

1

2 -----X

3 PUBLIC HEARING ON

4 THE COMPREHENSIVE COMMERCIAL WASTE

5 MANAGEMENT STUDY

6 -----X

7 10 Richmond Terrace

8 Staten Island, New York

9

10 November 20, 2002

11 7:25 P.M.

12

13 MINUTES of PUBLIC HEARING, held at

14 the above-mentioned time and place before

15 Stefanie Gerber, a Notary Public of the State

16 of New York.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1

2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

3

4 PANEL MEMBERS:

5 Harry Szarpanski, Assistant Commissioner,

6 Department of Sanitation

7 Steven Lawitts, Deputy Commissioner,

8 Department of Sanitation

9 Sarah Dolinar, Department of Sanitation

10 Daniel Harkins, HDR

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1

2 MR. SZARPANSKI: We're going to
3 get started. Good evening. My name is
4 Harry Szarpanski. I'm the Assistant
5 Commissioner for the Bureau of Long-term
6 Export with the New York City Department
7 of Sanitation.

8 I welcome the opportunity to appear
9 before you tonight to let you know about
10 the comprehensive study on commercial
11 waste management in the City of New
12 York. The study will be undertaken by
13 the Department with the assistance of our
14 solid waste management plan consultant,
15 Henningson, Durham & Richardson, also
16 known as HDR.

17 I am joined by a representative of
18 HDR, Dan Harkins, as well as people from
19 the Department. We have Deputy
20 Commissioner for Administration Steve
21 Lawitts and Sarah Dolinar of my staff.

22 My comments tonight will be brief.
23 The real focus of this public meeting is
24 your comments on commercial waste
25 management issues that affect your

1

2 communities.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

In a nutshell, the commercial waste study will move forward in the following way. The Department, through HDR, will develop a scope and conduct a study. The broad outlines of the study are set forth in the Administrative Code as it was amended by Local Law 74 of 2000. If you are not familiar with it, a copy of Local Law 74 is available as a handout tonight.

Also available tonight are copies of a preliminary report, issued by the Department in June of this year, which contains the data necessary to perform the analyses required in the commercial waste study.

The commercial waste study will perform the tasks outlined in Local Law 74, including analysis of the effectiveness of procedures and criteria for the issuance and/or renewal of operating permits for putrescible and non-putrescible solid waste transfer

1
2 stations in minimizing potential adverse
3 environmental, economic and public health
4 impacts on the communities in which they
5 are located; the manner in which
6 regulations relating to transfer station
7 operations, private carter and long-haul
8 transport vehicles are enforced; the
9 means and potential effects of limiting
10 the number and capacity of transfer
11 stations in the city; the size and type
12 of vehicles that should be authorized to
13 transport solid waste to or from transfer
14 stations and fuel-type requirements for
15 such vehicles; whether transfer stations
16 and city-owned marine transfer stations
17 should receive and process both
18 residential and commercial solid waste
19 and the options for transporting such
20 solid waste to and from such transfer
21 stations, including an analysis of
22 potential adverse impacts; and potential
23 adverse impacts on communities in which
24 large numbers of transfer stations are
25 located.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

As part of the study, the Department and the HDR team are required to and will solicit and consider the views of the elected officials, the city-wide recycling advisory and borough solid waste advisory boards and the public, including residents of the affected communities, environmental advocacy organizations, transfer station operators, private carters, business entities and academicians, and respond to substantive issues raised.

To obtain these views, we have scheduled a public meeting in each borough as well as a meeting with the Citywide Recycling Advisory Board and the five borough Solid Waste Advisory Boards. We will also reach out to the other groups listed above.

We will conduct these outreach efforts between now and December 16. For this reason, we ask that we receive all written comments that you would like to be considered as part of the scoping

1

2 process on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday,
3 December 16.

4

5 All written comments should be
6 mailed or faxed to me at 44 Beaver
7 Street, 12th floor, New York, New York
8 10004, and the fax number is
9 212-269-0788. This contact information
10 has been printed on the comment and
11 question cards that are available here
12 tonight.

13

14 Based on all the comments received,
15 HDR is expected to complete the draft
16 scope for the study by the end of
17 December. The draft scope will appear on
18 Sanitation's web-site and a comment
19 period will be established to obtain
20 comments on the draft scope that will be
21 considered before a final scope is posted
22 on the web-site.

23

24 The study itself and an
25 accompanying report are expected to be
26 completed in March of 2004 and issued to
27 the Mayor and City Council. It's
28 important to note that the commercial

1

2 waste study will be designed to meet a
3 number of planning goals.

4

5 The study will enable the city to
6 assess and plan for management of both
7 the residential and commercial waste
8 streams and will assist the Department in
9 developing a new solid waste management
10 plan. Equally important will be the
11 recommendations developed in the report
12 on ways to minimize the potential adverse
13 impacts on the city's residential and
14 business communities and the
15 environment.

16

17 So we can hear everyone who wants
18 to speak tonight -- well, we typically
19 would limit our comments to three
20 minutes, but we will do away with that
21 restriction tonight.

22

23 If you do not wish to speak but
24 would like to provide us with written
25 comments, please complete one of the
comment cards we have provided for your
use.

26

We have a stenographer keeping the

1

2 record of the testimony, so please state
3 your name clearly. And if there are
4 elected officials, they will have an
5 opportunity to speak first.

6 So thank you for coming out
7 tonight. Our first speaker is Jeffrey
8 Markow.

9 SPEAKER: My name is Jeffrey
10 Markow, and I live on the South Shore of
11 Staten Island. I am of the environmental
12 committee. Staten Islanders more than
13 any other residents in New York City are
14 cognizant of waste issues, and I think
15 that even though this hearing was
16 communicated to community boards, people
17 didn't understand what this hearing was
18 about, and that's probably why you don't
19 have more of a turnout.

20 We lived with waste for half a
21 century and all the debilitating aspects
22 of having the world's largest garbage
23 dump in our backyard.

24 When it comes to siting transfer
25 stations, Staten Island has approximately

1

2 3,000 acres of manufacturing zone
3 property available, and that's a very
4 frightening prospect in that transfer
5 stations tend to be, need to be, from
6 what I read, in M zone locations.

7

 Staten Island has a tremendous
8 number of residential developments now
9 being built in direct proximity to those
10 manufacturing zone areas and the Fresh
11 Kills landfill, for that matter.

12

 So any waste transfer facilities
13 that you site potentially could impact
14 residential neighborhoods as well, and I
15 would ask, and I think the people of
16 Staten Island would ask that you be very,
17 very considerate of the burden that
18 Staten Islanders have shouldered for the
19 past half century, really a
20 disproportionate burden to the remainder
21 of the city.

22

 I'm pretty sure you heard something
23 very similar from the people in Brooklyn
24 because they have more waste transfer
25 stations than anywhere in New York City.

1

2 But in looking at our numbers, when
3 you site these stations, they should be
4 in proportion to the amount of waste that
5 that borough generates or transfers.
6 Obviously we have some advantages that
7 the water access to the Fresh Kills
8 landfill, and that's probably a
9 mitigating factor as well, but be
10 considerate to Staten Island and insure
11 that each of the boroughs do shoulder
12 their share of the burden. I think
13 that's really, really important. That's
14 all I can say. Thank you.

15 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you for
16 your comment. We have a second speaker,
17 John DiFazio.

18 SPEAKER: How are you doing? I
19 wasn't really planning on speaking
20 tonight, so I just put a few notes
21 together. My name is John DiFazio, and I
22 represent Fastech Industries. We operate
23 a sanding gravel business in an M-3 zoned
24 property. We are a division of DiFazio
25 Construction, which is one of the largest

1

2 municipal contractors here on Staten
3 Island. And as we know, Staten Island is
4 a growing borough.

5 As far as infrastructure goes, the
6 budget with the Department of Design and
7 Construction, this year alone is over
8 \$120 million worth of work in the way of
9 sewers, water mains and bridge repair and
10 so forth.

11 Currently most of our material is
12 deposited at the Fresh Kills landfill as
13 fill material, and really my goal, the
14 gist of my speech here is really based on
15 fill material.

16 When considering the needs of
17 Staten Island, please look toward the
18 fact that right now almost all the city
19 projects dump their waste products at the
20 landfill. Once the landfill has achieved
21 grading plan, there will be no further
22 room for this fill material.

23 Now, through the General Contracts
24 Association, we continue to lobby DDC and
25 New York State DOT to allow more

1

2 recycling materials into our projects,
3 recycled stone, recycled fill, so that
4 the turnaround of course would reduce the
5 amount of waste.

6 Currently Fastech Industries has
7 applied for a fill material permit. We
8 have been in the application process for
9 about two years, and we are currently put
10 on freeze. Right now all transfer sites
11 are put on freeze for siting, which means
12 part of our application has been put on
13 hold.

14 Again, I just ask the board that
15 when you consider the development of
16 Staten Island, consider that a huge
17 amount of the waste from construction
18 projects is being deposited at the
19 landfill, and if the landfill is close to
20 achieving the grading plan, the rise in
21 fill material is going to rise
22 exorbitantly.

23 Pretty much that's all the notes I
24 had time to put together. Thank you.

25 MR. SZARPANSKI: Thank you very

1

2 much. Is there anybody else who wants to
3 present any comments? Well, then I call
4 this meeting to a close, bring this
5 meeting to a close.

6 (TIME NOTED: 7:40 P.M.)

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1

2

3

CERTIFICATION

4

5

6

I, STEFANIE GERBER, a Notary Public

7

in and for the State of New York, do hereby

8

certify:

9

THAT the witness(es) whose

10

testimony is herein before set forth, was duly

11

sworn by me; and

12

THAT the within transcript is a

13

true and accurate record of the testimony

14

given by said witness(es).

15

I further certify that I am not

16

related either by blood or marriage, to any of

17

the parties to this action; and

18

THAT I am in no way interested in

19

the outcome of this matter.

20

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto

21

set my hand this 9th day of December 2002.

22

23

24

25

STEFANIE GERBER