



sanitation news online

October 2014

Commissioner's Column



This week marked the six month anniversary of my appointment as Commissioner, and I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome I received. Since last March, we have rolled out a number of cutting edge new initiatives and hired 500 new Sanitation Workers and nearly 100 automotive trades titles. We have also mourned the loss of one of our own in the line of duty, a reminder of the difficulty and danger inherent in the work we do.

As we all look toward the next six months – and the coming snow season – I am confident that the Department is well-positioned to meet any challenges Mother Nature may throw at us. The Bureau of Cleaning and Collection and the Operations Management Division have demonstrated true teamwork by taking on the challenge of fundamentally rethinking the way we approach snow fighting.

While they aren't done with the whole city yet, Staten Island, Manhattan, and some districts in the other three boroughs will have new sector routes by the beginning of Night Plow. These routes eliminate overlap and streamline snow operations. As a result, we'll be able to provide better service to the entire city, including former "tertiary" streets that will receive service from Department plows sooner and more often than before. We will also be rolling out new skid steer loaders across the City to improve the level of service at crosswalks and bus stops.

Lastly, I am excited to introduce this refreshed take on the Sanitation Department newsletter, *Sanitation News Online*. This is just the first issue of a monthly newsletter that will include updates on current news, agency accomplishments, and personal milestones. It will provide yet another method to communicate the great work happening across the Department. I look forward to continue meeting with many of you in the field and working together to keep New York City healthy, safe, and clean.

Kathryn Garcia

DSNY in Images...



Director of Photography Michael Anton captured the paper recycling process from the 59th Street transfer station to the Pratt recycling facility on Staten Island. He captured 5,902 images, and created a time lapse video. Watch it on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Welcome Deputy Commissioner



Bridget Anderson is the new Deputy Commissioner for Recycling and Sustainability. Anderson was serving as Acting Deputy Commissioner after the departure of Ron Gonen, and has also served DSNY as Director of Recycling Operations. She will be responsible for the development and implementation of our sustainability initiatives, with particular focus on waste reduction, composting and recycling programs.

Health Care Facility Enhancements



Dr. Norman Maron, DSNY Medical Director, was recognized by New York Medical College with appointments to the school's Board of Advisor's, Admissions Committee, and Faculty. This will allow our health care facility to be included in the college's practicum rotation for medical students. We are proud of Dr. Maron and thrilled to have the opportunity to enhance our medical services!



The DSNY Striders raised \$1,140 from their bake sale for their efforts in supporting Making Strides against Breast Cancer.

Getting to Know...



Debra Barreto,
Administrative Supervisor
Customer Service and
Government Relations

Debra Barreto started with DSNY after learning of a job opening writing letters for former Commissioner John Doherty, when he was Director of BCC. She submitted her resume, and 28 years later, she's now an integral member of the Customer Service and Government Relations team at Worth Street.

"My favorite part of working with Sanitation is the people, including the customers who contact us, because you never know how the situation is going to change the day, even though you may have the whole day planned out," she says.

Besides working with our constituents, Debra is President of the United Women of Sanitation Association (UWSA). She says the group started many years ago after DSNY combined the Uniform Female Association and the Committee on Women's Concerns. The UWSA works towards acquiring more female representation – both uniform and civilian – to reflect the diversity of the group and to identify and address women's issues in the department.

"It's an important organization to have because we strive to have our voice heard while trying to identify, learn about, and help with issues our members may be having a hard time dealing with," she says.

Debra noted the UWSA charity efforts, and much of their work supports St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and the distributing food baskets and gift cards to local families in need during the holidays.

Fond Farewell

After more than 33 years on the job, First Deputy Commissioner Bernard Sullivan has retired.

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all the women and men of this department," he said. "I am proud to have been a part of this tremendous team."

FDC Sullivan began his DSNY career in 1981 as a Bronx Sanitation Worker. He rose steadily through the ranks and held various supervisory positions in BCC, including Assistant Chief, Chief of the Bureau Operations Office, Chief of Cleaning Operations, and Director of the Bureau of Cleaning and Collection.



Though the years, he has directed DSNY's snow operations, managed the Department's equipment and fuel operations during September 11th clean-up efforts, and carried out the Department's policies and procedures for street cleaning initiatives.

Thank you for your years of hard work, FDC. And congratulations. We wish you all the best in your retirement!

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DSNY in the News...

The New York Times recently profiled our operations in their "Living City" series video. The piece, [Where Does Our Trash Go?](#), may be viewed [online](#).



New Sanitation Worker Exam



The new Sanitation Worker exam is now scheduled, and will be held this February.

Please encourage your friends and family members to file for the test, now until October 31, at nyc.gov/examsforjobs.