



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

## Testimony

Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

New York City Council Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management

I want to thank the City Council, Chair Antonio Reynoso, and the sponsors, Public Advocate Letitia James and Council Member Robert Holden for holding today's hearing on Intro 1075-A, which will bring organics collection to more City agencies.

In October 2016, my office began a voluntary organics collection for employees at Brooklyn Borough Hall, despite the fact that we were not on a New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY) organics route. We were fortunate to have a drop off center run by GrowNYC in the plaza behind our building on one of the days when the Brooklyn Borough Hall Greenmarket is held. In the ensuing two plus years, our office has diverted approximately 500 pounds of organics from landfills and put them to better purposes to green our communities.

It is time for the other City agencies to join me in taking this critical step to improve the environment of our city. We cannot wait for the federal government to again recognize the threat of climate change. We have taken important steps with the Zero Waste commitment, but we cannot expect the citizens of this city to do what we are not ourselves willing to do.

I wholeheartedly support this legislation and request that Brooklyn Borough Hall be one of the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) buildings included in this program. I look forward to working with all of you to make organics collection a larger part of New York City's Zero Waste landscape.