

In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BUSINESS INTEGRITY COMMISSION

-----X
THE MAXIMUM RATE THAT MAY BE CHARGED BY LICENSEES
FOR THE COLLECTION, REMOVAL, DISPOSAL, OR RECYCLING
OF TRADE WASTE, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "RATE CAP."
-----X

Held Remotely
Via Microsoft Teams

August 20, 2025
11:02 a.m.

Reported By:
Sabrina Brown Stewart

In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025

2

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:
2 NICOLE MATHIAS - Director of Policy, NYC BIC
3 MATTHEW FINKEL - Executive Agency Counsel, NYC BIC
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025**

3

1 MS. MATHIAS: Good morning, everyone.
2 Welcome to today's public hearing. The time
3 is now 11:02 a.m. We're going to get
4 started. My name is Nicole Mathias, director
5 of policy with the New York City Business
6 Integrity Commission. Joining me today is
7 Matthews Finkel, executive agency counsel
8 here at BIC. This hearing is being held
9 remotely via Microsoft Teams, so we'd
10 appreciate if all the virtual guests would
11 remain muted at all times, unless you are
12 specifically called on to contribute and to
13 speak.

14 The Business Integrity Commission,
15 commonly known as BIC, is conducting this
16 hearing as required by the rules of the City
17 of New York. Pursuant to these rules, BIC
18 must hold a public hearing every odd-numbered
19 year prior to October 31st regarding the
20 maximum rates charged by private trade waste
21 carters for the collection, removal, and
22 disposal of trade waste. For simplicity,
23 we'll be referring to this today as the "rate
24 cap."

25 BIC published the hearing notice in the

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025**

4

1 City Record on August 13, 2025. We also
2 circulated a copy of the notice via e-mail to
3 New York City local elected officials, the 59
4 community boards, various media
5 organizations, and other interested parties.
6 Lastly, a copy of the hearing notice was
7 posted on the BIC website.

8 The hearing today is intended to
9 provide interested parties, including private
10 trade waste carters and the customers they
11 serve, an opportunity to present their
12 positions on the rate cap. This allows the
13 Commission to gain a better understanding of
14 the state of the commercial trade waste
15 industry and how the rate cap impacts the
16 industry. The current rate cap was
17 implemented in August 2024.

18 New York City rules outline some of the
19 factors that BIC may consider when evaluating
20 the rate cap; these include the producer
21 price index, available data on the trade
22 waste industry, and any other factors that
23 may be relevant to assessing a fair and
24 reasonable return to licensees, and the
25 protection of customers from unreasonable

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025**

5

1 charges. The rules also state that
2 proponents of a change to the rate cap bear
3 the burden of demonstrating on an
4 industry-wide basis that existing rates are
5 inconsistent with the standards for maximum
6 rates.

7 As such, we are here to listen to you
8 on this issue. We especially welcome
9 statements supported by studies or empirical
10 data. This hearing is the beginning of our
11 fact-finding process. We'll continue to have
12 more discussions with interested parties
13 after the hearing. After we've gathered all
14 pertinent information, we will then be in a
15 position to decide how to adjust the rate cap
16 or to allow it to remain unchanged.

17 A court reporter is present with us
18 today and will transcribe the hearing. We
19 are taking a video recording of the hearing
20 as well. You may present an oral statement
21 or submit written comments. In addition to
22 any statements made today, the Commission
23 will be accepting additional written comments
24 until August 27, 2025.

25 When called upon to speak, please state

1 your full name and affiliation. Please also
2 be mindful to speak clearly, so that the
3 court reporter is able to understand and
4 accurately transcribe your statement. No one
5 has signed up to speak ahead of time. So, at
6 this time, please indicate if you would like
7 to speak by either putting a message in the
8 chat or using the "raise hand" function.

9 Does anyone in the meeting wish to
10 provide testimony today?

11 (No response).

12 MS. MATHIAS: Okay. I think we're
13 going to leave the record open for about
14 ten minutes before we adjourn, in case anyone
15 joins late. I'm going to go on mute, and
16 we're going to be monitoring in case anyone
17 else joins and wants to give testimony. At
18 11:15, we may close it if no one else joins.
19 As I said, no one signed up to testify ahead
20 of time, but BIC will be accepting any
21 written comments for another week until the
22 27th.

23 (Whereupon, there was a brief
24 pause in the proceedings.)

25 MS. MATHIAS: Hi. Good morning to the

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission
August 20, 2025**

7

1 person who just joined. We are still on the
2 record. If you would like to provide
3 testimony on the topic of the rate cap,
4 please indicate that now and the floor will
5 be yours. Sorry, having a little trouble
6 hearing you.

7 MR. NITIS: Good morning. We're not
8 going to be providing any comment, just here
9 to listen to our constituents.

10 MS. MATHIAS: Okay. Thank you so much.
11 (Whereupon, there was a brief
12 pause in the proceedings.)

13 MS. MATHIAS: Good morning. Once
14 again, if anyone would like to provide
15 comments, please indicate that now. We're
16 going to keep the record open till 11:15.
17 And if at that time still no one has joined
18 to testify, we're going to close the virtual
19 hearing, and BIC will be accepting written
20 comments for another week.

21 (Whereupon, there was a brief
22 pause in the proceedings.)

23 MS. MATHIAS: All right. For everyone
24 just on the line listening, we're going to
25 keep it open for another five minutes, in

1 case anyone joins to testify.

2 (Whereupon, there was a brief
3 pause in the proceedings.)

4 MS. MATHIAS: All right. I think we're
5 going to call it at 11:15, as no one has
6 joined and indicated that they would like to
7 deliver testimony today. The recording of
8 the virtual hearing will be on the BIC
9 website within a day or two. The transcript
10 will also be available shortly. And as I
11 said, written comments will still be accepted
12 for the next week through August 27th.

13 (Whereupon, there was a brief
14 pause in the proceedings.)

15 MS. MATHIAS: Okay. With no takers,
16 we're going to close the record for this
17 hearing at this time. Thank you for your
18 presence, for everyone that was observing
19 today. The virtual hearing is now closed.
20 The time is 11:15 a.m.

21 Thank you.

22 (TIME NOTED: 11:15 a.m.)

23

24

25

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

C E R T I F I C A T E
STATE OF NEW YORK)
:SS
COUNTY OF QUEENS)

I, Sabrina Brown Stewart, a Notary Public
within and for the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the witness whose examination is
hereinbefore set forth was duly sworn and that such
an examination is a true record of the testimony
given by such a witness.

I further certify that I am not related to
any of these parties to this action by blood or
marriage, and that I am not in any way interested in
the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
hand on this 25th day of August 2025.

Sabrina Brown Stewart
Sabrina Brown Stewart

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission**

August 20, 2025

10

25th 9:18	august 4:1,17 5:24 8:12 9:18 (5)	chat 6:8
27th 6:22 8:12	available 4:21 8:10	circulated 4:2
31st 3:19	basis 5:4	city 1 3:5,16 4:1,3,18 (6)
able 6:3	bear 5:2	clearly 6:2
about 6:13	before 6:14	close 6:18 7:18 8:16
accepted 8:11	beginning 5:10	closed 8:19
accepting 5:23 6:20 7:19	being 3:8	collection 4 3:21
accurately 6:4	better 4:13	comment 7:8
action 9:14	bic 2:2,3 3:8,15,17,25 4:7,19 6:20 7:19 8:8 (11)	comments 5:21,23 6:21 7:15,20 8:11 (6)
addition 5:21	blood 9:14	commercial 4:14
additional 5:23	boards 4:4	commission 1 3:6,14 4:13 5:22 (5)
adjourn 6:14	brief 6:23 7:11,21 8:2,13 (5)	commonly 3:15
adjust 5:15	brown 18 9:6	community 4:4
affiliation 6:1	burden 5:3	conducting 3:15
after 5:13,13	business 1 3:5,14	consider 4:19
again 7:14	c 2:1 9:1,1	constituents 7:9
agency 2:3 3:7	call 8:5	continue 5:11
ahead 6:5,19	called 3:12 5:25	contribute 3:12
allow 5:16	cap 5 3:24 4:12,15,16,20 5:2,15 7:3 (9)	copy 4:2,6
allows 4:12	carters 3:21 4:10	counsel 2:3 3:7
also 5 4:1 5:1 6:1 8:10 (5)	case 6:14,16 8:1	county 9:4
am 10 3:3 8:20,22 9:13,15 (6)	certify 9:8,13	court 5:17 6:3
another 6:21 7:20,25	change 5:2	current 4:16
anyone 6:9,14,16 7:14 8:1 (5)	charged 3 3:20	customers 4:10,25
appreciate 3:10	charges 5:1	data 4:21 5:10
are 3:11 5:4,7,19 7:1 (5)		day 8:9 9:18
assessing 4:23		

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission**

August 20, 2025

11

decide 5:15	floor 7:4	how 4:15 5:15
deliver 8:7	forth 9:10	i'm 6:15
demonstrating 5:3	full 6:1	impacts 4:15
director 2:2 3:4	function 6:8	implemented 4:17
discussions 5:12	further 9:13	include 4:20
disposal 4 3:22	gain 4:13	including 4:9
does 6:9	gathered 5:13	inconsistent 5:5
duly 9:10	get 3:3	index 4:21
e 2:1,1 9:1,1 (4)	give 6:17	indicate 6:6 7:4,15
either 6:7	given 9:12	indicated 8:6
elected 4:3	go 6:15	industry 4:15,16,22
else 6:17,18	going 3:3 6:13,15,16 7:8,16,18,24 8:5,16 (10)	industrywide 5:4
email 4:2	good 3:1 6:25 7:7,13 (4)	information 5:14
empirical 5:9	guests 3:10	integrity 1 3:6,14
especially 5:8	hand 6:8 9:18	intended 4:8
evaluating 4:19	has 6:5 7:17 8:5	interested 4:5,9 5:12 9:15 (4)
every 3:18	having 7:5	is 3:3,4,6,8,15 4:8 5:10,17 6:3 8:19,20 9:9,11 (13)
everyone 3:1 7:23 8:18	hearing 3:2,8,16,18,25 4:6,8 5:10,13,18,19 7:6,19 8:8,17,19 (16)	issue 5:8
examination 9:9,11	held 7 3:8	joined 7:1,17 8:6
executive 2:3 3:7	here 3:8 5:7 7:8	joining 3:6
existing 5:4	hereby 9:7	joins 6:15,17,18 8:1 (4)
f 9:1	hereinbefore 9:10	just 7:1,8,24
factfinding 5:11	hereunto 9:17	keep 7:16,25
factors 4:19,22	hi 6:25	known 5 3:15
fair 4:23	hold 3:18	lastly 4:6
finkel 2:3 3:7		late 6:15
five 7:25		

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission**

August 20, 2025

12

leave 6:13	ms 3:1 6:12,25 7:10,13,23 8:4,15 (8)	oral 5:20
licensees 3 4:24	much 7:10	organizations 4:5
like 6:6 7:2,14 8:6 (4)	must 3:18	other 4:5,22
line 7:24	mute 6:15	our 5:10 7:9
listen 5:7 7:9	muted 3:11	outcome 9:16
listening 7:24	my 3:4 9:17	outline 4:18
little 7:5	n 2:1	p 2:1,1
local 4:3	name 3:4 6:1	parties 4:5,9 5:12 9:14 (4)
made 5:22	new 1 3:5,17 4:3,18 9:2,7 (7)	pause 6:24 7:12,22 8:3,14 (5)
marriage 9:15	next 8:12	person 7:1
mathias 2:2 3:1,4 6:12,25 7:10,13,23 8:4,15 (10)	nicole 2:2 3:4	pertinent 5:14
matter 9:16	nitis 7:7	please 5:25 6:1,6 7:4,15 (5)
matthew 2:3	no 6:4,11,18,19 7:17 8:5,15 (7)	policy 2:2 3:5
matthews 3:7	notary 9:6	position 5:15
maximum 3 3:20 5:5	noted 8:22	positions 4:12
may 3 4:19,23 5:20 6:18 (5)	notice 3:25 4:2,6	posted 4:7
me 3:6	now 3:3 7:4,15 8:19 (4)	presence 8:18
media 4:4	nyc 2:2,3	present 4:11 5:17,20
meeting 6:9	observing 8:18	price 4:21
message 6:7	october 3:19	prior 3:19
microsoft 8 3:9	odddnumbered 3:18	private 3:20 4:9
mindful 6:2	officials 4:3	proceedings 6:24 7:12,22 8:3,14 (5)
minutes 6:14 7:25	once 7:13	process 5:11
monitoring 6:16	one 6:4,18,19 7:17 8:5 (5)	producer 4:20
more 5:12	open 6:13 7:16,25	proponents 5:2
morning 3:1 6:25 7:7,13 (4)	opportunity 4:11	protection 4:25

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission**

August 20, 2025

13

provide 4:9 6:10 7:2,14 (4)	return 4:24	such 5:7 9:10,12
providing 7:8	right 7:23 8:4	supported 5:9
public 3:2,18 9:6	rules 3:16,17 4:18 5:1 (4)	sworn 9:10
published 3:25	s 2:1	t 9:1,1
pursuant 3:17	sabrina 18 9:6	takers 8:15
putting 6:7	said 6:19 8:11	taking 5:19
queens 9:4	serve 4:11	teams 8 3:9
r 2:1 9:1	set 9:10,17	ten 6:14
raise 6:8	shortly 8:10	testify 6:19 7:18 8:1
rate 3,5 3:23 4:12,15,16,20 5:2,15 7:3 (10)	signature 9:21	testimony 6:10,17 7:3 8:7 9:11 (5)
rates 3:20 5:4,6	signed 6:5,19	thank 7:10 8:17,21
reasonable 4:24	simplicity 3:22	their 4:11
record 4:1 6:13 7:2,16 8:16 9:11 (6)	so 3:9 6:2,5 7:10 (4)	these 3:17 4:20 9:14
recording 5:19 8:7	some 4:18	think 6:12 8:4
recycling 4	sorry 7:5	through 8:12
referring 3:23	speak 3:13 5:25 6:2,5,7 (5)	till 7:16
regarding 3:19	specifically 3:12	time 3:2 6:5,6,20 7:17 8:17,20,22 (8)
related 9:13	ss 9:3	times 3:11
relevant 4:23	standards 5:5	today 3:6,23 4:8 5:18,22 6:10 8:7,19 (8)
remain 3:11 5:16	started 3:4	today's 3:2
remotely 7 3:9	state 4:14 5:1,25 9:2,7 (5)	topic 7:3
removal 4 3:21	statement 5:20 6:4	trade 5 3:20,22 4:10,14,21 (6)
reported 17	statements 5:9,22	transcribe 5:18 6:4
reporter 5:17 6:3	stewart 18 9:6	transcript 8:9
required 3:16	still 7:1,17 8:11	trouble 7:5
response 6:11	studies 5:9	
	submit 5:21	

**In Re Rate Cap Public Hearing, NYC - Business Integrity
Commission**

August 20, 2025

14

true 9:11 two 8:9 unchanged 5:16 understand 6:3 understanding 4:13 unless 3:11 unreasonable 4:25 until 5:24 6:21 up 6:5,19 upon 5:25 us 5:17 using 6:8 various 4:4 via 8 3:9 4:2 video 5:19 virtual 3:10 7:18 8:8,19 (4) wants 6:17 waste 5 3:20,22 4:10,14,22 (6) way 9:15 we'd 3:9 we'll 3:23 5:11 we're 3:3 6:12,16 7:7,15,18,24 8:4,16 (9) we've 5:13 website 4:7 8:9 week 6:21 7:20 8:12 welcome 3:2 5:8	well 5:20 when 4:19 5:25 whereof 9:17 whereupon 6:23 7:11,21 8:2,13 (5) who 7:1 whose 9:9 will 5:14,18,23 6:20 7:4,19 8:8,10,11 (9) wish 6:9 within 8:9 9:7 witness 9:9,12,17 would 3:10 6:6 7:2,14 8:6 (5) written 5:21,23 6:21 7:19 8:11 (5) x 2,6 year 3:19 york 1 3:5,17 4:3,18 9:2,7 (7) your 6:1,4 8:17 yours 7:5 1102 10 3:3 1115 6:18 7:16 8:5,20,22 (5) 2024 4:17 2025 20 4:1 5:24 9:18 (4)	
---	--	--