



Legislation Text

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By Council Members Brewer, Krishnan, Williams, Menin, Schulman, Won, Rivera, Louis, Nurse, Ayala, Salaam, Marte, Hanif, Ung, Hudson, Gennaro, Restler and Avilés

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to composting plant waste in parks

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Title 16 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 16-308.3 to read as follows:

§ 16-308.3 Plant waste collected in parks. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the term “plant waste” means leaves, grass clippings, garden debris, vegetative residue that is recognizable as part of a plant or vegetable, small or chipped branches, and similar material.

b. No later than July 1, 2027, the department shall establish a compost facility that is near or abuts each of the 10 largest parks under the jurisdiction of the department of parks and recreation, as determined by total acreage, in each borough. Such facility shall not be of sufficient size so as to be required to obtain a permit for the operation of such facility from the New York state department of environmental conservation and shall engage in composting plant waste that is collected by the department or the department of parks and recreation at each such park or nearby park.

c. The department, the department of parks and recreation or person who has contracted with either agency shall compost all plant waste that is collected at each park for which a compost facility was established pursuant to subdivision b of this section.

d. The department, in consultation with the department of parks and recreation, shall report annually on

the operation of compost facilities established pursuant to this section. Such report shall be included as part of the department's annual zero waste report required pursuant to section 16-316.5 and shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. The total amount of plant waste collected at each compost facility;
2. The annual cost of operating each compost facility;
3. The number of full-time and part-time staff members working at each compost facility; and
4. An analysis on the feasibility of establishing composting facilities for the purpose of collecting plant

waste at a greater number of parks in each borough.

§ 3. This local law takes effect immediately

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