

Four Freedoms Democratic Club
Resolution to Advocate for Recycling and Composting Systems

WHEREAS,

- The goal of 2015's NYC Zero Waste is to reduce by 90% all waste sent to landfills by 2030 through its recycling and composting systems, and the City is behind schedule on meeting that goal.
- Every day, New York City residents produce nearly 13,000 tons of waste, 81% of which ends up in landfills and incinerators throughout the Northeast. In New York State, waste is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for 12% of the state's total output.
- Nearly 1/3 of the waste New Yorkers produce is organic material, such as food scraps and yard trimmings, releasing greenhouse gas methane, a greenhouse gas 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide in trapping heat in the atmosphere.
- Only 17% of inorganic waste (metal, glass, and plastic), and just over 50% of discarded paper packaging is currently being recycled.

THEREFORE, Be it that Four Freedoms Democratic Club resolves to:

- Advocate for NYC Zero Waste, and like-minded solid waste legislation, and hold elected legislators and officials accountable to ensure reliable and accessible residential recycling and composting systems. Pass legislation implementing a sensible and efficient means of collection, especially ensuring the curbside separation of food waste is equally convenient and hygienic in every neighborhood.
- Collaborate with organizations, elected officials and other stake-holders, to advocate and educate ourselves and our neighbors to promote recycling and composting in the Upper East Side, and for adequate funding in the NYC budget to ensure that all goals of NYC Zero Waste are met by 2030, and sustained thereafter.
- Advocate for legislation and policies on city, state and national level that support recycling programs and policies in an effort to divert materials from landfills, reduce toxins and carbon dioxide levels, and strengthen our efforts to fight climate change.

Source: New York League for Conservation Voters

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