

July 15, 2015

DSNY City Planner (Bureau of Legal Affairs) Abas O. Braimah,  
Mayor Bill de Blasio  
NYC Public Advocate Letitia James  
Borough President Gale Brewer  
Council Member Dan Garodnick  
Council Member Rosie Mendez

Dear Mr. Abas O. Braimah:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_.

I am writing to you, and copying our elected representatives, with some very serious concerns about the plans that the Department of Sanitation has presented regarding the construction of a 447,000 square foot sanitation garage at 425 East 25 Street.

Some immediate concerns:

**AIR QUALITY** – Our neighborhood already has the WORST air quality in Manhattan, at 18% over federal standards. A bad situation will be made worse by 80 diesel garbage trucks with their deadly emissions that are known to cause respiratory and cardiovascular disease. Also, I am concerned about the toxic vapors and other dangers posed by daily deliveries to resupply the 34,000 gallons of on-site fuel storage.

**ACCIDENTS** – DSNY drivers have the worst accident record of all city agencies. Recent data shows many accidents (more than 2,400), as well as the highest number of injuries (140) and fatalities (4).

**INCREASED TRAFFIC** – Many of the intersections in the immediate area are ALREADY among the most dangerous in the district and the city. Adding the 180 DSNY vehicles plus 115 DSNY employee cars certainly adds to an increased risk of additional accidents, injuries and fatalities.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIMES NEGATIVELY IMPACTED** – First Avenue is already in a state of almost constant gridlock resulting in reduced EMS response time. The garage plan calls for DSNY to share the private road used by EMS. What impacts will that have on first responders speed to the hospitals?

**NOISE POLLUTION** – Noise pollution will increase with 24/7 garage schedule and 80 rumbling trucks.

**FILLED GARBAGE TRUCKS** – Recent reports indicate in our neighborhood, DSNY returns to the garage at end of shift WITHOUT dumping their loads of garbage 20-40% of the time. This will mean the new garage will store 16-32 trucks of garbage in the garage from shift to shift. This on-site garbage storage will lead to increased rats and other vermin, and infection transmission risk due to the close proximity to hospitals.

**ALTERNATE SITES** – There has been no meaningful consideration of other public and private locations within the district and the current garage at 447,000 sq feet is too large.

Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero project mandates protecting the public. New York families deserve and expect safe streets. Putting a garage on First Avenue and 25<sup>th</sup> Street directly contradicts the NYC stated mission and puts the safety of its citizens at risk.

The location of this garage must be reconsidered. It cannot come at such a high cost to the health and safety of our community residents.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(email)

**Additional Comments:**