OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

JULIA KERSON
DEPUTY MAYOR FOR OPERATIONS

August 20, 2026

By Email (*dschock831@gmail.com*; *pres831secy@usa-sbf.com*)

Dennis Schock
President, Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association
Local 831, International Brotherhood of Teamsters
25 Cliff Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: Condition of Sanitation Garage Facilities

Dear Mr. Schock:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me last month regarding the condition of our sanitation facilities, and for outlining your critical concerns so clearly. I truly appreciate the constructive and candid dialogue we shared during our meeting.

I see every single day that our Sanitation Workers perform an essential, demanding, and vital service for our City's residents. No member of our workforce should have to prepare for their shift, take their breaks, or work in environments that fall short of being clean, safe, and fully operational. I know that Commissioner Anderson and leadership at the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY) share my position on this.

I acknowledge your frustration regarding past resource allocations for Sanitation facilities. DSNY is committed to maintaining facilities in good working order and keeps an inventory of the conditions across facilities based on cyclical inspections to prioritize the allocation of maintenance and repair resources. To address the most immediate needs, the agency has deployed targeted maintenance crews to clean and repair locations while providing temporary accommodations to staff to carry out garage operations. The Department is simultaneously developing a long-term capital strategy to identify future facility modernization or replacement resource needs that can be considered in the context of the City's overall fiscal condition.

We are already proving that when we dedicate capital resources, we deliver results. Take for example, the new Staten Island 1 and 3 garage, mentioned in your letter – we held the ribbon cutting earlier this week on August 18th and DSNY will be moving operations to the new facility within two weeks from that date. The Brooklyn 8 garage parking lot was recently replaced, and roof replacement work is ongoing. Planned and funded new facilities will also replace the existing Bronx 9 and 10 and Queens 1 garages in the coming years.

There is still significant work ahead of us, and I am optimistic and energized about fighting for the robust funding required to make lasting, permanent improvements. To turn this vision into reality, the Department is working to prioritize critical facility repairs in the City's upcoming Preliminary Ten-Year Capital Strategy this January.

Building on the positive momentum from our discussion, we welcome and accept your invitation to partner together to find immediate and long-term remedies. Thank you again for your time and your continued dedication to keeping our City clean. I look forward to working alongside you to ensure our facilities meet the high standards you deserve.

Sincerely,



Julia Kerson
Deputy Mayor of Operations
The City of New York

JK/gs

cc: *Gregory Anderson, Commissioner, New York City Department of Sanitation*
Renee Campion, Commissioner, Office of Labor Relations
Anthony Pennolino, Chief of Department, New York City Department of Sanitation
Gretha Suarez, Chief of Staff to the Commissioner, New York City Department of Sanitation