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ideas towards a more just NYC

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Solid waste is the worst. As bad as our waste water problem is, solid waste is more pressing. Only because we pay other entities (some as far as 600 miles from NYC) to accept our garbage are we enabled as citizens to ignore this mountainous problem.

Our export of solid waste is not just. We would never accept the same from another community. We know it is simply wrong. On top of that, the revenue devoted to the export of solid waste is critically needed elsewhere.

What's the point? **We should prioritize the reduction of solid waste.** 25 to 30 percent of solid waste in New York City is food or other organics. Efforts to divert edible food waste into usable food deserve our maximum support.

Another way is to **install garbage disposalls throughout New York.** They have been legal in the city since 1997. Disposalls will reduce the solid waste load AND food sources for rats and other pests.

Yes, composting would be better. Significant increases in recycling are also important. Reduction in container waste from potato chip bags to freight palletes is most important of all.

Meanwhile, disposalls are a cost effective way to reduce food and other organic waste. That is, we'll save money for the city even if it takes a publicly funded effort to implement a "disposalls for all businesses and residences" program.

Next week, responses to those who say it can't be done.