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DSNY Opens New Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer Station

New state-of-the-art facility marks
another fulfillment of the
City's Solid Waste Management Plan

Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia announced today that operations will begin at the new Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer Station located in Brooklyn, effective today Tuesday, September 5th.

The Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer Station, which will handle about 1,600 tons per day of Department-managed waste from various Brooklyn districts, is the latest long term waste export facility to open as part of the City's continued fulfillment of the comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), a fair and equitable five borough plan to sustainably export waste by rail or barge instead of long haul trucks. The \$173 million state-of-the-art facility becomes part of a network of two other transfer stations that are fully operational -- North Shore MTS at

College Point, Queens and the Staten Island Transfer Station on Staten Island. Two other MTSs are under construction in Manhattan and in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn.

"The completion and operation of the Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer Station is a benchmark accomplishment as the City implements the SWMP," said Commissioner Garcia.

"Operationally, the new Hamilton Avenue MTS features advanced ventilation and odor controls, negative air pressure system, sealed leak-proof containers, and rapid roll-up doors. Waste will leave the facility in sealed containers by barge along the Gowanus Canal with no waste being exposed to the outside environment."

In 2006, the Solid Waste Management Plan was overwhelmingly adopted by the City Council and approved by the New York State Department of Conservation. The SWMP reduces annual truck travel associated with waste export by more than 60 million miles, including more than 5 million miles in and around New York City. It also cuts greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste transport by more than 34,000 ton annually.

The Hamilton Avenue MTS is operated by Sanitation in partnership with Waste Management, a nationwide leader in waste logistics and disposal. Sealed containers of waste from Hamilton Avenue MTS will travel by barge to Elizabeth, NJ, where they will be loaded onto rail cars for shipment to landfills in upstate New York or Virginia.

About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) promotes a healthy environment through the efficient

management of solid waste and the development of environmentally sound long-range planning for handling refuse, including recyclables. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of 2,022 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 500 salt/sand spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.