

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 9/2/21

CONTACT: pressoffice@dsny.nyc.gov

Press Release #21-34

## DSNY UPDATE ON RESPONSE TO TROPICAL STORM IDA

Sanitation operations to continue in wake of historic flooding, delays possible

**NEW YORK** – The New York City Department of Sanitation, the world's largest municipal sanitation agency, today provided the following update on operations in the wake of Tropical Storm Ida, which battered the area with over seven inches of rain during the overnight hours.

- DSNY collection operations continue, but due to staffing constraints, delays are possible
  in many areas of the City. We ask all New Yorkers to be patient during this process as we
  work to collect material. Residents should feel free to place their material at the curb for
  collection on schedule.
- Sanitation enforcement activities for dirty sidewalks and other cleaning violations have been suspended through Labor Day, Monday, September 6.
- As previously announced, Alternate Side Parking is suspended today, Thursday, September 2nd. DSNY mechanical brooms are traversing the City clearing accessible catch-basins to facilitate drainage. Any resident who is able to assist by sweeping a basin in front of their property is respectfully asked to do so.
- DSNY has pivoted into an emergency response mode. We are canvassing areas across the
  City that have been affected by flooding and are prepared for a widespread debris
  removal operation in the coming days, including possible localized operations over the
  Labor Day holiday weekend. Residents can place out debris for collection as needed and
  do not need to wait for their normal collection day. It may several days for Sanitation to
  complete debris removal operations.

"This was a record-breaking rainfall, and the entire Department of Sanitation extends our sincerest sympathies to all those affected by this storm," said **Sanitation Commissioner Edward Grayson**. "We will do everything we can to help New Yorkers dig out, clean up, and rebuild, and urge patience as we make our way across the City."

## **About the New York City Department of Sanitation**

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City healthy, safe and clean by collecting, recycling and disposing of waste, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 705 salt 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.