compost
14 and prevent or reduce waste. A key
15 component of the new SWMP is the
16 long-term export of solid waste managed
17 by the Department of Sanitation through
18 state-of-the-art marine transfer
19 station facilities that are proposed to
20 be built at the City's eight existing
21 marine transfer station sites in
22 Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and the
23 Bronx.

24 These facilities will
25 containerize waste and transport it by

1
2 environmental review and review of
3 facility proposals, the Department
4 determines that there are viable
5 Brooklyn and Queens alternative
6 facilities, the Greenpoint converted
7 MTS will not be constructed.

8 Also, the contracts that the
9 Department would enter into with these
10 private facilities would require that
11 the facilities export all waste by
12 barge or rail including any commercial
13 waste. No transfer trailer traffic
14 would be used to transport waste from
15 the facilities, a change which we
16 anticipate would improve the flow of
17 traffic in Community Board One.

18 Note that because Staten Island
19 has no existing marine transfer
20 station, a truck-to-container-to-rail
21 waste transfer station for Staten
22 Island Department-managed waste is now
23 being constructed on the former Fresh
24 Kills Landfill site. That facility is
25 expected to be operational this

1
2 barge for disposal. The proposed
3 Greenpoint converted MTS will handle
4 the Department-managed waste from
5 Brooklyn community districts one,
6 three, four and five, as well as Queens
7 community districts one through six
8 only, as in the past. This program to
9 build new marine transfer stations is
10 called the MTS conversion program.

11 A number of private facilities
12 are being evaluated in the draft EIS as
13 alternatives to the Greenpoint
14 converted MTS. Three facilities in
15 Brooklyn Community Board One and one
16 Queens facility will be evaluated for
17 the long-term export of Brooklyn and
18 Queens waste that would otherwise go to
19 the Greenpoint converted MTS.

20 The three Brooklyn facilities
21 being considered to handle Brooklyn
22 waste are located at 485 Scott Avenue,
23 75 Scott Avenue slash 598 Scholes
24 Street and 568 Meserole Street.

25 If, as a result of the

1
2 November. Rail transport is expected
3 to begin in 2006.

4 We are before you tonight to
5 hear your comments on the environmental
6 review of three Brooklyn alternatives
7 as well as the proposed Greenpoint
8 converted marine transfer station.

9 In addition, we seek your
10 comments on all of the proposed actions
11 and alternatives outlined in the draft
12 scoping document we issued on May 17th.
13 The draft scoping document was mailed
14 to all of the elected officials and
15 community boards as well as to
16 environmental organizations and to our
17 regulators.

18 It was also placed on the
19 Department's website and in public
20 repositories in your community and nine
21 other communities that are the proposed
22 sites for the new marine transfer
23 stations or for alternatives.

24 My comments tonight will be
25 brief; I will make a short power point

1
2 presentation before the public portion
3 of our meeting begins. Copies of my
4 statement and presentation will be
5 available in the end of the meeting.

6 And should you require the
7 assistance of a Spanish Interpreter,
8 please let the individuals at the front
9 desk know.

10 Because the real focus of this
11 public meeting will be your comments,
12 please make sure that you take a moment
13 to complete the speaker sign-up sheet
14 if you plan to make a statement for the
15 record. You will be assigned a number
16 and I will call your name when it is
17 your turn to speak.

18 Note that elected officials
19 will have an opportunity to speak
20 first. We're interested to make a
21 complete record of your comments, so
22 please state your name clearly and
23 slowly for the stenographer.

24 And so that we can hear
25 everyone who want to speak, we ask that

1
2 you keep your statements to three
3 minutes. If you do not wish to speak
4 but would like to provide us with
5 written comments, please complete one
6 of the comment cards we have provided
7 for your use. Thank you for coming
8 tonight and I will now begin my short
9 presentation.

10 (Showing slides) The
11 initiatives as part of the new solid
12 waste management plan include,
13 long-term export of waste; new
14 recycling facilities in the City and it
15 will deal with the commercial waste.

16 In order to get your comments,
17 as I mentioned, you can provide them
18 verbally tonight, you can fill out a
19 comment sheet, you can submit a written
20 statement, or you can mail comments by
21 July 9th to me at the above address or
22 to our consultants at the address shown
23 and you'll have this material in the
24 handout that you can pick up at the end
25 of the meeting.

1
2 The proposed action is the
3 conversion of marine transfer stations.
4 The alternatives that are being
5 evaluated are: Rail and barge export
6 of waste from private transfer stations
7 in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens;
8 rehabilitating existing marine transfer
9 stations to barge/waste to an
10 out-of-city unloading facility, and
11 delivery of waste in collection
12 vehicles or barges to an out-of-city
13 waste disposal facility.

14 This map shows the locations of
15 the various marine transfer stations
16 throughout the City as well as the
17 alternatives being considered in this
18 EIS.

19 The converted MTSs are planned
20 for the four boroughs, three in
21 Manhattan, three in Brooklyn, one in
22 Queens, one in the Bronx and we also
23 plan to reactivate the 52nd Street
24 barge staging area in Brooklyn.

25 The objectives of the program

1
2 are, to export waste by barge and/or
3 rail, reduce in-city transfer trailer
4 traffic, utilize more economical
5 disposal capacity, and provide more
6 transport and disposal options.

7 This map shows where the
8 wastesheds that are planned to go to
9 the various MTSs; in Brooklyn, the area
10 in green on top includes both the
11 Brooklyn wasteshed and the Queens
12 wasteshed which would go to the
13 converted Greenpoint MTS.

14 This is a typical cross-section
15 of the converted Greenpoint MTS.
16 Trucks would be arriving on the right,
17 they would go up a ramp and wind up on
18 the tipping floor; they will then back
19 up and unload the waste onto the
20 loading floor below.

21 A front-end loader would then
22 push the waste into one of four
23 openings in the floor and just below
24 the floor, under each opening there
25 will be a container, and once waste is

1
 2 filled, the container will then move
 3 over to the left to the lidding area
 4 where lids will be placed on top of the
 5 containers and the containers will be
 6 sealed. All this happens within the
 7 enclosed building and once the
 8 containers are sealed, they'll be moved
 9 outside where a gantry crane will pick
 10 up the container and place it onto a
 11 barge.

12 The odor control system
 13 includes a ventilation system to
 14 prevent air from escaping the
 15 processing buildings; there would be
 16 rapid roll-up doors so that the doors
 17 will remain open for less time. There
 18 will be an interior water misting
 19 system inside the building to reduce
 20 dust in the exhaust air and a
 21 state-of-the-art odor control system to
 22 neutralize rather than mask odors in
 23 the building exhaust air so that no
 24 detectable odors will be at sensitive
 25 receptors outside the building.

1
 2 This map shows the location of
 3 the proposed marine transfer station as
 4 well as the DOT truck routes and the
 5 nearest sensitive receptor.

6 The ramps to the facility are
 7 designed so that they are longer and
 8 can support queuing of trucks on the
 9 ramp; there are, at this facility there
 10 can be 37 vehicles on site and within
 11 the building there's room for six
 12 trucks to tip.

13 This is an aerial photo that
 14 shows the location of the existing
 15 marine transfer station that's in white
 16 on top and that's going to be
 17 demolished, and the proposed transfer
 18 station in the shaded area is going to
 19 be where actually the existing
 20 incinerator that's being demolished is
 21 now.

22 The containerization operation
 23 will use specially-designed intermodal
 24 containers that have leak-proof seals
 25 and are lidded inside the building, and

1
 2 then they'll be moved outside and
 3 loaded onto a flat bed barge so that no
 4 waste is exposed outside of the
 5 building.

6 This shows the typical piece of
 7 equipment used to lift and move
 8 containers. And the alternatives to
 9 the MTS conversion program will include
 10 rehabilitating existing marine transfer
 11 stations to barge/waste to an
 12 out-of-city unloading location and
 13 containerizing Brooklyn waste formerly
 14 delivered to the Greenpoint MTS, 485
 15 Scott Avenue, 72 Scott Avenue slash 598
 16 Scholes Street and/or 568 Meserole
 17 Street for export by rail. Also export
 18 of Brooklyn waste by barge from 485
 19 Scott Avenue.

20 The rough time frame we're
 21 looking at, we are conducting this
 22 public scoping meeting, this is the
 23 tenth of a series of ten meetings that
 24 started, we started on June 16th and
 25 tonight is the last one; we are asking

1
 2 for comments on the draft scoping
 3 document by July 9th or if you want to
 4 fax comments to us, they could come in
 5 by July 11th. We anticipate issuing a
 6 final scoping document on or about July
 7 14th and issuing the draft EIS on
 8 August 6th.

9 We will conduct along with the
 10 State DEC, the part 360 permit hearings
 11 on the DEIS permit hearings some time
 12 between September 8th through the 28th.
 13 And then we anticipate that the City
 14 Council will hold hearings on the draft
 15 SWMP in September.

16 Comments on the draft EIS will
 17 be received between August 6th and
 18 October 8th and we anticipate
 19 publishing the final EIS on December
 20 9th.

21 We've established a toll-free
 22 hotline so people could call in with
 23 comments or questions and that
 24 toll-free number is 888-NYC-SWMP. And
 25 review documents are also available at

1
2 public repositories.
3 I will now call on speakers who
4 signed up. And the first speaker is
5 Assemblyman Joseph Lentol (applause.)
6 **MR. JOSEPH LENTOL:** Thank you
7 very much for the -- thank you very
8 much for the opportunity to speak
9 tonight. I'm very informed by the
10 comments that you made about the waste
11 management plan that you want to put
12 into effect.

13 Now, what I haven't heard here
14 today is a little bit of sympathy from
15 you about stuff that you may not
16 realize, and what I mean is this: This
17 is not a new topic for us here in
18 Greenpoint and Williamsburg and in
19 Community Board One when we speak about
20 garbage.

21 Up until about, I mean, we've
22 been speaking about this topic for
23 about 20 years. It was, I believe some
24 time in the 90s when Community Board
25 One housed almost half of all of the

1
2 City's garbage transfer stations. I
3 believe now we house about a third or
4 maybe more than a third of the City's
5 garbage transfer stations and so let me
6 scope in, since this is a scoping
7 session as to where I'm going. And
8 where I'm going is this: Give us a
9 break (applause.)

10 We have -- we have done our
11 share, we have had our share of
12 garbage; our community is growing by
13 leaps and bounds. In case you haven't
14 heard about the renaissance going on
15 here in Williamsburg and Greenpoint,
16 let me tell you about it. It is
17 probably the hottest neighborhood in
18 the United States of America to live
19 and people and garbage don't mix and so
20 I know that -- I don't care exactly
21 where the facilities are; I don't care
22 if you're talking about marine transfer
23 stations or ground transfer stations
24 that you have to locate. We've carried
25 the burden for years and we have had

1
2 it.
3 Now, our Mayor I know has
4 called for the -- the Department of
5 City Planning to rezone our area and as
6 I said, you have to take that into
7 account.

8 I oppose the expansion of the
9 Greenpoint marine transfer station.
10 Frankly, history has taught us here in
11 Greenpoint that the outer boroughs
12 always process a disproportionately
13 greater share of the City's garbage. I
14 have no confidence at all in the City's
15 administration to stand up to Manhattan
16 and, as a matter of fact, I saw a lot
17 of TV, I don't see TV here covering the
18 marine transfer station in Greenpoint,
19 but I saw them covering the one in
20 Manhattan.

21 Let us not forget that the City
22 Council president, who's a friend of
23 mine and the Mayor, both come from
24 Manhattan, I don't have any confidence
25 and neither do my constituents that

1
2 they will stand up to the people of
3 Manhattan and say that we're going to
4 have three transfer stations here in
5 Manhattan whether you like it or not,
6 marine transfer stations. What they're
7 going to say is, put it in Greenpoint
8 just like they did around the
9 waterfront.

10 You may not want to hear this,
11 but this is our backyard and we say no.
12 Our city agencies have continually
13 resisted any attempt to prepare
14 cumulative impact statements for new
15 facilities or on re-permitting of
16 current ones, yet this is a process
17 that must be incorporated in this plan.
18 We know all too well along with
19 the garbage, comes truck traffic and as
20 you can see, I'm wearing a shirt that
21 says OUTRAGE. And we're outraged not
22 only at garbage, we're outraged at the
23 hundreds, sometimes thousands of trucks
24 that come rumbling down our streets
25 here in Greenpoint and Williamsburg

1
2 (applause) and so this is what we're
3 talking about, the quality of life has
4 to improve here in our neighborhood.
5 We have just had enough. Half of the
6 garbage transfer stations 20 years ago,
7 a third now, enough is enough, go
8 someplace else (applause.)

9 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you for
10 your comments. We now have Ana Zak
11 representing State Senator Dilan.

12 **MS. ANA ZAK:** (Applause) Hi
13 everyone, my name is Ana Zak and I'm
14 here representing your State Senator
15 Martin Malave Dilan who unfortunately
16 could not be here this evening but he
17 wanted to make sure that I, as his
18 representative, and a resident of
19 Greenpoint, came here to express his
20 strong opinions on this issue.

21 Senator Dilan believes that it
22 is unfair for any community to have to
23 bear more garbage than it produces, but
24 to bear 40 percent of the garbage that
25 the whole city produces is just

1
2 outrageous. And I am submitting a
3 statement, very detailed statement from
4 the Senator which expresses his opinion
5 and also gives some ideas for ways that
6 we could improve this problem, and I
7 hope that you will take this into
8 consideration.

9 I will not go through all the
10 points or read the statement, because I
11 know there's a lot of speakers tonight
12 so thank you for hearing me out and
13 there's more copies of the statement
14 and the press release that our office
15 prepared in the back if any of you are
16 interested in the back if any of you are
17 interested to pick them up. Thank you
18 (applause.)

19 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you very
20 much. Our next speaker is Alison Hirsh
21 representing Assembly Member Vito J.
22 Lopez.

23 **MS. ALISON HIRSH:** Hi
24 everybody, my name is Alison Hirsh and
25 I'm representing Assemblyman Lopez who
was here, but unfortunately had another

1
2 town hall meeting in Bushwick that he
3 helped put together so that he could
4 not stay to give the comments himself.
5 But I just wanted to, I submitted
6 written testimony on behalf of the
7 Assemblyman but I just wanted to
8 discuss one or two major points out
9 loud, if you will.

10 The first is that the solid
11 waste management plan provides a real
12 unique opportunity for the City and the
13 community; our community board. As the
14 Assemblyman, as Assemblyman Lentol
15 stated, processes 40 percent of the
16 City's waste. This plan provides us
17 with the opportunity to create a
18 equitable distribution of waste around
19 the City and it's really important
20 that, as the Department of Sanitation,
21 you use this opportunity to work with
22 community members and leaders to figure
23 out the best, most equitable way to
24 distribute the City's waste.

25 In light of that, there are

1
2 certain things that I think are
3 important to note: The Assemblyman
4 strongly supports the use of the marine
5 transfer station including the
6 Greenpoint marine transfer station, if
7 and only if the marine transfer
8 stations result in a net decrease of
9 solid waste processed in this
10 community. That's a really big if.

11 If we were to open the marine
12 transfer station without lowering
13 capacity of the existing land-based
14 transfer stations, then what's the
15 point? I mean, that means we just have
16 a larger problem on our hands than we
17 have now. So's it really important
18 that we look at this comprehensively.

19 The other issue is with the
20 alternatives to the marine transfer
21 station in this district, we are really
22 concerned to hear that the only
23 alternatives for the Greenpoint marine
24 transfer station are in Williamsburg
25 and that doesn't help us at all. And

1
 2 some of the sites suggested, while a
 3 couple of them are already preexisting
 4 transfer stations, at least one isn't a
 5 transfer station yet, so again, it
 6 would result in an increase in waste in
 7 this community and to barge from the, I
 8 think it's the Scott Avenue station
 9 that you're suggesting we barge from,
 10 that's on the Newtown Creek, I don't
 11 know, you know, where the other
 12 environmental issues in this community
 13 are, but the creek is highly-polluted
 14 and to send a barge back and forth
 15 would result in added pollution and
 16 seepage in the ground in the ground
 17 water and that would be even
 18 exponentially worse than what we have
 19 now.

20 Additionally, I think that
 21 whatever the solution is and whatever
 22 the plan ends up being, we have to take
 23 into account the truck traffic. One
 24 thing that many community members have
 25 suggested and I know that you all are

1
 2 not responsible for this per se, but
 3 the State Department of Transportation
 4 is working on redevelopment of
 5 Kosciuszko Bridge and one of the
 6 proposals is to create an extra ramp
 7 going east side off the BQE that's
 8 specifically for truck traffic to enter
 9 the waste transfer stations on the west
 10 of the industrial park, to try to
 11 prevent the trucks from going onto
 12 local streets. Because that's a huge
 13 problem; asthma is a huge problem in
 14 this community and the truck traffic
 15 just exacerbates that.

16 The last point I want to make
 17 in reference to their SWMP is the idea
 18 of one-to-one swaps, something that I
 19 know it goes more towards the scoping
 20 guidelines, but as you create the waste
 21 management plan, understand that a lot
 22 of the transfer sites in Williamsburg
 23 currently process construction and
 24 demolition debris and therefore they
 25 have a huge tonnage allowances because

1
 2 those things are huge. And as there's
 3 more and more commercial waste in the
 4 City and as sort of the money is where
 5 the commercial waste is and not with
 6 C&D, some of these sites and some of
 7 the private companies that out rig
 8 these sites are trying to swap their
 9 licenses, their permits to process the
 10 putrescible instead of nonputrescible
 11 waste, and that's a huge problem and
 12 that's something that I think within
 13 the scoping guidelines and within the
 14 SWMP itself we need to prevent because
 15 that would cause a whole number of both
 16 environmental and health concerns.

17 So in closing, I just wanted to
 18 say on behalf of the Assemblyman that
 19 this is a really important issue for
 20 this community, the health of our
 21 children is at stake, the health of our
 22 seniors is at stake and we call upon,
 23 he calls upon Department of Sanitation
 24 to really think carefully about how
 25 they, you continue to go forward with

1
 2 this SWMP and the environmental impact
 3 statement. Thank you (applause.)

4 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 5 Our next speaker is Judd Schechtman
 6 representing Borough President Marty
 7 Markowitz.

8 **MR. JUDD SCHECHTMAN:**
 9 (Applause) Good evening and thank you
 10 for giving me the opportunity to
 11 testify on this important matter.

12 I'd like to get a chance to
 13 read Marty's testimony into the record
 14 and have everyone in the room hear so
 15 bear me for a few minutes, thank you.

16 "My name is Judd Schechtman,
 17 I'm a land use coordinator and
 18 environmental specialist for Borough
 19 President Markowitz. Borough President
 20 Markowitz could not attend tonight's
 21 hearing and he asked me to present his
 22 testimony.

23 Although the proposed plan is
 24 an improvement to the current system,
 25 the plan falls dramatically short of a

1
 2 vision of what Sanitation could do to
 3 improve the way our waste is managed
 4 and minimize the effects on our
 5 communities.
 6 The scope also omits a number
 7 of significant issues particular to
 8 Brooklyn and Williamsburg/Greenpoint
 9 that must be analyzed and rectified.
 10 Although the plan rightly
 11 proposes to study environmental justice
 12 issues, there are still major
 13 inequities encompassed in the plan
 14 itself that are not highlighted as
 15 justice concerns. According to the
 16 plan, Brooklyn's three marine transfer
 17 stations are expected to collectively
 18 take 12,870 tons of waste per day,
 19 while Manhattan will take 10,725 tons.
 20 The Bronx transfer stations will handle
 21 just under 3,000 tons and Queens also
 22 under 3,000 tons.
 23 The Greenpoint marine transfer
 24 station alone will take 3,387 tons of
 25 Department of Sanitation-managed waste,

1
 2 more than any other single marine
 3 transfer station in the City.
 4 In comparison, two of the three
 5 Manhattan marine transfer stations will
 6 handle just over 1,000 tons, including
 7 the one that drew the crowds on East
 8 92nd Street. And the West 135th Street
 9 station will only take just about 1500
 10 tons.
 11 This community is already
 12 saddled with far more than its fair
 13 share of land-based transfer stations.
 14 Adding trucks heading to the new marine
 15 transfer station will not improve
 16 conditions without corresponding
 17 closures of the existing stations. But
 18 the scope does not cover any plans to
 19 incorporate commercial waste into the
 20 City's waste management system, leaving
 21 the status of existing private transfer
 22 stations open. This will also result
 23 in the continuance of the redundancy of
 24 carters operating in neighborhoods,
 25 with the attendant excessive truck

1
 2 noise and emissions, and does nothing
 3 to reduce the reliance of long-haul
 4 truck-based transfer by commercial
 5 carters. The potential for this
 6 unacceptable outcome and alternatives
 7 should be addressed by the
 8 environmental impact statement.
 9 I am pleased to see that a
 10 biological assessment of water quality
 11 will be conducted for the scope, but I
 12 want to ensure that the study considers
 13 the impact of the barge traffic upon
 14 not just existing conditions, but
 15 potential future conditions as well.
 16 Newtown Creek is effectively a
 17 dead waterway, seething with toxic
 18 chemicals including an enormous oil
 19 spill. It is doubtful that adding
 20 barges with potential leaking of fluids
 21 and fuel and waste runoff, would have
 22 much of an additional negative impact
 23 on that beleaguered waterway. But in
 24 20 years, we have a goal that citizens
 25 will be able to fish and maybe even swim

1
 2 in our urban streams including Newtown
 3 Creek.
 4 The scope should address that
 5 potential scenario as well by including
 6 a study with a baseline of clean water.
 7 Along similar lines, the parks, open
 8 spaces and socioeconomic analysis must
 9 look at impacts of property values and
 10 health and welfare impacts to the
 11 community. But it is important that
 12 the scope consider not only simply
 13 existing residents and open space, but
 14 the future of this community, with
 15 analysis looking at impacts to a
 16 build-out scenario under the upcoming
 17 rezoning plan.
 18 Impact analysis should also not
 19 be pigeon-holed to the marine transfer
 20 station site itself, but rather look at
 21 cumulative economic and environmental
 22 impacts of barge traffic in the creek
 23 and harbor.
 24 This draft scope is also
 25 shortsighted with regard to

1
 2 opportunities to think outside of the
 3 box. It is disappointing to realize
 4 that the scope envisions that we will
 5 be exporting our garbage indefinitely,
 6 without any consideration for
 7 alternative technologies, or even a
 8 reduction in waste generation or
 9 expansion in recycling, to say nothing
 10 of expanding composting or studying
 11 alternative technologies such as
 12 biodigesting and gasification, that
 13 improve environmental responsibility,
 14 create jobs and produce -- reduce the
 15 price risk left open by continuing to
 16 export to other states.

17 The study also neglects to look
 18 at collection issues relating to
 19 potential automation, reduction and
 20 alteration of routes, targets for
 21 reduction of number of vehicles,
 22 vehicle emissions issues, and the
 23 provision of vehicles with capability
 24 to better sort varying types of waste
 25 for distribution to processors.

1
 2 The scope simply proposes
 3 assessing predicted truck traffic
 4 instead of focusing on reducing traffic
 5 over the 20-year planning period.

6 The study should also analyze
 7 the potential for commercial waste
 8 vehicles to utilize marine transfer
 9 stations and predict impacts if
 10 commercial waste transfer stations were
 11 subsequently closed. The scope should
 12 assess garbage truck emissions and
 13 prospective alternatives, with a plan
 14 towards setting targets for continually
 15 reducing air quality impacts of
 16 sanitation vehicles and should include
 17 data on the total affect of air
 18 quality, including the use of largely
 19 unregulated diesel-powered barges.

20 The draft scope for the solid
 21 waste management plan is woefully
 22 inadequate in its exploration of
 23 alternatives, woefully inadequate in
 24 its vision for the future of garbage
 25 management in New York City and does

1
 2 little to rectify inequities of the
 3 current land-based transfer system,
 4 particularly with regard to Brooklyn
 5 communities like
 6 Greenpoint/Williamsburg that are
 7 already suffering under the weight of
 8 the City's current garbage management
 9 system. I sincerely hope you will heed
 10 my comments and the comments of this
 11 concerned community. Thank you"
 12 (applause.)

13 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 14 Our next speaker is Theresa Cianciotta.

15 **MS. THERESA CIANCIOTTA:**
 16 (Applause) Good evening, my name is
 17 Theresa Cianciotta, I reside in the
 18 Williamsburg/Greenpoint community in
 19 Brooklyn, New York. I am the founder
 20 and current vice president of the
 21 Concerned Citizens of Withers Street
 22 Association. My husband Guido is now
 23 the president of the Block Association.
 24 We have worked together to
 25 improve the quality of life including

1
 2 the Block Association in the community
 3 in which we reside since 1978. That's
 4 over 25 years of volunteer community
 5 service. We our members of OUTRAGE
 6 Williamsburg/Greenpoint, Organizations
 7 United For Trash Reduction and Garbage
 8 Equity since 1999. And we felt that it
 9 was very important to go to all of
 10 these hearings, including the June 21st
 11 and 28th and July 1st; these meetings
 12 are very important.

13 I am here tonight to testify to
 14 the Department of Sanitation, on the
 15 horrible conditions that exist in the
 16 Williamsburg/Greenpoint community due
 17 to the 16 land-based waste transfer
 18 stations located in Community Board
 19 One, located mostly in the East
 20 Williamsburg industrial area.

21 The Department of Sanitation's
 22 long awaited commercial waste study
 23 concludes that the high concentration
 24 of waste transfer stations doesn't have
 25 an environmental negative harmful

1
 2 impact on the Williamsburg/Greenpoint
 3 community.
 4 The results of the commercial
 5 waste study outraged and angered me,
 6 local residents and officials in the
 7 Williamsburg/Greenpoint community, as
 8 well as the environmental justice
 9 activists throughout the City.
 10 Trash the report, the data and
 11 the findings are inaccurate. The task
 12 force didn't conduct and report the
 13 truck -- the true data. Obviously,
 14 they didn't observe Metropolitan
 15 Avenue. Please come back and tell me
 16 (applause) -- please come back and tell
 17 me there isn't a negative impact on our
 18 community.
 19 Williamsburg/Greenpoint handles
 20 almost 40 percent of the City's
 21 garbage. There are 16 land-based
 22 transfer stations in Community Board
 23 Number One. 70 percent of the waste is
 24 commercial waste mostly from New York.
 25 4,000 truck trips a day to the transfer

1
 2 stations.
 3 On Metropolitan Avenue there's
 4 a constant stream of truck traffic, air
 5 pollution, noise, noxious odors, rats,
 6 these terrible conditions contribute to
 7 high asthma (applause) rates; emphysema
 8 that presents a danger to the health
 9 and well-being of all the residents of
 10 the community. Also, our streets are
 11 caving in due to the heavy truck
 12 traffic and our homes are -- experience
 13 cracked walls due to the vibration.
 14 Finally, my testimony to the
 15 Department of Sanitation public scoping
 16 on the new solid waste management plan
 17 is you must have a reduction in the
 18 garbage plan for the next 20 years.
 19 Please evaluate the negative conditions
 20 attributed to the truck traffic to the
 21 16 land-based transfer stations in
 22 Williamsburg/Greenpoint. It is
 23 critical that there be a reduction in
 24 garbage. Our community is overburdened
 25 now. A fair share concept for every

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 2 borough must be included in the new
 3 plan. It is critical that the
 4 environmental impacts be assessed as
 5 fully as the environmental impacts of
 6 the alternative sites.
 7 I live close to the industrial
 8 area, our community hosts many
 9 businesses that handle hazardous
 10 chemicals that release toxic fumes.
 11 The Brooklyn-Queens Expressway creates,
 12 expressway creates harmful air
 13 pollution including the Kosciuszko
 14 Bridge.
 15 Our community is surrounded by
 16 the Newtown Creek that is filthy. I'm
 17 so happy that the river keepers are
 18 trying to do something with a lawsuit,
 19 and also the air quality is horrible
 20 and it all contributes to bad health
 21 for all of our community residents.
 22 We also have a 17 million
 23 gallon oil spill so everything that I
 24 am saying here is very important so the
 25 Department of Sanitation is -- must be

1
 2 -- should not be dishonest for -- wait,
 3 I missed my area. It is inappropriate
 4 and dishonest for the Department of
 5 Sanitation to avoid assessing and not
 6 acknowledging the negative impacts of
 7 the private waste transfer system by
 8 listing them as the future no build
 9 alternatives.
 10 Okay, the Concerned Citizens of
 11 Withers Street and Area Block
 12 Association supports the New York
 13 City's plan to retrofit the eight
 14 marine transfer stations, including the
 15 three in Manhattan and an additional
 16 station south of 59th Street.
 17 The solid waste management plan
 18 for the next 20 years must include the
 19 closing of the land-based transfer
 20 stations in Community Board Number One.
 21 An official document must be
 22 written to guarantee that the current
 23 unfair garbage plan be eliminated in
 24 the Williamsburg/Greenpoint community,
 25 and other low-income communities of

1
2 color.
3 Thank you for giving me this
4 opportunity to testify on the new solid
5 waste management plan for the next 20
6 years (applause.)

7 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you very
8 much. I see we have an elected
9 official here. We have City Council
10 Member David Yassky (applause.)

11 MR. DAVID YASSKY: Thank you
12 very much, and thank you for the
13 opportunity to testify, and I also want
14 to say thank you to everyone who's here
15 from the community to make your voices
16 heard, the public input to your process
17 I think is going to be critical on
18 this.

19 A few things, first, I want to
20 point out, I don't know if anyone has
21 pointed it out, I suspect maybe they
22 have, but North Brooklyn and Community
23 Board One in Brooklyn is home to 22
24 percent of the City's land-based
25 transfer stations, 22 percent of the

1
2 entire load that should be borne by the
3 entire City, is borne by this
4 neighborhood here.

5 I think that fact frankly
6 should be the crucial fact that is
7 addressed in your scoping and frankly
8 in your plan and the consequence of
9 that must be that as -- if this MTS
10 comes to be reopened or a similar
11 replacement one is opened somewhere
12 else in the neighborhood, that the
13 land-based transfer stations that are
14 here, the truck-based transfer stations
15 must be shut down. That is the
16 fundamental principle (applause) that
17 needs to be incorporated into your
18 system, into the plan.

19 If, in addition to having 22
20 percent of the truck-based transfer
21 stations, the neighborhood is asked to
22 then take also an MTS on top of that,
23 that would be a grave, grave unfairness
24 and the plan must, must avoid doing
25 that.

1
2 I also want to, there are some
3 failings in the -- in the scoping
4 document that was put out that I think
5 needs to be addressed. One is the
6 impact of traffic and truck traffic on
7 the neighborhoods where the MTSSs will
8 be located must be specifically studied
9 and specifically addressed in the
10 environmental statement.

11 Second, the environmental
12 review needs to consider the
13 possibility and the opportunity of
14 bringing commercial waste into the MTS,
15 into these reopened MTSSs so and that's
16 really part of shutting down some of
17 the land-based transfer -- truck-based
18 transfer stations, but I think
19 specifically the opportunity to bring
20 the commercial waste stream into this
21 new MTS system, that need to be
22 addressed specifically.

23 And finally or next to finally,
24 there has been some discussion about
25 having a special off ramp from the BQE

1
2 or from the Kosciuszko Bridge that
3 would lead directly to the MTS and the
4 opportunity to use that as a way to
5 keep trucks out of the residential
6 neighborhood or in this neighborhood
7 around the MTS, that I think should be
8 studied, should be studied
9 specifically.

10 And finally, sorry, I lost my
11 cell phone here, trying to get it to
12 shut off, but it is not.

13 Oh, and lastly and this point
14 is as important as the closing down of
15 the truck-based transfer stations is
16 that the -- the -- if the MTS system
17 that you're proposing is to go forward,
18 it must go forward as an entire system;
19 I know that at some of the hearings
20 that were held in Manhattan, some very
21 senior government officials expressed
22 political opposition to reopening the
23 Manhattan MTSSs; let me be clear, I
24 believe that it is 100 percent
25 unacceptable and simply will not happen

1
 2 for MTSS to reopen in Brooklyn, the
 3 Bronx and Queens, but not in Manhattan
 4 so that the waste (applause) -- so that
 5 Manhattan's garbage winds up coming
 6 here, here through Brooklyn. That
 7 would be an unacceptable outcome and I
 8 think that you must, from the beginning
 9 establish that, and frankly I believe
 10 that it should be a condition of the
 11 permits for any of the new MTSS outside
 12 of Manhattan, that they not open until
 13 the Manhattan MTSS are also open as a
 14 way to make sure it really happens.
 15 Thank you very much (applause.)

16 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you for
 17 your comments councilman David Yassky.
 18 We'll now return to the second half of
 19 the husband and wife team, Guido
 20 Cianciotta.

21 **MR. GUIDO CIANCIOTTA:** My name
 22 is Guido Cianciotta, I'm the president
 23 of the Concerned Citizens of Withers
 24 Street.

25 Looking here, knowing that I

1
 2 know the job a little better than half
 3 of the people in the room, which I put
 4 30 years and part of it was with the
 5 Local 881 of the Sanitation Union, be a
 6 little fair. You got six transfer
 7 stations along the area; 4,000 trucks
 8 and then you got somebody that was on
 9 alcohol or even he was taking dope,
 10 comes into the area and tells you
 11 there's nothing wrong with the area.

12 Maybe I'm crazy, but maybe I'm
 13 living in the wrong area. Everybody
 14 when they read that article they
 15 laughed, they says where? 4,000 trucks
 16 on Metropolitan Avenue per day, you
 17 can't cross the street even when the
 18 light changes (applause.)

19 I believe, and that's not
 20 saying that I don't know what I'm
 21 talking about, the marine transfer
 22 stations should all be open because you
 23 would relieve what is happening in this
 24 area, 16 of 'em lined up from
 25 Greenpoint all the way into

1
 2 Williamsburg, that's very unfair.
 3 The councilman was here and he
 4 don't want to rub the wrong people by
 5 mentioning the other councilman,
 6 Gifford Miller says (laughing) he can't
 7 do nothing to me, I live on 231 Withers
 8 Street if he wants to do something
 9 about it. He says 91st Street should
 10 not open because it's in a residential
 11 area. Well, what is this? (applause.)

12 What I want to say right now
 13 and these poor people put up with
 14 enough, enough is enough, give us a
 15 little relief because we have children
 16 that are being raised in this area and
 17 if you come out there, any time you
 18 want to be our guest with OUTRAGE,
 19 we'll go to Metropolitan and Green and
 20 I'll time you how long it takes you to
 21 cross that street. I remember when I
 22 could cross that street and I wasn't
 23 born in the horse and wagon time, I was
 24 born when they had trucks; it was never
 25 that bad.

1
 2 Now you people for some reason
 3 all worry about waste management.
 4 Waste management is nothing to me, is
 5 just another Sherlock Holmes, they
 6 cover for each other. They put it all
 7 in one area and they want you to like
 8 it.

9 They got a Deputy Mayor there
 10 that used to be in the previous
 11 administration and everybody's afraid
 12 of him. Please, I'm up here, do
 13 something about it and relieve the
 14 pressure away from this neighborhood by
 15 getting fair share. Thank you
 16 (applause.)

17 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 18 Our next speaker is Miledis Arias.
 19 Speaker -- okay, we'll come back to her
 20 later.

21 Lucille Donini.

22 **MS. LUCILLE DONINI:** (Applause)
 23 Good evening, my name is Lucille Donini
 24 and I am a member of OUTRAGE. I have
 25 lived my entire life at 103 Conselyea

1
2 Street.
3 Like many of my neighbors, I
4 take great pride in my home. Most of
5 our homes are frame houses which were
6 built right after the Civil War. Our
7 grandparents and our parents before us
8 worked very hard to maintain and
9 improve their homes, and in the same
10 tradition, we continue to improve our
11 homes.

12 We take pride in our gardens
13 with fruit trees and grapevines.
14 However, in the past several years, our
15 quality of life has gone down
16 considerably.

17 Although they are not allowed,
18 empty garbage trucks returning from the
19 waste stations come racing down our
20 blocks at all hours of the day and the
21 night. The foundations of these old
22 houses are shaken and you can see the
23 cracks in our walls.

24 On many an early morning, my
25 husband and I are rudely awakened by

1
2 the roaring of these trucks which
3 should not be on Conselyea Street in
4 the first place.

5 On the corner of Conselyea and
6 Humboldt Street is a school for
7 children, two to five years of age with
8 special needs. Many of these children
9 have respiratory problems and are
10 asthmatic. I can assure you these
11 trucks compound their health problems.

12 Yesterday, my husband and I
13 waited for a bus on the corner of
14 Metropolitan and Graham Avenues. The
15 odors from the passing trucks were
16 nauseating. It took the better part of
17 the day to get the stench out of our
18 nostrils.

19 This type of indifference and
20 negligence on the part of the
21 Department of Sanitation cannot, and
22 will not be ignored. It is essential
23 to the well being of our community that
24 the Department of Sanitation take our
25 complaints seriously and enact and

1
2 enforce solutions to these problems.
3 The lack of your listening to pleas and
4 complaints is totally unacceptable to
5 the concerned members of our community.

6 In the past, we have been told
7 to report the license numbers of the
8 offending drivers. This is not a
9 solution and totally unacceptable. We
10 should not be doing your job of
11 policing the offenders. It is your
12 responsibility to see that the law is
13 enforced.

14 I will not thank you for
15 listening to me because I truly feel
16 you are not (applause.) My final words
17 to you is, stop ignoring us and stop
18 the illegal trucking, truck trafficking
19 on Conselyea Street (applause.)

20 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** I do thank you
21 for your comments. The next speaker is
22 Ray Kairys.

23 **MR. RAY KAIRYS:** My name is Ray
24 Kairys, I'm the chairman of OUTRAGE. I
25 want to thank everyone for coming out

1
2 tonight, thank you very much
3 (applause.) Great to see all the
4 people.

5 Williamsburg/Greenpoint is an
6 -- I mean OUTRAGE is an acronym for
7 Williamsburg/Greenpoint Organization
8 United for Trash Reduction and Garbage
9 Equity. We are a coalition of more
10 than two dozen community and civic
11 groups which formed in 1999 to address
12 the growing waste industry in East
13 Williamsburg and Greenpoint.

14 As you know, our community is
15 home to a disproportionate share of the
16 City's private waste transfer stations.
17 We have 16 waste transfer stations
18 which process almost 40 percent of the
19 entire City's garbage.

20 During the last solid waste
21 management planning process, we finally
22 gained recognition of the
23 disproportionate burden which this
24 concentration places on our community
25 through a moratorium on the expansion

1
 2 of waste processing facilities in our
 3 community board.
 4 We have continued to work with
 5 our local public officials and
 6 community board, our neighbors, our
 7 colleagues, our colleagues in OWN which
 8 is the Organization of Waterfront
 9 Neighborhoods, the City Council and the
 10 administration towards developing a
 11 fairer and more equitable solid waste
 12 policy, which would reduce the burdens
 13 which our members and neighbors
 14 experience everyday.
 15 Over 4000 trucks carrying
 16 12,000 tons of garbage, rumble through
 17 our streets causing traffic congestion,
 18 odor and noise pollution, as well as
 19 contributing to the poor air quality
 20 which exacerbates the high rates of
 21 asthma and respiratory disease in our
 22 community.
 23 We are submitting our comments
 24 today on the draft scope of work
 25 proposed for the solid waste management

1
 2 technical experience, we found that the
 3 commercial waste study was based on
 4 flawed methods and violated Local Law
 5 74's requirement that the commercial
 6 waste study evaluate the combined
 7 impacts of the clustering of these
 8 transfer stations. They will be
 9 presenting detailed written testimony
 10 to document these points, I will just
 11 touch on a few examples.
 12 Among its many deficiencies,
 13 the commercial waste study was able to
 14 conclude that there were no significant
 15 air quality impacts from the
 16 concentration of transfer stations
 17 because of its flawed research methods.
 18 For example, the study concluded that
 19 increases in background levels of
 20 particulate matter of nearly 50 percent
 21 were insignificant. This conclusion
 22 ignores the significant air quality
 23 problems created by private transfer
 24 stations and the trucks that service
 25 them in Greenpoint and Williamsburg.

1
 2 plan based on the insistence that it
 3 significantly and permanently reduce
 4 the amount and impact of solid waste
 5 processing in our community (applause.)
 6 I am presenting testimony today
 7 on behalf of OUTRAGE, and as you can
 8 see, there are a large number of our
 9 members and supporters are present here
 10 now.
 11 The scope needs to be based on
 12 an accurate assessment of the impact of
 13 private waste transfer stations on
 14 neighborhoods like Williamsburg and
 15 Greenpoint where these stations are
 16 concentrated.
 17 Like other community residents,
 18 I was, pardon the pun, outraged when
 19 the commercial waste study found that
 20 there are no significance harmful
 21 impacts from the clustering of these
 22 stations. This contradicts basic
 23 common sense and the conditions we
 24 experience everyday. And in fact, when
 25 we and other members of OWN consulted

1
 2 The study also did not include
 3 an analysis of those sensitive
 4 receptors such as houses, schools, and
 5 parks that are closest to and bear the
 6 greatest impact from the private
 7 land-based waste transfer stations.
 8 As it exists, the commercial
 9 waste study should not be the
 10 foundation for the garbage plan, the
 11 environmental impact assessment of the
 12 new plan, or the transfer station
 13 siting and operational regulations
 14 issued by Department of Sanitation.
 15 As is detailed in the OWN
 16 written testimony, these must be based
 17 on a full environmental impact
 18 assessment of the private waste
 19 transfer station, which meets the legal
 20 requirements of state and city law and
 21 accurately reflects their impact on
 22 communities likes ours.
 23 We are grateful that our
 24 Council member Diana Reyna together
 25 with her colleagues, allocated

1
 2 additional resources to help the
 3 council ensure that this is done.
 4 The DEIS and solid waste
 5 management plan must study the impact
 6 of any new system, including the
 7 converted marine transfer stations or
 8 alternatives, as part of a
 9 comprehensive, more equitable and fair
 10 share solid waste management plan.
 11 It should move towards borough
 12 self-sufficiency and ensure that the
 13 permanent and significant reduction of
 14 both commercial and residential waste
 15 processed in overburdened neighborhoods
 16 like ours.
 17 The new garbage plan must
 18 include the reopening of all of the
 19 marine transfer stations, including the
 20 three in Manhattan and an additional
 21 station south of 59th Street. The plan
 22 must also be linked with the closing of
 23 the land-based transfer stations.
 24 Along with our fellow OWN
 25 members, we have supported the

1
 2 reopening of the marine transfer
 3 stations as an equitable alternative to
 4 the current system which overburdens
 5 three neighborhoods, ours, the South
 6 Bronx and Southeast Queens.
 7 Because commercial waste
 8 accounts for 70 percent of the waste
 9 handled in Williamsburg and Greenpoint,
 10 as indicated above, the DEIS should
 11 study the feasibility of processing
 12 commercial waste through the marine
 13 transfer stations and alternatives as
 14 well. However, our support of marine
 15 transfer stations or alternatives is
 16 conditioned on the assumption that it
 17 will lead to significant reduction in
 18 the volume and impact of waste
 19 processing in Greenpoint and
 20 Williamsburg.
 21 Therefore, the DEIS should
 22 study: Ways to close the land-based
 23 transfer stations at the same time as
 24 it develops a plan for the Greenpoint
 25 MTS or alternative.

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 2 A plan which would schedule the
 3 reopening of other Brooklyn MTSS prior
 4 to the re-opening of the Greenpoint MTS
 5 or alternative so as to reduce the
 6 amount of residential waste currently
 7 being processed in
 8 Greenpoint/Williamsburg as rapidly as
 9 possible.
 10 We are also concerned that one
 11 proposal in the scope could allow
 12 commercial waste to be barged from the
 13 MTS and an alternative facility is also
 14 opened. We're encouraging the creation
 15 of marine and rail transfer links to
 16 remove waste from New York City because
 17 it will reduce the amount of long-haul
 18 trucking and unacceptable land-based
 19 transfer stations.
 20 The DEIS must analyze effects
 21 of closing land-based transfer stations
 22 on a one-to-one offset ratio basis for
 23 any additional waste processing
 24 proposed to come through the Greenpoint
 25 MTS or any of the alternatives as a

1
 2 result of the proposed action.
 3 In addition, the DEIS must
 4 assure that utilization amounts under
 5 the proposed action are reduced from
 6 the amount of waste processing
 7 occurring at currently permitted
 8 facilities in Greenpoint and
 9 Williamsburg; that there is a permanent
 10 moratorium on permitting new transfer
 11 station facilities in
 12 Greenpoint/Williamsburg and that the
 13 permitted levels of existing -- the
 14 permitted levels of existing
 15 Greenpoint/Williamsburg transfer
 16 facilities are reduced to their current
 17 level of utilization and further
 18 reduced by recommended offsets from the
 19 utilization of the proposed action or
 20 any alternatives.
 21 Truck traffic to and from the
 22 transfer stations has been a major
 23 negative impact on air quality, noise
 24 and other health, safety and
 25 environmental concerns in our areas.

1
 2 The transfer stations -- the
 3 transfer stations are located next to
 4 communities resident -- community
 5 residents, residential homes, schools
 6 and churches on or near truck routes.
 7 As for those blocks like mine
 8 right outside this door, which become
 9 shortcuts for the streets clogged with
 10 transfer station trucks at peak times.
 11 Therefore, the DEIS should study the
 12 potential truck traffic patterns and
 13 volume generated by the MTS and
 14 proposed alternatives and seek to
 15 minimize the truck volume, particularly
 16 in and near residential areas. It
 17 should also consider current and future
 18 plans which may impact on traffic
 19 patterns and cumulative impact of truck
 20 traffic. Thank you very much
 21 (applause.)
 22 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 23 Our speaker is Naomi Chappelle.
 24 **MS. NAOMI CHAPPELLE:** Good
 25 evening everyone, I didn't come tonight

1
 2 to speak, but I think it's right for me
 3 to speak even though we have all these
 4 people that live in houses around here.
 5 I want to know, do you know
 6 that we have one of the largest
 7 Mitchell-Lamas in this district called
 8 MC Park which is middle class people
 9 and we are suffering very bad with all
 10 the debris that is coming from these
 11 trucks and everything. And we are one
 12 of the -- in this area, we are one of
 13 the largest with the asthma and every
 14 other respiratory disease that is
 15 actually going around.
 16 For instance, okay, in my later
 17 years for the last 20 years I have
 18 started with respiratory disease and I
 19 figure it's coming from all this
 20 pollution in the area. And now I have
 21 to use a pump every morning and I feel
 22 that all my life as I'm coming up, I
 23 didn't need a pump because I didn't
 24 have asthma and stuff. But now and
 25 plus I figure, okay, I'm in middle age,

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 2 but what about the young kids in this
 3 area that is just starting their lives
 4 and they starting with all these
 5 problems and stuff which (applause) --
 6 which is another ten years of their
 7 life, what else they will have to use
 8 because I feel with the pumps and
 9 stuff, something else might come on to
 10 them by using this, all this
 11 respiratory I mean in -- not
 12 respiratory but with the pumps, what
 13 solution is in the pumps and stuff like
 14 that? They tell you that it's good,
 15 but in another 20 years how good is it?
 16 So we have to look out for our
 17 health in this area and the
 18 Mitchell-Lama that is in this area, you
 19 have over 2000 and -- 2,702 units that
 20 lives in that Mitchell-Lama, seven
 21 buildings and it's not too far from
 22 here.
 23 Where the trucks actually come
 24 from before they get to this area? So,
 25 the trucks come through our area which

1
 2 is in the vicinity of Broadway,
 3 Lorimer, Meserole, and also Leonard
 4 Street, they come down Leonard Street.
 5 And they already -- they come down
 6 through Manhattan Avenue so it's all --
 7 it's not only the homeowners that live
 8 in this area, it's also this large
 9 development which is a Mitchell-Lama
 10 which you have 2,702 units; imagine all
 11 those people with respiratory
 12 illnesses, thank you (applause.)
 13 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you. I
 14 now call an Delia Lopez (applause.)
 15 **MS. DELIA LOPEZ:** Hello, my
 16 name is Delia Lopez, I represent Seigal
 17 Street Homeowners Association which is
 18 a member of OUTRAGE.
 19 I live on White Street and
 20 McKibbin Street in the East
 21 Williamsburg Section which is only five
 22 blocks from the worst waste transfer
 23 station.
 24 First the trucks and the smell
 25 of transfer station and affect my

1
2 everyday life. Tractor trailers,
3 tractor trailers often line up outside
4 my house at 5:00 in the morning and the
5 odors and noise from the garbage and
6 the trucks are the most unpleasant way
7 to wake up.

8 Despite this, the recent
9 commercial waste study found that there
10 aren't any harmful impact in all the
11 transfer station in my neighborhood.
12 We have a lot of people with lung
13 problems, and these are not old people,
14 this are people that are 55 that worked
15 all their lives and they looking
16 forward to a retirement and live some
17 years happily. Instead, they already
18 had to retire and they sick coughing
19 their lungs off in their homes.

20 And for instance, the
21 commercial waste study is flawed at
22 best. For the -- for the air samples
23 was from Irving, Porter, Flushing,
24 Varick, all those streets, when one
25 ends up, what do they do, they cross

1
2 the street and took their sample and
3 then they cross the street and took
4 another air sample. That's what they
5 must of been doing, crossing the street
6 to some -- one corner and then the
7 other, because that's where they took
8 it.

9 If you look at it or you go in
10 that area you'll see that where one
11 street, where Irving -- where Varick
12 ends, Irving starts. Where Melrose is
13 right (indicating) with that like a
14 diagonal of Flushing Avenue, and so are
15 the other streets, all of them are link
16 together.

17 The study is -- was also narrow
18 and they -- was also ignore numerous
19 receptors including homes, parks,
20 church, therefore, this study should be
21 -- not be used as a base for the new
22 garbage plan.

23 Second, we are here today to
24 insist that the City -- the City's new
25 garbage plan must reduce to impact an

1
2 amount of garbage pluses. Williamsburg
3 and Greenpoint, as you know,
4 Williamsburg and Greenpoint have 16
5 waste transfer station which it
6 processes over a third of the City's --
7 of the City's garbage, this is too much
8 for one neighborhood.

9 (Applause) We support a fair
10 share of garbage where waste is moved
11 through the eight marine transfer
12 stations. However, the scope must
13 study, study ways to link the new plan,
14 including the marine transfer station
15 or alternatives to closing significant
16 number of the private land-based
17 transfer stations currently operating
18 in Williamsburg/Greenpoint. We got to
19 plan to close some of these transfer
20 stations, it will not provide any
21 relief to our community. Thank you for
22 giving me the opportunity (applause.)

23 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
24 Our next speaker is Helen DiSanto.
25 **MS. HELEN DISANTO:** Hello, my

1
2 name is Helen DiSanto, and I live on
3 Orient Avenue which runs parallel to
4 Metropolitan Avenue so I know what
5 these people are talking about 'cause
6 we live here. And mine is not a
7 scientific study, it's a quality of
8 life issue.

9 When I can't stand in front of
10 my house and pass the time away with my
11 neighbors because of the stench of
12 those trucks, all the pollution, the
13 noise, that's horrible and I cannot
14 sleep in the front of my house because
15 that's where all the trucks pass on
16 Metropolitan Avenue so you really have
17 to help us. I'm a very concerned
18 citizen and my house has been in my
19 family for 100 years. This is the
20 worst time of all, thank you
21 (applause.)

22 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
23 Shannon Stone (applause.)

24 **MS. SHANNON STONE:** Hi, my name
25 is Shannon Stone, the recording

1
 2 secretary of the New York Waste
 3 Prevention Coalition.
 4 Compared to the interim export
 5 plan of trucking the nearly 50,000 tons
 6 of garbage our city produces daily, the
 7 proposed marine transfer stations, if
 8 equitably sited and large enough to
 9 handle some commercial waste, may seem
 10 like an environmental and quality of
 11 life improvement for some New Yorkers.
 12 However, the only way to really
 13 minimize the impacts on the
 14 neighborhood surrounding the proposed
 15 marine transfer stations and protect
 16 the health and well being of New
 17 Yorkers would be to gradually cease our
 18 reliance on waste export.
 19 While the proposed marine
 20 transfer stations may relieve a load of
 21 garbage dumped in some New York
 22 communities, the City will continue to
 23 dump on communities across America. We
 24 can expect those communities to
 25 continue to charge us increasingly

1
 2 environmental and community-based
 3 organizations in New York City began
 4 meeting to prepare an alternative to,
 5 or rather, a supplement of the solid
 6 waste management plan. This plan has
 7 come to be known as "The Citizens Plan
 8 For Zero Waste In New York City." The
 9 idea of zero waste is that waste is not
 10 a noun, waste does not exist in the
 11 natural world, rather we should think
 12 of waste as a verb, it is something we
 13 do.
 14 More importantly, zero waste is
 15 a goal to reach 100 percent diversion,
 16 or darn close to it, from the landfill
 17 through waste prevention, reuse and
 18 recycling.
 19 The report's focus is how to
 20 reach zero waste in 20 years, the same
 21 time frame as this new SWMP, by
 22 recommending programs and policy and
 23 the timeline to implement them.
 24 While the goal of zero waste
 25 may seem laughable at first, it is a

1
 2 higher tipping fees.
 3 Since 2000, for example, the
 4 cost of waste export has risen 91
 5 percent and the Department of
 6 Sanitation's budget has reached a
 7 billion dollars. As permitted landfill
 8 space becomes harder to find, the cost
 9 of waste export will continue to rise
 10 as well.
 11 Clearly, export should not be
 12 the primary focus of our comprehensive
 13 20-year solid waste management plan.
 14 Rather, waste prevention, reuse,
 15 recycling and composting should play a
 16 much larger role in this new SWMP as
 17 compared to the previous SWMP.
 18 Investment and development in
 19 environmentally-sustainable
 20 alternatives will have the most
 21 beneficial long-term impact for New
 22 Yorkers in regards to taxes saved,
 23 public health and the number of local
 24 jobs created.
 25 Last fall, over 40

1
 2 goal that has been adopted at various
 3 levels across the United States and
 4 around the world, from the City of
 5 Toronto to the State of California,
 6 from a small town in India to the
 7 entire nation of New Zealand.
 8 "The Citizens Plan For Zero
 9 Waste in New York City" proposes
 10 reaching for zero waste through four
 11 main areas, waste prevention, reuse,
 12 recycling and composting, and in three
 13 time periods, near-term, intermediate
 14 and long-term.
 15 The near-term period through
 16 2009 proposes reaching a 30 percent
 17 diversion rate. This time frame would
 18 require the most intensive investment
 19 of the three periods to build the
 20 necessary infrastructure. We propose
 21 hiring a zero waste coordinator for all
 22 59 community boards, establishing reuse
 23 material recovery facilities, MRFs in
 24 four boroughs with a supplemental truck
 25 fleet, creating a recycling market

1
2 development office, and banning grass
3 clippings from collection. We also
4 outline the financing and policy
5 options needed to enable these
6 programs.

7 The implementation of the
8 intermediate phase, through 2014, can
9 drive diversion to 50 percent. Waste
10 prevention programs during this period
11 include waste prevention technical
12 assistance for NYC agencies,
13 institutions and consumer education on
14 waste prevention. The reuse MRFs
15 should be able to divert 800 tons per
16 day during this period. Additional
17 composting or anaerobic digestion
18 facilities will be constructed.

19 During this time, the frequency
20 of garbage collection will be reduced,
21 the public outreach will continue,
22 recycling industrial parks will be
23 established and enforcement of
24 recycling laws will be evaluated.

25 The period between 2014 and

1
2 report.

3 People from far away, from
4 Australia and India have written us
5 comments wishing New York City well in
6 its goal for zero waste.

7 This quote is from Australia.
8 "Canberra became the first community in
9 the world with zero waste focus when it
10 launched its no waste by 2010 strategy
11 in December of 1996. The community
12 investment in recycling programs
13 returns many millions of dollars to the
14 city as well as jobs and a better
15 environment. Humanity must begin to
16 redefine its attitude to waste if we
17 are to see human generations beyond our
18 children go on to live fulfilling and
19 sustainable lives.

20 Sustainability and waste cannot
21 coexist. The world needs models for
22 zero waste. Just as Canberra has
23 become the model which has lead to many
24 other zero waste communities in our
25 part of the world, so New York can

1
2 2024 will be the final stretch for New
3 York City to reach its goal of zero
4 waste. This period is marked by the
5 passage of extended producer
6 responsibility legislation for
7 materials still in the waste stream as
8 well the continued improvement in
9 education and enforcement.

10 This success or failure of the
11 proposed "Citizens Plan for Zero Waste"
12 will never be known unless it is
13 completely implemented. However, even
14 if we fail in aiming for zero waste,
15 the diversion rate resulting from our
16 failure will be a wild success compared
17 to the lower diversion rates that we
18 have half-heartedly aimed at for years.

19 Therefore, I am submitting this
20 working draft of the Citizens Plan For
21 Zero Waste as public commentary for
22 review and adoption in the solid waste
23 management plan.

24 I'd like to read a couple of
25 quotes that are in the beginning of the

1
2 become the great international model.

3 Zero waste is a goal at the end
4 of the highway, it is the path to the
5 future, it is a statement of belief in
6 the lives of our grandchildren. Once
7 you have set the goal, all policies
8 change, all eyes turn towards the
9 target. It will take you time to get
10 there, but you are on the road.

11 All the very best from all of
12 us for a zero waste in New York, Gerry
13 Gillepsie, President of the Canberra
14 and Regional Environmental Center."

15 Thank you (applause.)

16 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
17 Our next speaker is Andrew Sterrer
18 representing Council Member Diana
19 Reyna.

20 **MR. ANDREW STERRER:** Hello,
21 Council Member Reyna is very sorry she
22 couldn't be here today, she got held up
23 at meetings so I will be reading her
24 testimony into the record today.

25 "Thank you for the opportunity

1
 2 to testify tonight. As you can see
 3 from the large community presence here,
 4 the City solid waste management plan
 5 and especially how it relates to the
 6 distribution of waste transfer stations
 7 across the country is of particular
 8 interest to Williamsburg and
 9 Greenpoint.

10 That is because in Brooklyn
 11 Community Board One, we have 16 waste
 12 transfer stations that process nearly
 13 40 percent of the City's waste. These
 14 facilities generate approximately 4,000
 15 truck trips in and out of our community
 16 per day, burdening our neighborhoods
 17 with traffic, air and noise pollution,
 18 respiratory illnesses and oppressive
 19 odors. The concentration of waste
 20 transfer stations in neighborhoods such
 21 as Williamsburg and Greenpoint is
 22 unjust and must be addressed thoroughly
 23 by the Department of Sanitation and its
 24 solid waste management plan.

25 Today's hearing is about the

1
 2 And, opening the Southwest
 3 Brooklyn marine transfer station before
 4 Greenpoint's would allow Brooklyn
 5 Community Board One to reduce its
 6 Brooklyn waste capacity before
 7 reopening the Greenpoint marine
 8 transfer station.

9 Further, if the marine transfer
 10 station plan is chosen, none of the
 11 alternatives should be entertained in
 12 addition to the marine transfer
 13 station. Our goal is to more equitably
 14 distribute waste processing, not put
 15 both the marine transfer station and
 16 one of the alternatives in the most
 17 overburdened community in Brooklyn.

18 As I said, I support reopening
 19 the marine transfer stations,
 20 (applause) but I would like to state
 21 for the record that of the three
 22 alternatives that the Department of
 23 Sanitation is studying, I am deeply
 24 opposed to the one that would create a
 25 new transfer station in Brooklyn

1
 2 specific issue of retrofitting and
 3 reopening the marine transfer stations
 4 and their alternatives; private rail or
 5 barge-based sites that would contract
 6 with the City.

7 Before proceeding, let me be
 8 very clear about one point, whether the
 9 solid waste management plan includes
 10 reopening the Greenpoint marine
 11 transfer station or its alternative,
 12 this plan must be conditioned on
 13 closing as many land-based transfer
 14 stations as possible. Neither the
 15 community nor I will stand for any plan
 16 that does not include reducing the
 17 number of land-based sites.

18 Brooklyn MTSS should reopen
 19 before the Greenpoint marine transfer
 20 station. We will not accept having
 21 Williamsburg and Greenpoint get stuck
 22 with both the marine transfer station
 23 and the existing truck-based transfer
 24 stations if the sites in Manhattan are
 25 delayed or defeated (applause.)

1
 2 Community Board One because it would
 3 actually increase the amount of waste
 4 processed in our community.

5 At the expense of sounding
 6 repetitive, Williamsburg and Greenpoint
 7 are the most overburdened neighborhoods
 8 in New York City when it comes to waste
 9 processing, and support for any plan is
 10 strictly conditioned on reducing the
 11 amount of waste processed here and the
 12 number of land-based stations here.

13 Whatever plan is adopted, it
 14 must deal in a meaningful way with the
 15 issue of truck traffic in our
 16 community. No plan that only moves the
 17 truck traffic around from one place in
 18 Brooklyn Community Board One to
 19 another, is acceptable. The Department
 20 of Transportation must perform a
 21 comprehensive review of truck traffic
 22 and put into place measures that, in
 23 combination with closing down
 24 land-based stations, will reduce the
 25 amount of truck traffic in Williamsburg

1
 2 and Greenpoint.
 3 The Department of
 4 Transportation's reconstruction of the
 5 Kosciuszko Bridge may provide a unique
 6 opportunity to keep the remaining truck
 7 traffic off residential streets to a
 8 much greater degree than today. I
 9 intend to meet with the Department of
 10 Transportation to explore the idea of
 11 building a ramp directly from the
 12 bridge approach to the industrial areas
 13 so that truck drivers, whether they are
 14 transporting waste or cargo for
 15 businesses in the industrial park, will
 16 not need to use residential streets.
 17 Such a measure would mitigate one of
 18 the worst side effects of waste
 19 transfer stations, and any advocacy
 20 that the Department of Sanitation could
 21 provide on this issue with the
 22 Department of transportation would be
 23 greatly appreciated.
 24 Before concluding, I want to
 25 comment on the recently-released

1
 2 commercial waste study, which
 3 unfortunately provides some of the
 4 basis for your work on the solid waste
 5 management plan.
 6 Somehow, the study concluded
 7 that no negative impacts exist due to
 8 the concentration of waste transfer
 9 stations. My friends, neighbors and I
 10 in this room know otherwise. We may
 11 not be experts, but we know this study
 12 is flawed. That is why in the final
 13 hour of completing the City budget, the
 14 City Council allocated \$135,000 to hire
 15 experts to analyze the commercial waste
 16 study's methodology and conclusions.
 17 With this work, we will demonstrate the
 18 dangers of transfer station
 19 concentration, and we'll keep fighting
 20 for equitable Sanitation policy. Thank
 21 you again for the opportunity to
 22 testify tonight (applause.)
 23 Before leaving, I want to thank
 24 all the community residents who took
 25 the time out of their lives to join us

1
 2 tonight and show how important this
 3 issue is to them and their families'
 4 future. Thank you again and
 5 goodnight." (applause)
 6 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 7 Our next speaker is Laura Hofman.
 8 **MS. LAURA HOFMANN:** Thank you.
 9 Hi, my name is Laura Hofmann, I'm the
 10 cofounder of Barge Park Pals and a
 11 board member of GWAPP, I will be
 12 speaking and offering written comments
 13 on behalf of Barge Park Pals and my
 14 husband who is a GWAPP board member,
 15 will also will be speaking on behalf of
 16 GWAPP, our mother organization.
 17 My husband and I are from North
 18 Greenpoint and we're wearing OUTRAGE
 19 shirts. How cool is that? The message
 20 -- the message that shirt carries is
 21 much deeper. City agencies need to
 22 know that the entire community is
 23 becoming more and more united. City
 24 agency divide and conquer tactics will
 25 not work in this community any more.

1
 2 Our community is tired of being
 3 crapped on. We have the largest -- the
 4 largest sewage treatment facility in
 5 New York City and it's being expanded.
 6 That's literally enough crap for one
 7 community.
 8 I could go through a list of
 9 environmental issues in this community,
 10 but the city agencies already know it,
 11 just as they know the commercial waste
 12 study is flawed. What city agencies
 13 don't seem to know is that we get that,
 14 we understand that and the community is
 15 uniting against your plan.
 16 It doesn't take an
 17 environmental scientist to know that
 18 the commercial waste study is
 19 fundamentally flawed when it finds that
 20 transfer stations do not have a
 21 negative impact on local residential
 22 communities. That study is full of
 23 lies.
 24 The draft scope of work must
 25 include a provision to restudy adverse

1
2 impacts of commercial waste processing
3 and acknowledge the negative impacts as
4 an assumption. It is dangerous to our
5 community health to look at the solid
6 waste plan as a 20-year plan. The EIS
7 should look to the plan as a ten-year
8 plan.

9 The solid waste plan must
10 result in significant reduction of
11 land-based waste transfer stations in
12 this community, without shifting
13 impacts to other portions of the
14 community.

15 The EIS must include analysis
16 of on/off ramps in Queens and Brooklyn
17 as part of the Kosciuszko Bridge
18 Reconstruction Project in sync with new
19 York State DOT and Kosciuszko Bridge
20 Stakeholders Advisory Committee in this
21 regard.

22 Truck studies and area truck
23 practices must be considered to further
24 analyze dedicated trucks lanes and
25 other measures that would result in a

1
2 DEIS should seriously analyze
3 cumulative impacts that an active
4 Greenpoint MTS and closely-located
5 Newtown Creek sewage treatment facility
6 represents, especially since
7 nonmitigated emissions of chemicals
8 such as chloroform and acrolein are
9 expected to occur at that plant.

10 Furthermore, in watching your
11 presentation, I had to laugh when I saw
12 state-of-the-art odor control system.
13 As somebody who -- as somebody who
14 attends the monthly Newtown Creek
15 Monitoring Committee meetings, that's a
16 joke, it -- that equates to using a
17 spray bottle on a fart bomb.

18 The construction of the MTS at
19 the incinerator site didn't really
20 become clear to me until I saw the map
21 tonight, and how dare the DOS even come
22 here and give us this plan not
23 mentioning that that site is laden with
24 dioxin.

25 The community at, I think it

1
2 reduction of solid waste plan truck
3 traffic reduction.

4 The DEIS must study how each
5 borough can achieve self-sufficiency in
6 handling the waste it generates. That
7 study should include credit provisions
8 for neighborhoods that carry the solid
9 waste burdens of New York City all this
10 time.

11 Barge Park Pals supports the
12 creation of marine and rail transfer
13 links in order to remove waste from New
14 York City and reduce unacceptable
15 trucking and land-based transfer
16 station practices. That support is
17 only valid if the conditions outlined
18 in OUTRAGE and GWAPP comments are met.

19 Finally, all other MTSSs must be
20 brought on line before any
21 Greenpoint/Williamsburg MTS to ensure
22 the City commits to an equitable
23 retrofit plan and begins reducing
24 impacts on the most overburdened
25 community as soon as possible. And the

1
2 was last year or the year before,
3 provided photographs of DOS taking down
4 that incinerator without the proper --
5 without the proper precautions; we know
6 that it's so full of dioxins and so
7 many people have things like brain
8 cancer and stuff like that in our
9 community and how are you going to deal
10 with that dioxin at that site? All
11 right, people don't even know this, and
12 that's not in -- that's not in the
13 study, it's not in your presentation.

14 Before, somebody mentioned
15 Union Avenue and it brought to my mind
16 my two-year-old grandson who lives on
17 Metropolitan and Union Avenue who has
18 asthma. If that's not a negative
19 impact, I don't know what it is.

20 And one question, is this
21 presentation available in hard copy for
22 this community tonight because I would
23 like to see that passed out?

24 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Yes, I
25 mentioned in my earlier talk that

1
 2 copies of my presentation will be
 3 available the end of the meeting.
 4 **THE AUDIENCE:** Why at the end
 5 of the meeting, so that we can't review
 6 them while we're speaking?
 7 **MS. LAURA HOFMANN:** That's
 8 right.
 9 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** You can pick
 10 it up right now at the desk out front.
 11 You can get it.
 12 **MS. LAURA HOFMANN:** And by the
 13 way, I'm also an asthma sufferer
 14 (applause.)
 15 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you for
 16 your comments. Did Miledis Arias
 17 return? I guess not.
 18 Our next speaker is Irene
 19 Klementowicz.
 20 **MS. IRENE KLEMENTOWICZ:** Good
 21 evening, I'm sorry for the upset, I had
 22 no intention to do that.
 23 My name is Irene Klementowicz,
 24 I've been a resident here for 46 years.
 25 When I moved in, the incinerator, the

1
 2 Greenpoint incinerator opened up in
 3 1958. I had no idea where all that
 4 dirt and dust was coming on my
 5 windowsill through the windows until I
 6 found out that straight down Freeman
 7 Street are the stacks from the
 8 incinerator.
 9 After that, the -- in 1967 the
 10 largest water pollution control plant
 11 opened up right next to it, adjacent to
 12 it. I often wondered what geniuses had
 13 thought that it's such a wonderful
 14 place to put the largest water
 15 pollution control plant in New York
 16 City and the incinerator which actually
 17 burned garbage, medical waste actually
 18 from the five boroughs which we had
 19 witnessed coming into the plant, even
 20 from Staten Island. The medical center
 21 there, oh, I can't think of the name of
 22 it, Bailey-Seton; Bailey-Seton came in,
 23 one of the TV men were there; we were
 24 taking a tour at the time when that
 25 truck saw us standing and they had

1
 2 cameras there. They turned around
 3 because there was some people that were
 4 witnessing this. They turned right
 5 around with their truck from
 6 Bailey-Seton Hospital and out they
 7 went.
 8 So let me tell you that we have
 9 suffered from that incinerator for 36
 10 years. It was finally shut down in '94
 11 only the through the efforts of the
 12 Concerned Citizens of Greenpoint, that
 13 is part of my group that worked for a
 14 great number of years hopefully to shut
 15 it down (applause.)
 16 I know the speakers before me
 17 were excellent, you had some wonderful
 18 information with percentages and so on.
 19 I'm so happy to see that
 20 Henningson, Durham and Richardson are
 21 here this evening. Are they the
 22 company that is getting the 135,000 to
 23 do a study? I don't know. Anyway, I
 24 have an article from the Greenpoint
 25 Gazette from 1999, I save things.

1
 2 Mr. Fisher, who was our
 3 councilman at the time, had obtained a
 4 copy of the special feasibility report
 5 prepared for the Sanitation Department
 6 by the architectural and engineering
 7 firm of Henningson, Durham and
 8 Richardson.
 9 The report examined all of the
 10 marine transfer stations in the City
 11 which are used to load garbage from
 12 street cleaning trucks to barges for
 13 shipment to Kills at that time. The
 14 report found the Greenpoint site
 15 unsuitable for retrofit.
 16 Now that's been recorded, you
 17 got copies at your agency I'm sure and
 18 why are we now having the same
 19 engineers doing another study when they
 20 did one in '99 and it was proven that
 21 the site is unsuitable? (applause) Why
 22 are we going to do this? Really, I
 23 really cannot understand that.
 24 I have a study that was done in
 25 1991 by Marian Archerto, (phonetic) a

1
2 team leader of Cal Recovery Systems
3 Incorporated; I have been very active
4 for a great number of years.

5 Unfortunately, I want to
6 retire, but the point is that in the
7 Greenpoint area, everything is like in
8 the palm of your hand, if you could
9 envision the incinerator that was
10 working for 36 years, spewing into the
11 air the toxic materials; you have
12 particulates going around through the
13 neighborhood.

14 Next to it was the water
15 pollution control, the largest water
16 pollution control plant. And with
17 that, the water pollution control plant
18 also serves three boroughs, all in one
19 neighborhood.

20 The oil spill, the old oil
21 spill with Mobil, basically that is
22 also still being cleaned up, but that
23 was only because The Concerned Citizens
24 of Greenpoint made enough noise about
25 it to have the Mobil Company start to

1
2 toilet bowls, etc. The cans that we
3 cannot eat, we're not goats. There are
4 just garbage produced on a daily basis
5 from each and every one of us. How we
6 can minimize it is almost a miracle.
7 But the fact is because there is so
8 much of this negative impacts to our
9 community in Greenpoint, I beg you to
10 understand where I'm coming from. I
11 was not a member of OUTRAGE but I have
12 been to some of your meetings and I'm
13 outraged because the Sanitation
14 Department continues to lie to the
15 people.

16 We have to make sure that we
17 have them prepare documents that are
18 accurate and honest. So that's about
19 all I have to say I think, but please
20 understand what the situation is in the
21 Greenpoint area. It's like in the palm
22 of your hand, the largest water
23 pollution plant in Northern Greenpoint.
24 It's just impossible for
25 anybody in the area to say okay, let

1
2 clean up. But it is not completed and
3 there are still oil spills into the
4 Newtown Creek.

5 So please try to understand
6 what there is in one particular area,
7 so if I sound like I'm angry, I am. If
8 I sound like I don't want to see the
9 marine transfer station used or
10 retrofitted, understand where I'm
11 coming from. So when we say that we're
12 going to try to produce less garbage, I
13 don't know how we can do that. We're a
14 very wasteful people, extremely
15 wasteful people.

16 I know going to Pfizer Company
17 several years ago hoping that they
18 would have less packaging; all the
19 packaging that we have on pieces of,
20 whether it's for toothpaste, whether
21 it's medical, it gets to be
22 unbelievable.

23 So what we have here is an
24 awful lot of waste. We produce waste
25 on a daily basis through our sinks, our

1
2 'em open up the marine transfer station
3 once again, it's ridiculous. How can
4 we have all of that pollution in one
5 area? Oh, wow, we got the Godfather
6 (music playing.) Maybe that's the
7 Godfather that will save us from
8 Sanitation Department (applause and
9 laughs.)

10 I just really want to bring out
11 the fact that it is totally unjust,
12 it's an environmental injustice to
13 consider opening up that marine
14 transfer station at that site. Please
15 understand where we're coming from.
16 Thank you.

17 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
18 Our next speaker is Carlotta Giglio.

19 **MS. CARLOTTA GIGLIO:** Thank you
20 for the opportunity to speak this
21 evening, Commissioner. My name is
22 Carlotta Giglio and I am a resident of
23 Greenpoint/Williamsburg.

24 You've heard testimony this
25 evening and Monday relating to the

1
2 amount of garbage that passes in and
3 out of our community, and the
4 possibility based on the report of the
5 Department of Sanitation, of additional
6 garbage trucks running through our
7 neighborhood.

8 What boggles my mind is that
9 over 35 years ago, we had the
10 technology and foresight to land a man
11 on the moon. So how is it that in 2004
12 there is no viable plan to equitably
13 and without health issues to a
14 community, dispose of our residential
15 and commercial garbage?

16 Greenpoint/Williamsburg has 16
17 waste transfer stations which processes
18 over 35 percent of the entire City's
19 garbage. Literally thousands of trucks
20 carrying 13,000 tons of garbage, rumble
21 through our neighborhood on a daily
22 basis. Yet the commercial waste study
23 states that there is no significant
24 negative impacts on our community.

25 Well, I'm here to tell you that

1
2 several bouts with bronchitis, viral
3 infection, sinus infections, pneumonia,
4 etc. This has also had an impact on me
5 financially and sociologically. And I
6 might tell you Commissioner, I didn't
7 retire so that I could spend everyday
8 in my life in a doctor's office.

9 The noise caused by these
10 trucks and the chain reaction or horns
11 and car alarms they set off are to say
12 the least, very unnerving. I have had
13 not a decent night's sleep in years.
14 And you need only to look at the
15 pedestrians holding their noses and
16 covering their faces when these trucks
17 pass to know how foul the odors are.

18 The amount of Waste Management
19 trucks coupled with the other truck and
20 vehicle traffic on Metropolitan Avenue
21 have caused structural damage to my
22 home. Yes, I say my home because I've
23 lived here for over 52 years.

24 I am sure many on the panel
25 wonder why I don't move. Well, I say

1
2 this report is erroneous on many
3 levels. And I can't believe that those
4 who conducted this study can place
5 their heads on their pillows at night
6 knowing full well that they are
7 destroying a community, a fast-growing
8 residential community I might add and
9 the health of those who reside within.

10 Now if I could only turn my
11 page. I live on Metropolitan Avenue.
12 I know it's late and everyone else
13 spoke and no one else really wants to
14 hear what I have to say, but I think
15 it's important.

16 **THE AUDIENCE:** Yes, we do.

17 **MS. CARLOTTA GIGLIO:** I live on
18 Metropolitan Avenue, two and a half
19 blocks from the BQE, and I can tell you
20 first hand that as a result of all the
21 garbage that passes my house on a daily
22 basis, I have suffered with health
23 issues.

24 I retired almost two years now
25 and in this last year alone I've had

1
2 this is my home, because my roots are
3 here. I love this neighborhood and I
4 love my neighbors. I was baptized
5 here, received my Communion,
6 confirmation, I was married here, my
7 daughter was born here. And I'll be
8 damned if I'm going to be driven out by
9 garbage trucks or have to live wearing
10 a gas mask because of them.

11 It is the opinion of many in
12 this neighborhood that because we are
13 perceived as poor, and a diverse
14 community, that we will not band
15 together and fight for our rights and
16 perhaps that is why this neighborhood
17 was chosen as the garbage dump of New
18 York. But let me tell you that we will
19 fight so that our legacy to our
20 children and our grandchildren will not
21 be gas masks, ear plugs and daily
22 doctors visits.

23 I appeal to you as fellow
24 citizens of this great City, please do
25 not continue to destroy this community,

1
 2 go back to the drawing board,
 3 reconsider this present survey; I even
 4 invite you as guests to my home for at
 5 least one week to see for yourselves
 6 what it's like to live under the
 7 conditions that we live under.
 8 Please, create a plan suitable
 9 for the 21st century involving all the
 10 boroughs that is a fair and safe
 11 solution for disposal of all garbage.
 12 Thank you (applause.)
 13 If I may, I'd just like to say
 14 one more thing Commissioner, today I
 15 was walking down Metropolitan Avenue
 16 past 132, it's an elementary school
 17 there and I was with my boyfriend's two
 18 grandchildren, raise your hand,
 19 (persons comply) Justin and Jerry, and
 20 they asked -- I was talking to someone
 21 who told them I was going to a meeting
 22 tonight and unsolicited, Justin said to
 23 me, "Carlotta, would you please tell
 24 them that in the morning we have to
 25 stand in front of the school holding

1
 2 our noses because the odor is so bad."
 3 And when it comes, becomes very warm
 4 because in June they don't have
 5 air-conditioning, they're in the middle
 6 building, they are not allowed to open
 7 their windows because of the odor and
 8 the noise. How the children can
 9 concentrate is beyond me. But this is
 10 what he said and I thought I would
 11 deliver that message to you. Thank you
 12 (applause.)
 13 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 14 The next speaker is Venus Bonnett.
 15 **MS. VENUS BONNETT:** (Applause)
 16 Good evening everybody, my name is
 17 Venus Bonnet, I'm from the Cooper Park
 18 Houses which is a New York City Housing
 19 Authority Project and we have 700 units
 20 in that development of 13 buildings.
 21 However, I've been living in
 22 this area since 1955 and it was very
 23 nice before, it still is nice now and I
 24 can only elaborate on what everyone
 25 else has already said. But the main

1
 2 thing I'm worried about is the children
 3 that goes to the school in the
 4 neighborhood. And it's the smells that
 5 you have on Metropolitan Avenue when
 6 you standing there waiting on the bus
 7 to get over to the project. Sometime
 8 it so bad, especially when it's hot
 9 like now, it smells so bad sometimes
 10 you start to throw up before you even
 11 can get on the bus. That's how bad it
 12 is when the weather is very, very hot.
 13 And there's a lot of asthma. I
 14 -- my daughter works in Woodhull
 15 Hospital and she has to work with the
 16 asthma when she goes to work and when
 17 she comes home, she always have asthma.
 18 I was to a coalition meeting,
 19 coalition meeting by Assemblyman Vito
 20 Lopez about two weeks ago and we had a
 21 Dr. Fishkin from Woodhull Hospital and
 22 he was talking about the amount of
 23 asthma cases at Woodhull Hospital
 24 alone. He says they have the largest
 25 amount of asthma cases in New York

1
 2 City, the largest amount of emphysema
 3 cases in New York City. So we do have
 4 a problem and I believe it's because of
 5 the garbage. Thank you very much
 6 (applause.)
 7 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 8 I'm trying to make out the name of the
 9 next speaker. Joe, is it Rendler?
 10 Reemer.
 11 **MR. JOE REEMER:** (Applause)
 12 Thank you for giving me this chance to
 13 be here tonight and have discussion
 14 with you. Again, my name is Joe Reemer
 15 and I represent the organization known
 16 as Save Our Streets which we are
 17 affiliated with OUTRAGE.
 18 About five, six years ago when
 19 we got involved with OUTRAGE, one of
 20 the issues that we brought up was the
 21 illegal truck traffic throughout the
 22 communities in both Greenpoint and
 23 Williamsburg. After a period of time
 24 we started putting things together and
 25 I want to give a rough idea of what

1
 2 happened.
 3 2002 we did a survey on our own
 4 of truck traffic going through the
 5 community and we zeroed in on garbage
 6 trucks. I want to give you a rough
 7 idea what happened.
 8 Survey was done in June of --
 9 I'm sorry, July of 2002, Metropolitan
 10 Avenue, between the hours of 8:30 a.m.
 11 and 10:00 a.m., 93 garbage trucks went
 12 down that street.
 13 Between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30
 14 p.m., 28. When you average these
 15 figures out, we came up with a tonnage
 16 figure, a tonnage figure of 1575 and we
 17 also broke it down to one truck per
 18 minute, garbage truck, that doesn't
 19 include any other trucks, this is all
 20 garbage trucks.
 21 The second part we did which
 22 I'll speak about later 'cause I do live
 23 near Vandervoort Avenue again, the same
 24 hours, 9:30 to 11, 130 trucks. 2:30 to
 25 3:30 in the afternoon on the same day,

1
 2 82 trucks. That was broken down to
 3 tonnage of 2940 and two trucks per
 4 minute.
 5 Now, I'm going to tell you,
 6 this survey was done by us, by OUTRAGE
 7 and I conducted the survey on
 8 Vandervoort Avenue myself, and if I have
 9 to pick up my hand and swear to God I
 10 did it, (indicating) the figures are
 11 right, I'll do it.
 12 Bushwick Avenue, it's basically
 13 in the time frame like an hour and a
 14 half to an hour and a half, so I'm
 15 going to go through it fast.
 16 Bushwick Avenue it came out to
 17 298 tons which was one truck per four
 18 minutes. Grand Street, the average
 19 figure was 578 tons which gave us one
 20 truck for every four minutes. Grand
 21 Street in Bushwick gave us a tonnage
 22 figure of 525 with one truck every four
 23 minutes. Meeker Avenue at Vandervoort,
 24 if you're not familiar with the area,
 25 this is sort of the intersection that

1
 2 goes down underneath the Kosciuszko
 3 Bridge where I think there's
 4 approximately six or seven transfer
 5 stations located.
 6 That figure averaged 2450 in
 7 tonnage. Unfortunately, we don't have
 8 a figure as to the amount of trucks,
 9 but I can tell you in the morning we
 10 had 72 trucks and in the afternoon we
 11 had 63 on a given day.
 12 Meeker Avenue and Kingsland
 13 Avenue, came up with the same figure
 14 with a tonnage of 2109 which was one
 15 truck per minute. So you can see the
 16 volume of truck, truck traffic we have.
 17 Now, a lot of these streets
 18 that we mentioned involve people that
 19 live on Conselyea Street, Orient
 20 Avenue, Warren, all this section over
 21 here where the bulk of these transfer
 22 stations are located.
 23 We did notice, oh, I'm sorry, I
 24 forgot about Greenpoint Avenue and
 25 McGuinness, they wound up with 700 tons

1
 2 which was one truck per four minutes.
 3 Now I want to share with you
 4 something, I live on Beadel Street,
 5 Beadel Street is located between
 6 Vandervoort Avenue and Porter Avenue and
 7 we're one block away from the
 8 Greenpoint little league field.
 9 If you're not familiar with
 10 that area, we're about two blocks away
 11 from where the tanks, the tanks that
 12 came down on. I'm going to share with
 13 you my experience, what I face
 14 everyday.
 15 Prior to this survey, I was
 16 complaining to whatever city agency was
 17 necessary to stop this illegal truck
 18 traffic. I've lived there for over 30
 19 years. I can say to you truthfully in
 20 the last 15 years, due to the transfer
 21 stations, problems have come about.
 22 I have lived with trucking
 23 companies, I was in their location
 24 under the bridge. Today, it's all
 25 transfer stations and I can't live with

1
 2 them.
 3 I can tell you truthfully and
 4 points were made about what's
 5 happening. The impact it's had on my
 6 block, as far as structural damage to
 7 houses, the environment -- the air,
 8 forget about it, the air quality is
 9 terrible. The damage we've had done to
 10 our property on cars and even our own
 11 property because of these trucks just
 12 keep building and building and
 13 building.
 14 Our complaints are not heard.
 15 I have complained several times to the
 16 Sanitation Department about an issue
 17 that's very serious in the area and
 18 that's the illegal dropping off of roll
 19 off containers on streets surrounding
 20 my block, especially by the little
 21 league field.
 22 I'll give you an example of
 23 what happened last year. Two
 24 containers were dropped off on Porter
 25 Avenue right along -- one of them was

1
 2 right, right alongside one of our --
 3 the corner house, and the other one was
 4 across the street.
 5 The first week what happened
 6 was, I called up the Sanitation
 7 Department, I told them about it,
 8 nothing happened. The second week came
 9 around, I went through the same
 10 procedure, I dialed 311, we went
 11 through the same thing, they
 12 transferred me over to somebody in
 13 Brooklyn.
 14 Four weeks later, four weeks
 15 later, I contacted the Public Advocates
 16 Office and within three days it was
 17 done. So these transfer stations, what
 18 they're doing to a neighborhood and it
 19 seems that the City is not responding
 20 to our complaints, we will not tolerate
 21 it anymore.
 22 So I'm asking you to think
 23 about what's going on, all the transfer
 24 stations in the area that I give you
 25 the locations of this truck traffic,

1
 2 this is what the problem -- this is one
 3 of the major problems we're facing
 4 right now.
 5 I can't tell you how many
 6 accidents we had. I just witnessed an
 7 accident the other day between a
 8 garbage truck and a private car on
 9 Meeker Avenue. But this is continuous
 10 practice.
 11 The other thing I want to tell
 12 you about, slipped my mind, bear with
 13 me. What's happening is the presence
 14 of 16, I believe it's 16 transfer
 15 stations in this particular area.
 16 Well, you heard most of the complaints
 17 from the people are, this is what's
 18 happening to our neighborhood. We've
 19 had several fatalities at locations due
 20 to truck traffic.
 21 When trucks illegally come down
 22 the street, they're disrupting
 23 everything. The truck routes are not
 24 followed.
 25 Second of all, I'll give you an

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 2 example, I have a corner block called
 3 Porter Avenue, that's right off of
 4 Vandervoort Avenue. What happens is
 5 the trucks turn off by our little
 6 league field and they traverse the
 7 area, it's illegal street.
 8 Prior to 2000, no, I'm sorry,
 9 in 2002 I did my own survey and I
 10 counted trucks within an hour span, I
 11 counted 15 illegal trucks. There was a
 12 combination of private sanitation
 13 trucks and other trucks.
 14 This morning I just happened to
 15 be sitting outside waiting for a
 16 delivery. Between the hours of 11 and
 17 12, I counted 27 private carting
 18 company trucks illegally going, taking
 19 this route. This is not part of the
 20 truck route network.
 21 So the figures that we came up
 22 with and the figures that you people
 23 came up with are wrong on Vandervoort
 24 avenue because they skim around and
 25 they don't come through the legal truck

1
 2 routes. This is the problem we're
 3 having.
 4 I think what has to be done and
 5 I agree a hundred percent, open up all
 6 the MTSSs, give everybody a fair share.
 7 When Mayor Mike turns around and says
 8 all New Yorkers got to get together, we
 9 got to, you know, join hands. But
 10 guess what, that's what it should be,
 11 all New Yorkers should join hands to
 12 take a fair share of what's happening
 13 (applause.)
 14 I also would try to consider,
 15 the prima donnas in Manhattan, they got
 16 to do it too. They're no better than
 17 us. Because we here in Brooklyn and
 18 all the other boroughs are the backbone
 19 of this city. Thank you (applause.)
 20 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 21 Our next speaker is Sal Cantelni.
 22 **MR. SAL CANTELNI:** Good
 23 evening, I'm a cofounder of Save Our
 24 Streets, a member of OUTRAGE, a
 25 lifetime member of Kingsland Avenue up

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 2 in the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn.
 3 Have been fighting illegal truck and
 4 trailer traffic since 1978.
 5 Within a six-block radius from
 6 Kingsland Avenue we have two catholic
 7 elementary schools, two churches, two
 8 public schools, public park, each one is
 9 ignored by illegal truck and trailer
 10 drivers coming through.
 11 There are signs on the street
 12 that says no thru truck traffic. Don't
 13 mean nothing. You got red lights on
 14 there, don't mean nothing. Pedestrians
 15 going around, don't mean nothing.
 16 Assemblyman Lentol with the
 17 backing of Senator Golden, put into law
 18 the heavy compliance for truck and
 19 trailer traffic illegally coming down
 20 our blocks. It was passed by the
 21 House, the Assembly, signed by Governor
 22 Pataki on August 31st of 2002, 2003,
 23 pardon me.
 24 Now, Councilman Yassky has
 25 asked for 300 DOT, Department of

1
 2 Traffic to get after the truck traffic.
 3 It was turned down by Commissioner
 4 Kelly. Why? We don't know. These
 5 trucks and trailer drivers don't give a
 6 damn about anybody. They'll ignore the
 7 people, they'll ignore pedestrians,
 8 there's no such thing as a pedestrian.
 9 What are we supposed to do with
 10 these people that tell us drop dead?
 11 I'm going through your block, we don't
 12 care what the hell you say.
 13 It's about time we, the people,
 14 tell the truck driver, "You drop dead."
 15 Get off our residential streets, we
 16 want our streets back because they
 17 belong to us, not to you.
 18 We have gasoline trucks coming
 19 through our blocks. Not one gas
 20 station on the block. I don't know of
 21 any resident that orders a gasoline
 22 delivery for the home, and yet they
 23 come through. Something has to be
 24 done. What's going to be done? We,
 25 the people, have to stand up, but if we

1
 2 don't get backing, what do we got? We
 3 got nothing. We need these laws to
 4 protect our people. We, the people,
 5 want our streets back and sooner or
 6 later we're gonna get them back. Amen
 7 and amen, that's it (applause.)
 8 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 9 Our next speaker is Ann-Marie
 10 DiGennaro.
 11 **MS. ANN-MARIE DIGENNARO:** Hi,
 12 my family has lived in East
 13 Williamsburg Industrial Park even
 14 before it was known as East
 15 Williamsburg Industrial Park. They've
 16 lived here for over a hundred years.
 17 Along with other members of
 18 Brooklyn Community District One, we
 19 have suffered the consequences of
 20 decisions made by others outside of
 21 this community to overburden us with
 22 the multitude of waste transfer
 23 stations, the DEP's largest sewage
 24 treatment plant and power plant.
 25 Members of my extended family

1
2 and other community residents suffer
3 from birth defects, cancer, heart
4 disease, immune system illnesses such
5 as lupus and lung diseases. Almost all
6 can be caused or exacerbated by
7 environmental toxins.

8 Already our community processes
9 40 percent of the solid waste produced
10 by New York City and already processes
11 50 percent of its raw sewage. The
12 total number of community residents
13 does not comprise nearly half of the
14 percentages of the City whose waste to
15 which we play host. Although the study
16 focuses on one site for waste transfer
17 within our community, it must not be
18 conducted in a vacuum.

19 The impact of the proposed
20 alternatives must be studied in
21 accordance with CEQR and SEQRA,
22 adjusted by the following three points:
23 One, the study area must include
24 schools, homes, parks and wildlife.
25 Even DCP has included a study in the

1
2 truck traffic to and from the marine
3 waste transfer station. Now I have
4 some questions.
5 Number one, if the decision is
6 made to close land-based waste transfer
7 stations coinciding with the marine
8 waste transfer stations opening or
9 openings I should say, will those
10 closed stations never be permitted to
11 be reopen at a later time? Do you have
12 an answer?

13 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** The forum for
14 this evening is not a question and
15 answer.

16 **MS. ANN-MARIE DIGENNARO:** Oh,
17 it's not.

18 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** We'll respond
19 to all questions at a future date, yes,
20 as part of our --

21 **MS. ANN-MARIE DIGENNARO:** And
22 will you respond in writing, how will
23 you respond?

24 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** We will have
25 responses to all the comments an

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2 EIS of the rezoned area for the
3 wildlife that inhabits these parts. So
4 I believe you should do that as well,
5 since you're polluting these parts.

6 You must use, number two, using
7 the worst-case scenarios rather than
8 the average for assessing projected
9 impacts caused by clustering of such
10 sites.

11 Number three, facing the
12 assessment of clustering of actual
13 waste transfer station operating within
14 the community as opposed to fictional
15 prototype. Any new systems if approved
16 under strategic waste management plan,
17 must coincide with the closing of
18 significant numbers of the waste
19 transfer stations currently approved
20 and/or operating within our community.

21 The environmental impact study
22 must include the alternative whereby
23 ramps leading directly from the
24 Kosciuszko Bridge to and from the
25 plant, are built and utilized for any

1
2 questions on our website.

3 **MS. ANN-MARIE DIGENNARO:** Oh,
4 well, there are a number of community
5 residents here that do not have access
6 to the internet or cannot read that.

7 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** If you've
8 signed in and given us your address,
9 you'll get copy.

10 **MS. ANN-MARIE DIGENNARO:** Okay,
11 thank you (applause.)

12 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Is Evelyn Cruz
13 here?

14 **MS. EVELYN CRUZ:** Yes, thank
15 you. Good evening, how are we tonight?
16 Listening to a lot of concerns, right?
17 Good, good, my name is Evelyn, I'm here
18 representing Congresswoman Valezquez.
19 I'm just going to summarize our
20 statement and the written points will
21 be forthcoming, okay.

22 On behalf of the Congresswoman
23 Valezquez, we thank you for the
24 opportunity to submit these comments in
25 response to the draft scope of work

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 2 proposed to the Greenpoint marine
 3 transfer station and possible
 4 alternatives along with Newtown Creek
 5 maritime industrial area under the new
 6 waterfront revitalization plan for
 7 Greenpoint/Williamsburg.

8 As a representative of New
 9 York's 12th Congressional District
 10 which includes Brooklyn, Queens and
 11 Manhattan, I have been actively working
 12 in Washington to end environmental
 13 degradation in the -- in my district
 14 and nation-wide.

15 In particular, in the
 16 communities of Greenpoint and
 17 Williamsburg which continue to be of
 18 great concern. It is environmentally
 19 unjust for Greenpoint and Williamsburg
 20 to continue to bear the
 21 disproportionate number of waste
 22 transfer stations and other health
 23 hazard sites throughout the community.

24 It is unjust that there are
 25 more than 16 waste transfer stations

1
 2 directly, the serious threat to the
 3 community's health and welfare.
 4 The reopening of the marine
 5 transfer stations would be an
 6 inequitable alternative to the current
 7 system which overburdens three
 8 neighborhoods, including ours.

9 I understand that the City's
 10 plan will equitably retrofit the City's
 11 entire network of marine transfer
 12 stations to compact, containerize and
 13 export solid waste via waterways,
 14 rather than by truck. This is designed
 15 to substantially reduce over 30,000
 16 tons of solid waste moved in New York
 17 City each day by dirty, diesel trucks,
 18 which almost exclusively travel through
 19 low-income and unrepresented
 20 neighborhoods.

21 However, for the solid waste
 22 management plan to succeed, it is
 23 imperative that DOS significantly,
 24 significantly reduce the number of
 25 land-based transfer stations in

1
 2 that process more than 35 percent of
 3 the entire City's garbage. It is
 4 unjust that more than 4,000 trucks,
 5 4,000 truck loads, loaded with tons of
 6 rubble continue to heavily rumble down
 7 our streets causing environmental and
 8 structural damage.

9 These trucks not only cause
 10 noise pollution, but greatly contribute
 11 to this community's increase of asthma
 12 and poor air quality to name a few.

13 The waste transfer stations
 14 combined with the clustering of other
 15 polluting facilities like the power
 16 plant, the Newtown Creek Sewage
 17 Treatment Plant which is recognized as
 18 one of the largest plants of its kind
 19 on the East Coast, the Diamond Asphalt
 20 Plant, cement plant and existing and
 21 future roadway and bridge projects, are
 22 an environmental health disaster for
 23 this community.

24 The City and DOS cannot afford
 25 to exacerbate, whether indirectly or

1
 2 Greenpoint and Williamsburg (applause.)
 3 DOS -- DOS must simultaneously
 4 work to develop a plan that addresses
 5 the closing of land-based stations and
 6 the opening or alternative of the
 7 Greenpoint MTS. This process should
 8 include the participation of all
 9 community stakeholders.

10 The plan must permanently
 11 reduce the amount of waste processed in
 12 Greenpoint and Williamsburg. Excuse
 13 me, currently commercial waste accounts
 14 for 70 percent of the waste processed
 15 in Williamsburg/Greenpoint. Commercial
 16 waste should be processed at all MTSS.
 17 It is important to reanalyze the DEIS
 18 and the effects of that commercial
 19 waste processing has on our community.

20 How can -- because your report
 21 stated that commercial waste was not,
 22 you know, did not have an adverse
 23 impact to the neighborhood, we totally
 24 disagree. I mean, how can a community
 25 who has so many transfer stations, not

1
2 get, you know, adverse impact by these
3 transfer stations and truck diesel
4 along the neighborhoods? So it's a
5 real concern. We would like you to
6 please reanalyze that part of the
7 report.

8 It is important for the City to
9 move to ensure that each borough
10 becomes self sufficient in the
11 processing and management of its
12 borough's waste. Failure to do so will
13 jeopardize the revitalization projects
14 throughout the community.

15 Lastly, DEIS -- lastly, the
16 DEIS must study the communities overall
17 traffic impacts of the proposed
18 rezoning of Greenpoint/Williamsburg
19 Waterfront Community as announced by
20 the New York City Department of City
21 Planning.

22 The proposed developments will
23 create more than 8,000 units and
24 increase population density by over
25 20,000 over the next 10 to 12 years.

1
2 It is critical for the DEIS to
3 reanalyze the impact of the proposed
4 converted MTS or its alternative.

5 In closing, I ask you to take
6 into consideration the information from
7 today's speakers and urge you to
8 develop a thorough and comprehensive
9 solid waste management plan that does
10 not overburden and again, over saturate
11 and impact on Greenpoint/Williamsburg.

12 Greenpoint and Williamsburg
13 have a right to equal protection under
14 the law to all environmental statutes
15 and regulations without discrimination
16 based on race, ethnicity or
17 socioeconomic status.

18 This concept applies to
19 government, governmental actions at all
20 levels, local, state and federal, as
21 well as private industry activities.
22 Environmental justice demands that
23 public policy be based on mutual
24 respect and justice for all people,
25 free from any form of discrimination or

1
2 bias. It mandates that the right to
3 ethical balance and responsible use of
4 land and renewal of resources in the
5 interest of people and other living
6 matter. It calls for the protection
7 from production and the disposal of
8 toxic waste, hazardous waste, poison
9 and testing that threaten the
10 fundamental right to clean air, land
11 and water.

12 Again, I thank you for the
13 opportunity to express these comments
14 and I urge you to seriously consider
15 the proposed scope of work. Thank you
16 (applause.)

17 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
18 Michael Rochford.

19 **MR. MICHAEL ROCHFORD:** It's ten
20 after eight, we started tonight at
21 5:30, can everyone give themselves a
22 hand for hanging in there? (applause)

23 What are we waiting for? What
24 do we want to stop?

25 **THE AUDIENCE:** Garbage.

1
2 **MR. MICHAEL ROCHFORD:** When do
3 we want to stop it?

4 **THE AUDIENCE:** Now.

5 **MR. MICHAEL ROCHFORD:** What do
6 we want to stop?

7 **THE AUDIENCE:** Garbage.

8 **MR. MICHAEL ROCHFORD:** Thank
9 you. Just needed a little pick-me-up.

10 My name is Michael Rochford,
11 I'm executive director of the St.
12 Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation
13 Company, we're a nonprofit community
14 development group, we represent and
15 serve over 10,000 people here in
16 Greenpoint and Williamsburg, included
17 in those people are over 100 families
18 that live on Metropolitan Avenue,
19 including seniors that everyday fear
20 crossing Metropolitan Avenue facing
21 these mammoth trucks as they come
22 through our community.

23 We also serve youth and many of
24 our youth going to and from school into
25 our afterschool program are faced with

1
 2 the same dilemma as they cross these
 3 streets everyday. And we also serve
 4 businesses, who many of which are cheek
 5 to jowl with many of the transfer
 6 stations and their employees suffer
 7 with the impossible conditions of not
 8 being able to open their windows
 9 because of the smells emitted from the
 10 transfer stations.

11 Many a people don't know, but
 12 in the 1990s our community didn't have
 13 any transfer stations and they came in
 14 almost overnight, unchecked by
 15 government and we turned within only a
 16 couple of years, we had as many as 30
 17 transfer stations had opened up
 18 illegally, unregulated, unpermitted and
 19 we were saddled, and soon became not
 20 only, you heard the volume numbers
 21 before, but there's nowhere in the
 22 community that has more waste transfer
 23 processing in it -- within its borders
 24 than this community here.

25 Our narrow residential streets

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 2 to be exposed and needs to be
 3 understood very clearly before the SWMP
 4 plan goes forward.

5 We need to have a marine
 6 transfer system and it must help us
 7 reduce the land-base transfer capacity.
 8 The Mayor issued -- announced that plan
 9 several years ago and it was fair and
 10 equitable and we have to insist that
 11 that plan be adopted and the capacity
 12 within our community be reduced.

13 We must reduce this volume and
 14 we must recognize that there's also two
 15 new sanitation garages that are about
 16 to open within our community within the
 17 next, I think 12 months and that's
 18 going to add an additional hundreds of
 19 trucks, garbage trucks that are going
 20 to be coming through our community.

21 You heard before about the
 22 water treatment plant, serves three
 23 boroughs, now we'll have garbage --
 24 garages that serve not only
 25 Williamsburg and Greenpoint, but other

1
 2 were never intended to handle the kind
 3 of truck traffic we're faced, that we
 4 see 24 hours a day coming through our
 5 community.

6 The moratorium that we won
 7 several years ago was the first relief
 8 we got in the growth, the unchecked
 9 growth of these transfer stations and
 10 this solid waste management plan offers
 11 us the first and perhaps the only
 12 opportunity to reduce the volume of
 13 garbage processed in our community.

14 We think the plan must include
 15 several, several things. It must be
 16 comprehensive and equitable, you've
 17 heard that before. We must, before the
 18 plan even gets considered, many people
 19 touched on this, we need to have an
 20 accurate assessment of the impact on
 21 our community. And we intend to find
 22 ways to challenge the study.

23 You heard the terms used before
 24 of lies and falsehoods that are
 25 imbedded into that study and that needs

1
 2 communities as well. And this is the
 3 place where the overburdening of our
 4 community must end and we depend on the
 5 Department of Sanitation to take all
 6 the comments that you heard tonight,
 7 people could be home doing many other
 8 things, they'll be here over three
 9 hours tonight, to convince you that we
 10 need to incorporate the recommendations
 11 we made tonight into the solid waste
 12 management plan and give us some final
 13 relief (applause.)

14 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 15 Our next speaker is Ken Diamondstone.

16 **MR. KEN DIAMONDSTONE:** Good
 17 evening, my name is Ken Diamondstone
 18 and as chair of the Brooklyn Solid
 19 Waste Advisory Board, I'm here to
 20 present an abbreviated version tonight
 21 of our testimony and I thank you for
 22 this opportunity.

23 The Greenpoint/Williamsburg
 24 section of Brooklyn and -- is now the
 25 very epicenter of all New York City

1
2 solid waste activities. The new
3 20-year SWMP will either alleviate the
4 current untenable burdens borne by
5 these communities or exacerbate that
6 burden.

7 The Brooklyn SWAB joins
8 Greenpoint and Williamsburg in saying
9 we cannot be expected to accept that
10 burden for another 20 years, nor for
11 that matter should any Brooklynite
12 (applause.)

13 So with regard to the proposed
14 3000-ton per day Greenpoint MTS, if it
15 is to be built, it must be accompanied
16 by ironclad guarantees of reduced
17 tonnage offsets at other Greenpoint
18 transfer stations. The ratio of
19 offsets probably should be closer to
20 two to one just to simply restore these
21 communities back to health.

22 We propose identifying the
23 specific sites for reduction in permit
24 capacity and outlining clear,
25 enforceable proposals to ensure that

1
2 private trucker to do the same and
3 achieve the same emission reductions,
4 emission reductions, should be
5 considered.

6 Page one of the scoping
7 document says it will define the City's
8 goals and objectives and describe major
9 new programs that will be implemented,
10 but the SWAB submits that the scoping
11 document falls short of that goal, is
12 in itself short-sighted and misses
13 opportunities to be innovative in its
14 20-year plan, and as such, it
15 shortchanges us all. It pays only lip
16 service to preventing waste and to
17 achieving enormous cost benefits to
18 meaningful waste reduction programs.

19 While the goal of zero waste
20 may seem like an impossible objective,
21 only by setting that goal will we in
22 New York move in the direction of zero
23 waste. We see the omission of zero
24 waste goals in this SWMP as a
25 disturbing and glaring and sad

1
2 these capacity reductions will actually
3 occur; also ensuring that currently
4 unutilized permit capacity remain full
5 or eliminated.

6 We strongly urge a major
7 expansion of the primary study area for
8 the Greenpoint MTS area from a quarter
9 of a mile to three quarters of a mile
10 because most of the residential
11 concentrations are further from this
12 proposed MTS than from most others in
13 the City. We think this is a very
14 important and necessary modification.

15 The draft EIS should not only
16 quantify emission and particulate
17 matter, but evaluate any known methods
18 for mitigating these truck and transfer
19 station emissions, including but
20 limited to, converting New York City
21 packer trucks via the hybrid vehicles
22 or other lower-emitting vehicles within
23 the first seven years of the plan.

24 An analysis of any incentives
25 available to the City to encourage

1
2 omission.

3 Nor is the scope broad enough
4 to evaluate the real possibilities that
5 landfill states might cap or cut off
6 access to their landfills if not in
7 actuality, then through massive
8 surcharges or taxes to New York City.

9 So alternates -- alternatives
10 to landfills and waste export should be
11 considered if and when New York City
12 access to these landfills is reduced or
13 cut off. We believe that such a cutoff
14 would create an environmental crisis of
15 monumental proportions and yet it is
16 not being anticipated or planned for.

17 Within the plan there is no
18 mention of the 20-year contracts
19 between the City and the private sector
20 and especially any charges that make
21 guarantees of tonnage or percentage of
22 municipal waste. These terms, such
23 terms would be a huge disincentive to
24 environmental responsibility and that
25 there would be a major disincentive to

1
2 waste reduction, improved recycling and
3 any new technologies which reduce
4 export tonnage and improve the
5 environment.

6 So we also strongly urge that
7 the DEIS evaluate how our waste, excuse
8 me, might be used in more environmental
9 and productive fashions rather than
10 simply being discarded into landfills,
11 it could be better used as feed stock
12 for manufacturers of recycle, for
13 manufacturers of products with recycled
14 content.

15 The document should evaluate
16 various new technologies such as
17 anaerobic digestion and gasification,
18 and integrate them into the plan.
19 These have the potential in as few as
20 the next five years, to either
21 eliminate or reduce significantly the
22 need for our MTSSs, that it could
23 drastically reduce the environmental
24 impacts both in Greenpoint as well as
25 throughout the City.

1
2 New York continues to treat the
3 impacts of the municipal and commercial
4 waste sector. The Brooklyn SWAB says
5 nonsense, garbage stinks and pollutes
6 whether from the commercial or
7 residential sector. So we therefore,
8 urge the solid waste management plan to
9 design the MTSSs with sufficient
10 capacities so that commercial waste can
11 be processed within them as well,
12 eliminating the need for the land-based
13 putrescible commercial transfer
14 stations.

15 And lastly, the Brooklyn Solid
16 Waste Advisory Board strongly supports
17 this proposed barge-to-rail alternative
18 to truck export, we want to be clear
19 about that. This is an excellent and
20 significant change in the way we
21 process and export our garbage and we
22 support it and have for many years.

23 However, Greenpoint has been
24 the whipping boy for New York City for
25 far too long and we believe that they

1
2 have the right to insist that no MTS
3 should go in line in Brooklyn and
4 especially in Greenpoint until
5 Manhattan and its communities also
6 agree to accept their own three MTSSs
7 (applause.) Let's restore fair share
8 and make sure that this is a
9 system-wide and City-wide process
10 rather than just one that affects
11 Brooklyn. Thank you very much
12 (applause.)

13 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
14 Michael Hofmann.

15 **MR. MICHAEL HOFMANN:** Hi, my
16 name is Mike Hofmann, I'm on the board
17 of directors of GWAPP, Greenpoint
18 Waterfront Association for Parks and
19 Planning. The Greenpoint Waterfront
20 Association for Parks and Planning,
21 GWAPP, a New York and IRS 501(c)(3)
22 not-for-profit corporation, is a
23 coalition of over 40 local religious
24 institutions, community organizations
25 and advocacy groups dedicated to

1
2 improving the quality of life for all
3 the residents of North Brooklyn by
4 fostering the creation of open space
5 and ensuring the sound environmental
6 management of the area's industrial
7 waterfront.

8 Founded in 2000, GWAPP has
9 effectively advocated on behalf of the
10 waterfront and open space areas of
11 Greenpoint and Williamsburg. Its work
12 has included defeating major power
13 generation projects, open space
14 planning for the proposed rezoning of
15 the community's East River waterfront
16 and implementing and enforcing the new
17 waterfront revitalization plan for
18 Greenpoint/Williamsburg's multi-use
19 waterfront area.

20 GWAPP submits the following
21 comments in response to the draft scope
22 of work proposed for the comprehensive
23 solid waste management plan as it
24 applies to the Greenpoint marine
25 transfer station, and possible

1
 2 alternatives along the Newtown Creek
 3 significant maritime industrial area
 4 under the NWRP, the proposed action.
 5 In submitting these comments,
 6 GWAPP believes that the SWMP will only
 7 be successful if it helps to
 8 significantly reduce the number of
 9 land-based transfer stations in
 10 Greenpoint/Williamsburg, permanently
 11 reduces the total amount of waste
 12 currently processed in
 13 Greenpoint/Williamsburg, moves the
 14 City's boroughs, especially in
 15 Manhattan towards self-sufficiency in
 16 disposing of its own residential and
 17 commercial waste, and recognizes that
 18 the Greenpoint MTS is poorly sited to
 19 meet the goals and objectives of the
 20 proposed SWMP.
 21 The DEIS must reanalyze the
 22 commercial waste because it has an
 23 adverse environmental impact on the
 24 communities of Greenpoint and
 25 Williamsburg.

1
 2 As a base-line issue, the DEIS
 3 must reanalyze the effects of
 4 commercial waste and processing on
 5 Greenpoint/Williamsburg. The current
 6 commercial waste study is fundamentally
 7 flawed when it finds that transfer
 8 stations do not have an adverse impact
 9 on local residential communities.
 10 Unless the draft scope includes
 11 a provision to restudy the adverse
 12 impacts of commercial waste transfer
 13 processing -- acknowledges the adverse
 14 impact as a base assumption on the
 15 SWMP, any further work will not be
 16 acceptable.
 17 Moreover, GWAPP believes that
 18 incorporating the current commercial
 19 waste study and work going forward will
 20 open the DEIS subject to legal
 21 challenge.
 22 Number two, analyze -- analysis
 23 of alternatives must include on/off
 24 ramps in Queens and Brooklyn for the
 25 Kosciuszko Bridge reconstruction. As

1
 2 part of an EIS, the applicant must
 3 analyze the proposed action in the
 4 context of announced plans.
 5 The New York State Department
 6 of Transportation has announced plans
 7 to reconstruct the Kosciuszko Bridge by
 8 which the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway
 9 straddles the Newton Creek.
 10 The alternatives for the
 11 project should include on/off ramps in
 12 Brooklyn and Queens to provide
 13 commercial traffic access to both sides
 14 of the Newtown Creek SMIA to enable
 15 direct access to transfer stations in
 16 the affected areas and therefore, limit
 17 the impact of trucks traversing into
 18 residential areas.
 19 These ramps will allow more
 20 efficient access to the Newtown Creek
 21 SMIA for commercial traffic without
 22 entering residential areas. The DEIS
 23 should include an analysis of the
 24 traffic impacts on
 25 Greenpoint/Williamsburg and Greenpoint

1
 2 MTS, and the proposed alternative sites
 3 with on/off ramp servicing both the
 4 Brooklyn and Queens sides of the
 5 Newtown Creek SMIA.
 6 And I just want to add into
 7 that that I am a stakeholder in the
 8 Kosciuszko Bridge, I'm on the SAP
 9 Committee and it's very possible to do
 10 these ramps right now. I mean, you
 11 can't tell us in or 20 years oh, yeah,
 12 that's a good idea, because it will
 13 never be done.
 14 Traffic impact, impacts must
 15 analyze best alternatives to eliminate
 16 truck traffic and residential areas and
 17 keeping it within the SMIA.
 18 As part of the DEIS, the
 19 applicant will analyze the proposed
 20 action in terms of its consistency with
 21 the NWRP. The NWRP will permit the
 22 proposed action because the Greenpoint
 23 MTS and the proposed alternatives are
 24 located in the Newtown Creek SMIA where
 25 such activities can occur as of right

1
 2 under the NWRP.
 3 In the event that on/off ramps
 4 are not included on the Kosciuszko
 5 Bridge reconstruction, the DEIS
 6 analysis of the NWRP should determine
 7 whether the Greenpoint MTS or the other
 8 proposed alternative more effectively
 9 consolidates commercial truck traffic
 10 in the Newtown Creek SMIA and thereby
 11 avoid residential areas.
 12 The location that will best
 13 consolidate the commercial truck
 14 traffic and eliminate it from
 15 residential areas should be recommended
 16 as the preferred location.
 17 The DEIS must study borough
 18 self-sufficiency. The key to a fair
 19 and equitable SWMP will only be
 20 achieved with each borough handling the
 21 waste that it generates. The DEIS must
 22 study how borough self-sufficiency can
 23 achieve, can be achieved for both
 24 residential and commercial garbage.
 25 This must include studying the effects

1
 2 of 100 percent recycling for Manhattan
 3 commercial waste.
 4 In addition, the DEIS should
 5 also study an equity fund directly
 6 benefiting communities that handle
 7 commercial and residential waste that
 8 are processed from other boroughs.
 9 DEIS must study MTS
 10 construction offsetting and eliminating
 11 commercial permitting and processing.
 12 GWAPP supports encouraging the
 13 creation of marine and rail transfer
 14 links to remove waste from New York
 15 City because it will reduce the amount
 16 of long-haul trucking and unacceptable
 17 land-based transfer stations.
 18 The DEIS must analyze effects
 19 of closing the land-based transfer
 20 stations on a one-to-one offset ration
 21 basis for additional waste processing,
 22 process -- proposed to come through the
 23 Greenpoint MTS or any of the
 24 alternatives as a result of the
 25 proposed action.

1
 2 In addition, the DEIS must
 3 assure that one, the utilization
 4 amounts under the proposed action are
 5 reduced from the amount of waste
 6 processing occurring at the currently
 7 permitted facilities in
 8 Greenpoint/Williamsburg.
 9 Two, that there is a permanent
 10 moratorium on permitting new transfer
 11 station facilities in
 12 Greenpoint/Williamsburg, and three,
 13 that the permitted levels of existing
 14 in Greenpoint/Williamsburg waste
 15 transfer facilities are reduced to
 16 their current level of utilization and
 17 further reduced for the recommended
 18 offset of utilization of the proposed
 19 action for any alternatives.
 20 The DEIS must study the overall
 21 traffic impacts of the proposed action
 22 and the proposed comprehensive rezoning
 23 of the Greenpoint/Williamsburg
 24 waterfront and inland area.
 25 The DEIS must take into account

1
 2 all announced plans; the New York City
 3 Department of City Planning has
 4 proposed a comprehensive rezoning of
 5 the Greenpoint/Williamsburg waterfront.
 6 DCP projects that the rezoning will
 7 create over 8,000 new units of housing,
 8 17,000 new residents in the affected
 9 areas over the next ten years.
 10 The bulk of this housing is
 11 projected to occur in along Greenpoint
 12 waterfront in close proximity to a
 13 major point of ingress and egress into
 14 local area.
 15 The DEIS must analyze the
 16 impacts of the proposed converted MTS
 17 in Greenpoint in light of the projected
 18 increases of traffic resulting from the
 19 proposed rezoning and compare the
 20 cumulative impacts to the proposed
 21 action alternatives.
 22 GWAPP wants to thank you for
 23 the opportunity to provide these
 24 comments to draft the scope of work. I
 25 also want to add that concerning what

1
 2 this water treatment plant, DEP is
 3 giving an amenity to the community
 4 which is a nature walk around the
 5 plant, which happens to end at
 6 Kingsland Avenue and what begins at
 7 Kingsland Avenue, the waste transfer
 8 station. You can't have people going
 9 in one area and coming out another area
 10 with garbage trucks all over the place,
 11 it's impossible. Thank you (applause.)

12 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.

13 We'll take it. Our next speaker
 14 sign-up sheet has two names, Michael
 15 Lanzieri and Jerry Adamo.

16 **MR. JERRY ADAMO:** Hello, my
 17 name is Jerry Adamo (adjusting mic).
 18 Hello, my name is Jerry Adamo
 19 and I live in this neighborhood and I
 20 attend to PS 132 School located on
 21 Metropolitan Avenue.

22 On our way to school, there is
 23 always an awful odor on Metropolitan
 24 Avenue. It is so hard to breathe, the
 25 odor is so strong that we cannot keep

1
 2 (applause.)
 3 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 4 Our next speaker is Cindy P. Zuniga.
 5 **MS. CINDY P. ZUNIGA:**
 6 (Applause) When your last name starts
 7 with Z, you're used to being last so.
 8 I just have some comments, I'm
 9 just a life-long resident of this
 10 neighborhood and I've seen a lot of
 11 changes over the years some good and
 12 not so good. And what I've seen now
 13 with this situation is -- is really
 14 distressing to me as a resident, as a
 15 homeowner and just a pedestrian walking
 16 around the streets.

17 Metropolitan Avenue from Kent
 18 Avenue to Bushwick Avenue is a virtual
 19 drag strip for the 18-wheelers hauling
 20 waste. Union Avenue and Metro to
 21 Bushwick Avenue and Metro is almost
 22 primarily a residential area.

23 They stink of the garbage, the
 24 fume of the trucks and the noise is out
 25 of control for any residential area.

1
 2 our windows open in class. The garbage
 3 is causing a lot of health issues for
 4 people who live here.

5 Causing bad air quality is not
 6 fair and healthy to be that close. I
 7 cannot not even go out and play, the
 8 garbage attracts a lot of rats and
 9 roaches which is disgusting. Please
 10 stop the garbage, we are your future
 11 (applause.)

12 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Okay.

13 **MR. MICHAEL LANZIERI:** Hello,
 14 my name is Michael and I think that it
 15 is not healthy for the young kids to
 16 breathe in these awful smoke and fumes.
 17 Because of the trucks and the noise, we
 18 really can't concentrate on our
 19 specialized tests and that's why a lot
 20 of students are failing.

21 For example, how are they
 22 policing Waste Management dumping there
 23 outside? The debris is all over in a
 24 second. I hope something gets done
 25 about the garbage. Thank you

1
 2 How your report can conclude that this
 3 does not have any environmental impact
 4 on the quality of life of the residents
 5 here in Williamsburg to me is an
 6 outrage in itself.

7 I must question of choosing the
 8 area for toxicity test. Who decided on
 9 only one area to -- of concentration to
 10 have the test taken? And how can
 11 Metropolitan Avenue have been left out
 12 of this study for an air quality
 13 testing is beyond me.

14 The results of your air quality
 15 test is suspect as far as I'm concerned
 16 and an explanation behind the reasoning
 17 leaving out Metropolitan Avenue must be
 18 explained to the residents of
 19 Williamsburg. It just doesn't make any
 20 sense.

21 This community deserves to know
 22 what the health hazards are that they
 23 have been forced to live with all these
 24 years and will continue to be forced to
 25 live with the increase in volume of

1
 2 what's going to take place over the
 3 next 20 years.
 4 The testing on Porter -- in the
 5 Porter Avenue area vicinity is not
 6 relevant to the residents who live here
 7 now and especially in and on and near
 8 Metropolitan Avenue.
 9 My conclusion is that it is
 10 unfair that the residents of this
 11 community have had to bear the burden
 12 of this City Department of Sanitation.
 13 That's all I have to say (applause.)
 14 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you.
 15 Donna Blackburn (applause.)
 16 **MS. DONNA BLACKBURN:** Thanks
 17 everybody for hanging in there. I
 18 think I'm the last speaker.
 19 Commissioner and your
 20 colleagues and fellow leaders, thank
 21 you for your patience and allowing me
 22 to make a few comments.
 23 My name is Donna Blackburn, I
 24 live at 20 Bushwick Avenue between
 25 Devoe or Devois for those of you who've

1
 2 lived in the neighborhoods for years on
 3 Metropolitan.
 4 I've been a member of the
 5 community for 13 years and I moved here
 6 to participate in the cultural and
 7 economic revitalization of this
 8 neighborhood. I'd like to address a
 9 point that I don't believe has been
 10 addressed this evening which is about
 11 the economic revitalization of this
 12 neighborhood.
 13 I used to work in Midtown for a
 14 mutual fund firm and my employer
 15 commissioned a study to draw attention
 16 to the business of art and culture in
 17 New York City and she showed that
 18 supporting the arts and culture of New
 19 York City makes excellent business
 20 sense and generates an enormous amount
 21 of revenue for the City of New York.
 22 Greenpoint and Williamsburg has
 23 now established an international
 24 presence; it is a central point for
 25 arts and culture, globally something

1
 2 that everyone in the neighborhood
 3 should be very proud of.
 4 My question is and this is
 5 rhetorical at this point, because I
 6 understand your not asking questions
 7 tonight, but is it possible in a post
 8 9/11 world that Williamsburg/Greenpoint
 9 generates an enormous amount of good
 10 will and a positive image and brings in
 11 revenue for the City.
 12 How will these proposals affect
 13 the economic revitalization of this
 14 neighborhood? How will they affect the
 15 property values? Do we need another
 16 Erie Canal in this neighborhood?
 17 **THE AUDIENCE:** No.
 18 **MS. DONNA BLACKBURN:** Do we
 19 need to call Erin Brockovich? Thank
 20 you very much (applause.)
 21 **MR. SZARPANSKI:** Thank you. I
 22 was just handed another speaker sign-up
 23 sheet. Rebecca White (applause.)
 24 **MS. REBECCA WHITE:** Hi, I'm
 25 sorry to come late, I had to work late

1
 2 this evening.
 3 My name is Rebecca White, I've
 4 been a resident of Williamsburg and
 5 Bushwick for about five years now and I
 6 had the un -- I had the fortunate joy
 7 of being a part of this community and
 8 being welcomed into the community and
 9 I've had the unfortunate experience of
 10 seeing the garbage trucks go by
 11 everyday. And one of the greatest
 12 problems is the density of the garbage
 13 waste transfer station and the
 14 commercial waste, specifically here.
 15 And I was told in my Hunter
 16 College Civics Class that there was
 17 this thing called fair share that New
 18 York City would adhere to that said
 19 that all the undesirable things would
 20 be spread amongst the five different
 21 boroughs and in the different
 22 neighborhoods. And I feel that there
 23 are two neighborhoods in particular
 24 that are being dumped on, us and the
 25 South Bronx.

1
2 And if the citing regulations
3 aren't going to not only -- it doesn't
4 just need to be a moratorium, it needs
5 to be a decrease, has to be an
6 impactful decrease and it needs to
7 happen now. Thank you.

8 Oh, by the way, I'm with North
9 Brooklyn Greens, we have 1200 enrollees
10 in the local area so it's not just me
11 that feels this way, there are 1200
12 like-minded people that couldn't make
13 it here tonight (applause.)

14 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you. Is
15 there anybody else who signed up who
16 didn't get a chance to speak?

17 MS. IRENE KLEMENTOWICZ: I
18 signed up and I spoke already.

19 MR. SZARPANSKI: Go ahead and
20 please state your name again for the
21 record.

22 MS. IRENE KLEMENTOWICZ: I'm
23 back, Irene Klementowicz. This will be
24 very brief; I just want to point out, I
25 don't think you're the commissioner,

1
2 before it's completed.

3 Kingsland Avenue is what the
4 Department of Sanitation is using and
5 it's at the foot of the Greenpoint
6 Avenue Bridge. Once that bridge opens
7 up or the Pulaski Bridge opens up,
8 there's such a backup of traffic on
9 McGuinness Boulevard and on Greenpoint
10 Avenue, it's impossible to budge.

11 I'm just trying to clarify the
12 fact that the traffic will be
13 impossible and the fact that you're
14 going to be working at the same time at
15 the marine transfer station, if that
16 works that way and the Newtown Creek
17 water pollution plant, please consider
18 it, it's really a real horror
19 (applause.)

20 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you. I
21 want to thank you all for coming and
22 expressing your concerns. Goodnight.

23 (Time noted 8:44 p.m.)
24
25

1
2 but you've been called the
3 commissioner, congratulations.

4 The fact is that the Newtown
5 Creek water pollution control plant is
6 at this moment and for the next
7 probably 12 or 14 more years, will be
8 worked on. We will have trucks, we
9 will have dust, we will have pile
10 driving while we're talking about
11 considering opening up this marine
12 transfer stations which is adjoined
13 killing to this water pollution control
14 plant.

15 I don't know how you're going
16 to make that work. Plus the fact that
17 the Kosciuszko Bridge will start being
18 worked on and the traffic from that
19 also will be diverted. I think you
20 really have to look at the whole
21 picture. You can't look at just the
22 marine transfer station in Greenpoint,
23 you have to look at the water pollution
24 control plant and it's positive that it
25 will be at least another 12, 14 years

1
2 C E R T I F I C A T E
3 STATE OF NEW YORK)
4 : ss.
5 COUNTY OF NEW YORK)
6

7 I, Marc Russo, a Notary Public
8 within and for the State of New York,
9 do hereby certify that the within is a
10 true and accurate transcript of the
11 proceedings taken on July 1st, 2004
12 I further certify that I am not related to
13 any of the parties to this action by
14 blood or marriage and that I am in no
15 way interested in the outcome of this
16 matter.

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
18 hand this 9th day of July, 2004.
19

20 _____
21 MARC RUSSO
22
23
24
25

A				
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