

Zero Waste: Three Years Later



Kathryn Garcia, Commissioner
NYC Department of Sanitation

About the Department of Sanitation:

- Mission: Keep NYC healthy, safe, and clean by collecting, recycling, and disposing of refuse, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice.
- Largest municipal sanitation department in the United States
- Created in 1881



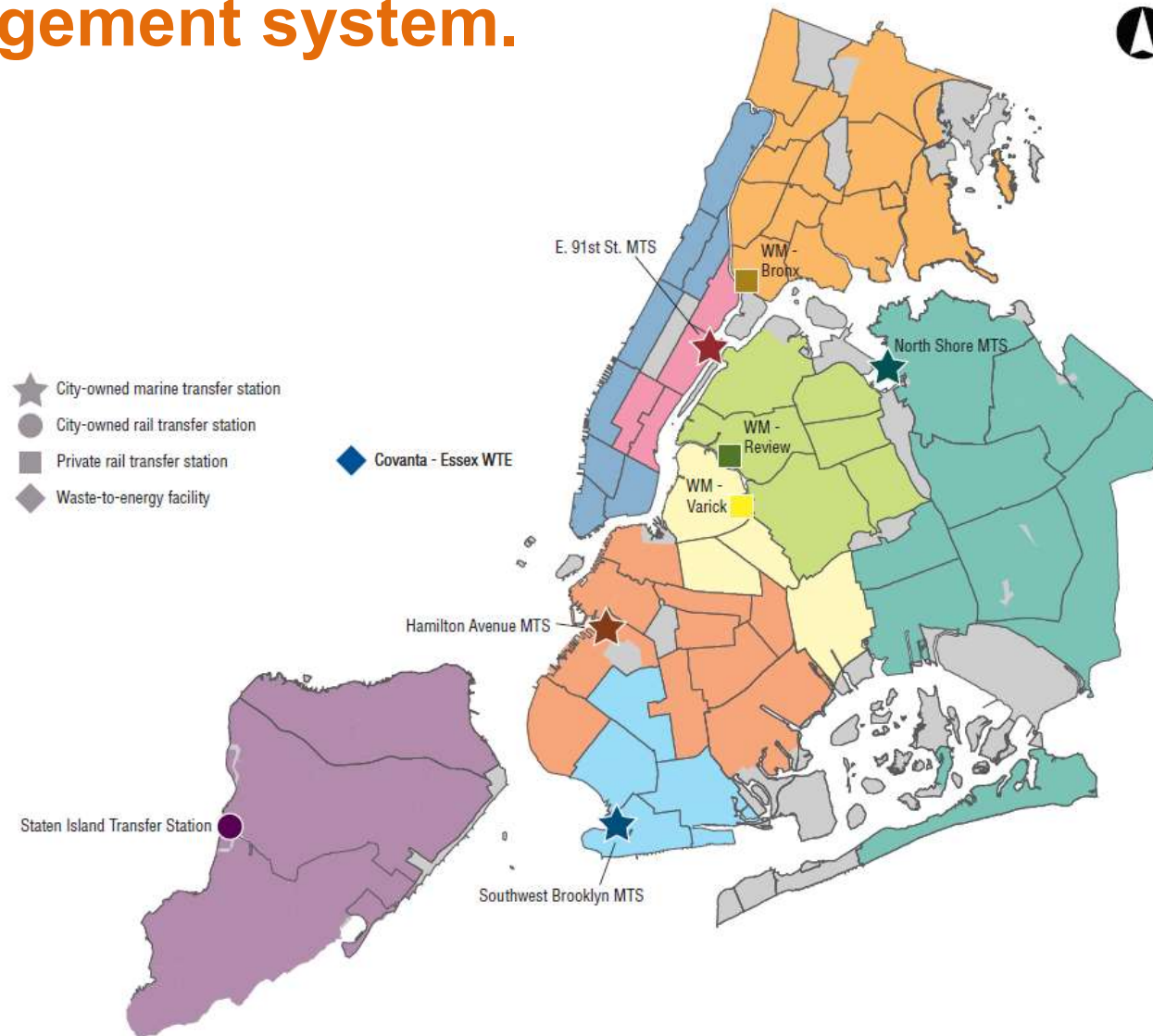
- Serves 8.5 million residents; millions of commuters and tourists
- Collects 10,000 tons of refuse and 2,000 tons of recyclables (paper, metal, glass, plastic and organics) per day

Our waste ends up as far as 650 miles away.

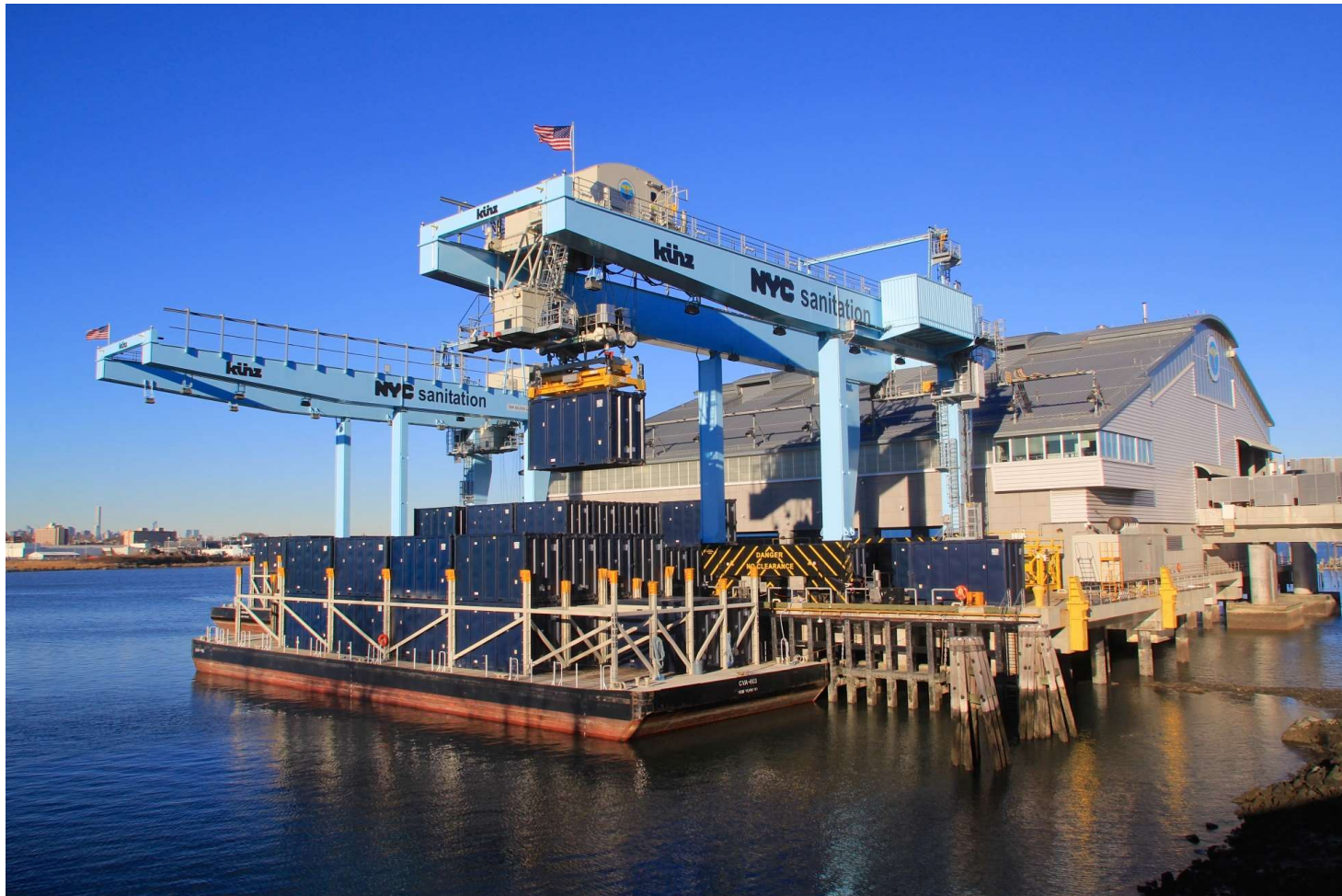


New York City waste is transported to disposal sites in at least six different states as much as **650 miles away**.

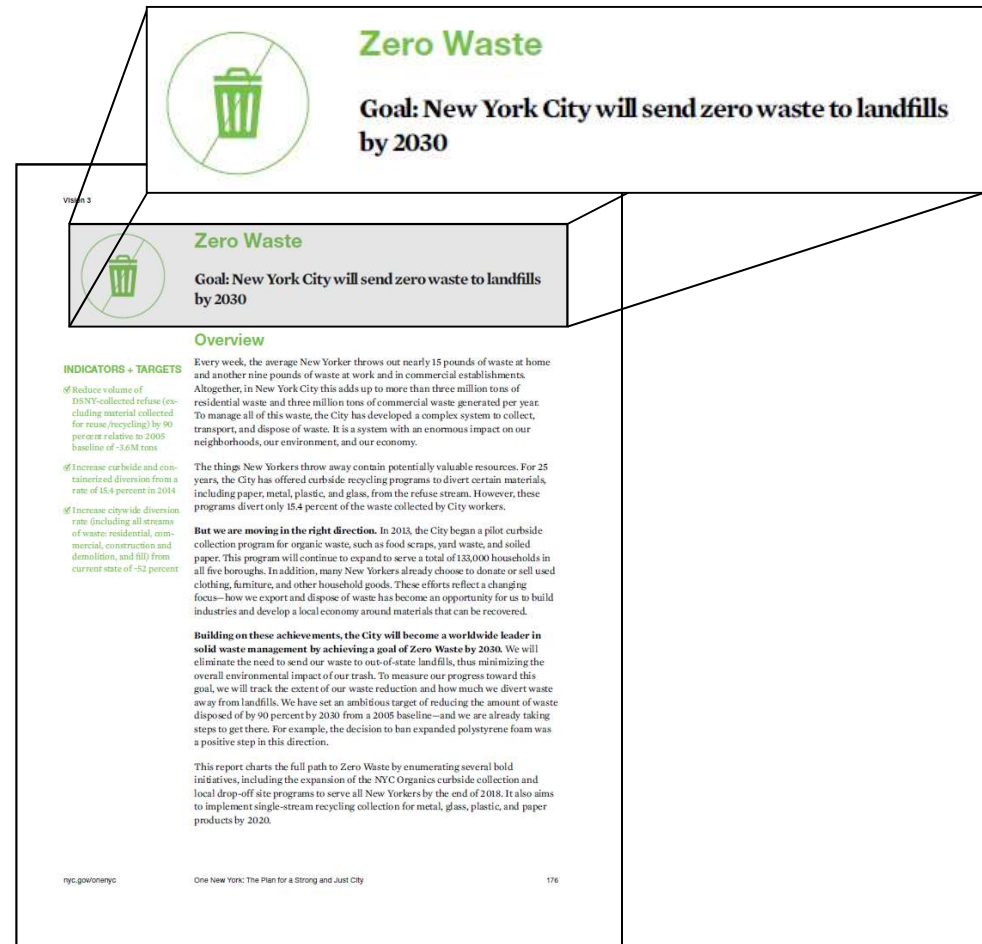
We are building a sustainable waste management system.



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In 2015, Mayor de Blasio set an ambitious goal of sending zero waste to landfills by 2030



***Since then, we've taken great
steps toward achieving that goal***

Grew the nation's largest curbside organics collection program.



Currently, more than 3.5 million New Yorkers receive curbside collection service

With the support of grassroots community groups and passionate local composters.

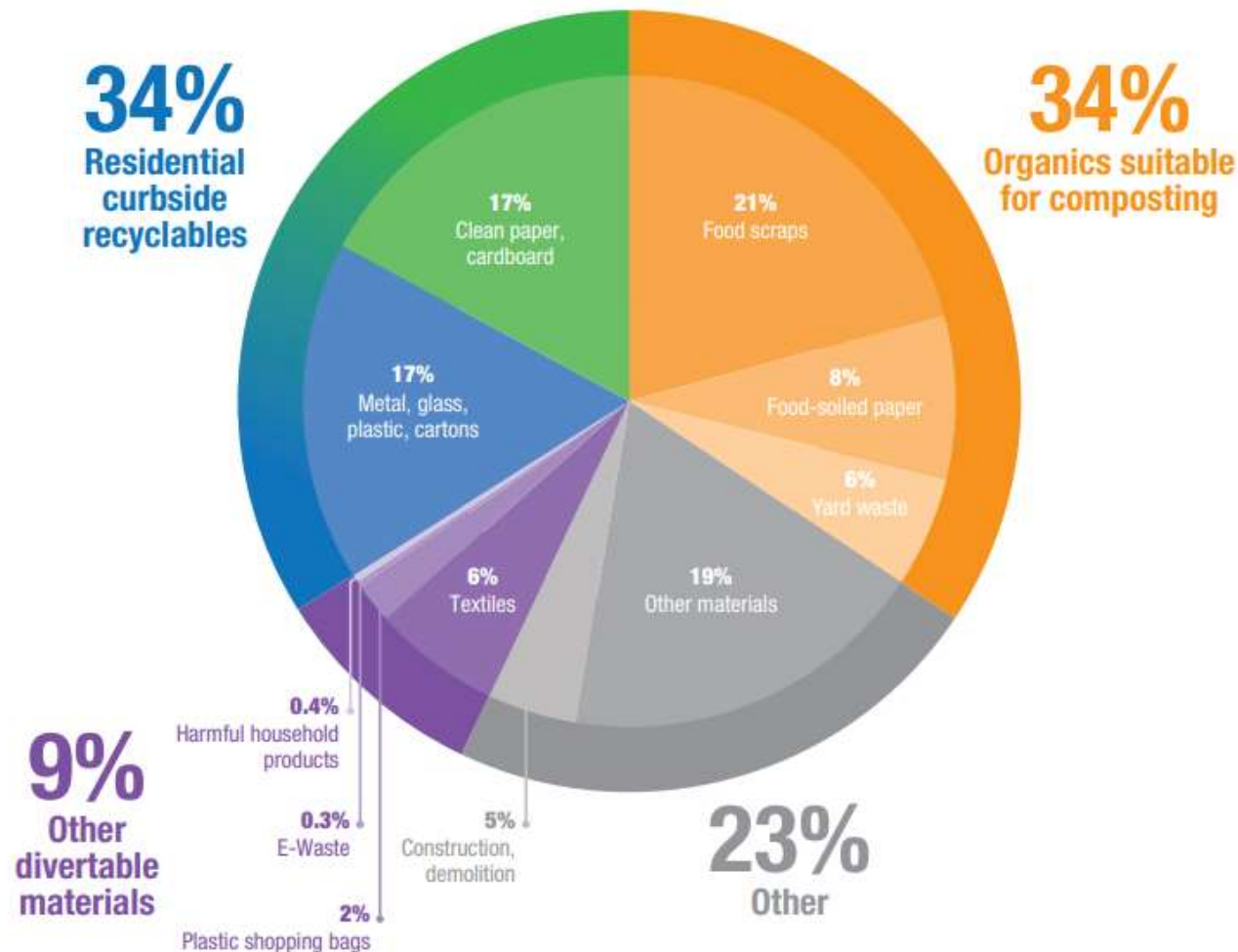
2018 is the 25th anniversary of the New York City Compost Project

225+ community composting sites

100+ food waste drop-off sites



Conducted a comprehensive waste characterization study



Eliminated non-recyclable materials from the waste stream (or at least tried)



Diverted electronics for recycling or proper disposal

60% decrease in e-waste disposal after implemented an e-waste disposal ban



Created donateNYC to support our reuse community

give goods. find goods. do good.



donate**NYC**

Created the first 100 Zero Waste Schools

700+ schools served by
organics collection

100 Zero Waste schools
launched in 2016



Made recycling available to all NYC public housing residents



But we have more yet to do.

Thank You

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