

# Polo Grounds Towers

Pneumatic Waste Collection System

**Community Engagement Field Report** 

March 10, 2023



#### **Project Team**

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Sustainability Department includes the Sustainability, Energy, and Environmental Planning programs teams, which oversee the implementation of NYCHA's comprehensive Sustainability Agenda as well as innovative pilot projects in areas such as waste, electrification, and green infrastructure.

Navillus Contracting is a major New York-based general contractor that has worked with NYCHA for 15 years on various capital infrastructure projects. Navillus is leading the design-build construction team comprised of Navillus Contracting, Dewberry Engineers Inc., Marvel Architects, Landscape Architects, Urban Designers, PLLC. and Atreo (Pneumatic Waste Collection Systems).

Hester Street is an urban planning, design and development nonprofit that works to ensure neighborhoods are shaped by the people who live in them. We offer planning, design and community development technical assistance to community-based organizations, government and other agencies. Our goal is equitable, sustainable and resilient neighborhoods and cities.







#### **MARVEL**

#### **Acknowledgements**

This process would not have been possible without the support of the Polo Grounds residents and volunteers who dedicated their time, energy, and ideas to this project. Thank you to NYCHA Sustainability Programs and Resident Engagement teams, the Polo Grounds Property Management team, and to Navillus and Marvel Architects from the Design-Build team.

Special thanks to the Polo Grounds Resident Tenant Association President Serena Chandler and the TA Board, to Deymis Baquero of Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) and the Polo Grounds MAP team, and to Maria Rosa and her staff at Police Athletic League (PAL) Community Center at Polo Grounds.

Photographs by NYCHA Photographer Leticia Barboza and Hester Street.

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"The efforts of the office of Resident Engagement and the Tenants Association in educating our residents about proper waste disposal and the pneumatic waste collection system complement each other, and will prove to be a great solution for waste management across our campus – and other NYCHA campuses in the future."

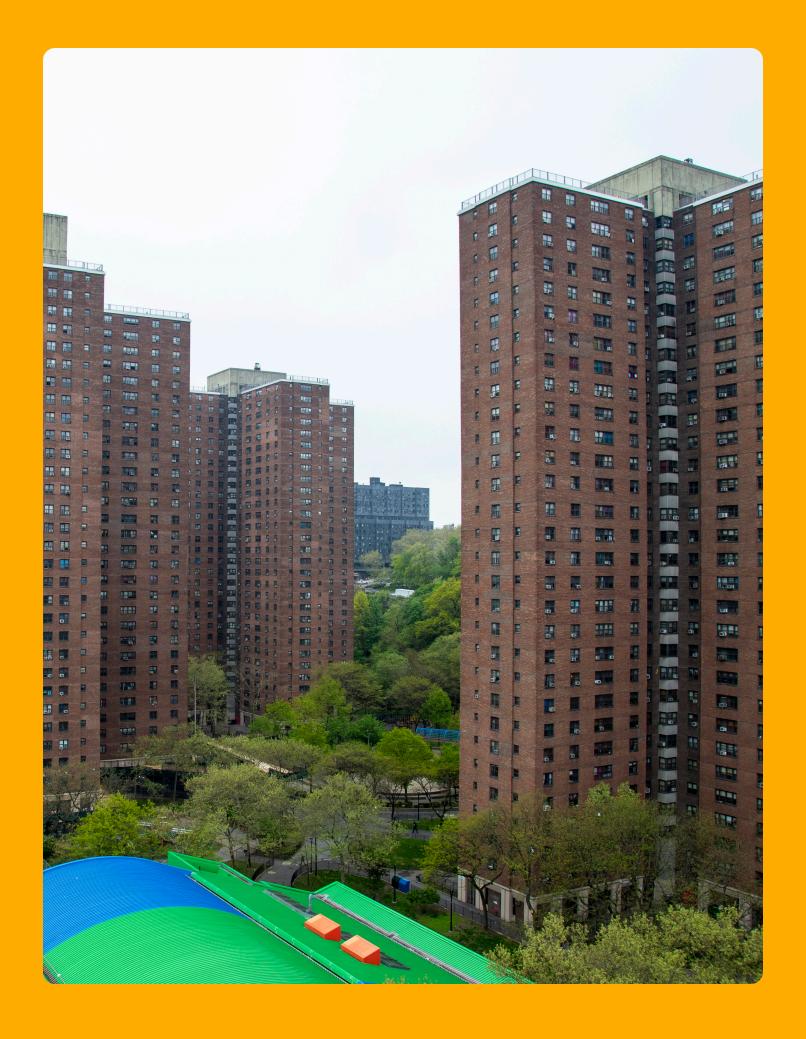


Polo Grounds
Towers Tenant
Association
President
Serena Chandler

"Making sure that our buildings and grounds are clean and as pest free as possible is one of our top priorities. Pneumatic waste collection allows for more efficient and containerized trash and recycling collection and storage, which fulfills a key area of the HUD Agreement on waste management as well as a key environmental sustainability initiative."



NYCHA Senior Vice President for Sustainability Vlada Kenniff



# Introduction

In 2024, Polo Grounds Towers will become the first in public housing and the second major residential complex in the country to host a state-of-the-art pneumatic waste collection system to collect both trash and recyclables.

The \$31 million design-build construction project is a bar-raising initiative for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) intending to enhance the quality of life for more than 4,000 residents, improve working conditions for building staff, and save the Authority hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in operating costs. Once completed, the project will upgrade and modernize Polo Grounds' waste collection infrastructure, reduce pests, and make recycling convenient and accessible for its residents.

NYCHA is committed to ensuring that the new system at Polo Grounds is an exemplary pilot demonstration for the future of waste collection on NYCHA campuses throughout the city. This project is a direct response to NYCHA's overarching goals to ensure that all buildings and grounds are clean and pest-free. Priorities to adopt new pest-resistant collection technology, upgrade old infrastructure, and improve and expand recycling – articulated in NYCHA's 2.0 Waste Management Plan (2019), 2020 Sustainability Agenda, and the 2019 U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Agreement – are addressed through capital initiative.

In June 2022, NYCHA officially gave Notice to Proceed (NTP) to a construction team comprised of Navillus Contracting, Dewberry Engineers, Inc., Marvel Architects, PLLC and Atreo to begin developing a pneumatic waste collection system that would utilize a design-build project delivery method, which streamlines and combines design and construction into one single point of responsibility.

The NYCHA Sustainability team engaged Hester Street to design a 6-month engagement process that involved working closely with Polo Ground Towers' residents to lend their expertise and knowledge of the Polo Grounds community, to support the implementation of the pneumatic waste collection system (eg, the New Trash System).

The following report provides an introduction to the new pneumatic waste collection system and design-build project at Polo Grounds Towers, as well as a summary of the stakeholder engagement process (May-December 2022) designed by Hester Street, and led by the NYCHA Sustainability team in partnership with Polo Grounds residents.

A key feature in this report is the insightful feedback provided by residents who participated in a series of public workshops on the design and functionality of various components of the new system. It also includes key takeaways and recommendations, synthesized from small facilitated group conversations, responses to materials, and large group question and answer sessions.

## What is a Pneumatic Waste Collection System?

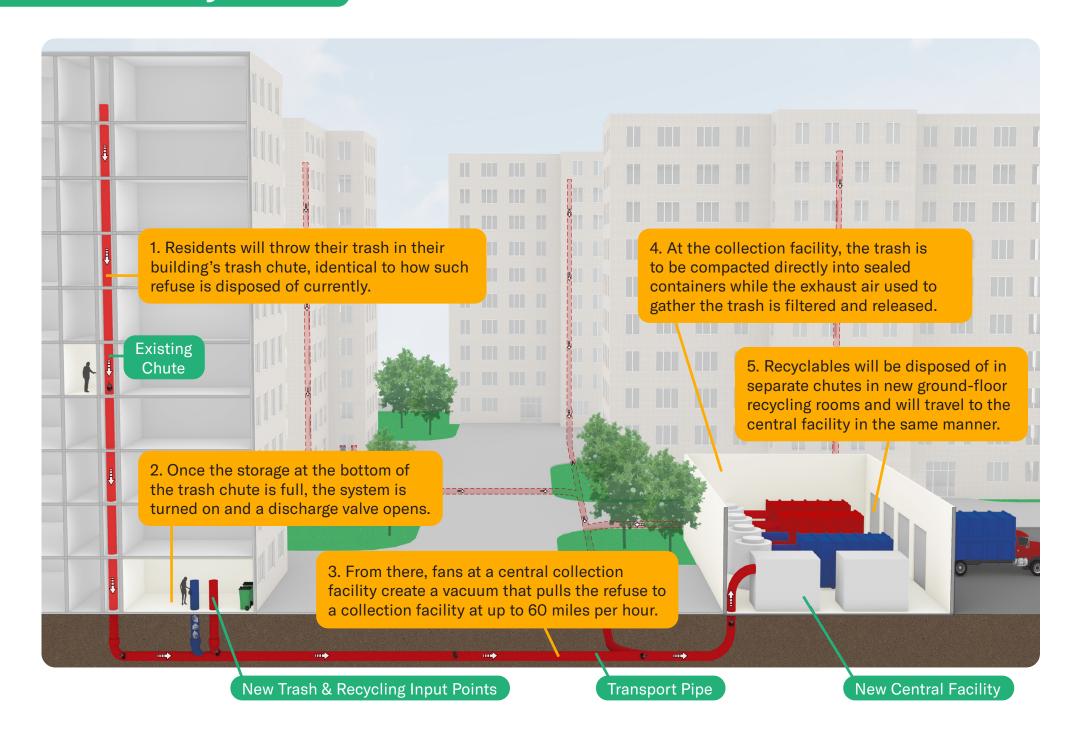
A pneumatic waste collection system uses a powerful vacuum to suck trash from individual buildings through underground pipes to a central collection facility, which can serve buildings from as far as two miles away. The same pipe network can be used to collect separate recycling streams by switching containers.

There are hundreds of installations of pneumatic systems in Europe and Asia. Roosevelt Island has used <u>a similar version of this</u> technology for decades, which was the only area of New York City to have uninterrupted trash collection during the blizzards of 2010-11 and Superstorm Sandy.

NYCHA will bring the first instance of a pneumatic waste collection system to a public housing authority in the US.

#### **Benefits**

- Improves cleanliness and removes unsightly waste storage from residential buildings and grounds
- · Reduces stress on residents from rat and trash issues
- Increases pedestrian safety from reduced vehicle traffic within the development
- Increases resiliency of waste system to weather events, staffing levels and holidays
- Increases workplace safety for staff and reduces ongoing operating costs for NYCHA
- Increases access to recycling by increasing capacity of development staff to support recycling efforts





# **Community Engagement**

The success and longevity of NYCHA's sustainability goals, articulated in the Authority's 2021 Sustainability Agenda, are greatly dependent on resident engagement. The following provides an overview of that process.

#### **Project Goals**

- 1. **Engage and inform residents** of the New Trash System at Polo Grounds through a series of facilitated workshops, outreach, and interactive educational materials
- 2. **Gather input from residents** on waste collection practices, culture surrounding waste collection, design and functionality of various features of the installation
- 3. **Create a model** for transparent and collaborative engagement to motivate residents to support successful implementation of waste collection and sustainability initiatives at NYCHA



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#### **Phases of Work**

#### Phase I:

# Research & Discovery

#### Learn about the pneumatic system

Visit Roosevelt Island to meet staff who operate the pneumatic collection facility and residential buildings served by the system

#### Meet with Polo Grounds stakeholders

Tenant Association, community leaders, construction managers, architects, and designers

# Phase II: Project Planning

Define work plan, timeline, milestones reflecting NYCHA's engagement strategy and project goals

Hester Street and NYCHA team incorporate Tenant Association feedback into final plan

# Phase III: Resident Workshops

#### Outreach to incentivize residents attendance

- · Create a recognizable design identity
- Distribute outreach materials (printed flyers/posters, e-blasts) with the Polo Grounds Tenant Association (TA) Board, Building Captains, Floor Captains, and Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) team
- Table at Polo Grounds events to continue outreach

#### Design and facilitate a resident workshop series

- Identify current issues and supply design solutions
- · Educate residents to be experts in the pneumatic system
- Create a feedback loop with residents responding to postworkshop surveys, What We Heard summaries, and FAQ sheets

# Phase IV: Report on Community Engagement

Summarize engagement process and synthesize key takeaways from resident feedback Identify next steps

### Timeline

#### **Community Engagement Process**

#### Design Build

MAY '22	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN '23	NEXT STEPS
Phase I R&D									
		<b>Phase II</b> ject Plann							
					<b>Pha</b> s Resident V	<b>se III</b> Vorkshops	5		
								Phase III Field Report	
									Ongoing Engagements & Education
									Construction Begins





Roosevelt Island Site Visit

## Approach

#### **Inclusive and Responsive**

Using the NYCHA Connected Communities

Guidebook as a reference, the project teams sought to partner with key stakeholders from the start and

to partner with key stakeholders from the start and to tailor the workshops to unpack the current issues and needs of residents while promoting dialogue.

The engagement approach started by identifying an active group of resident leaders (Polo Grounds TA Board President, Serena Chandler, her board and a diverse groups of residents who lead community projects as part of the Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) team). In early planning discussions, these key Polo Grounds stakeholders raised deep concerns over the lack of resident input in many other past construction and infrastructure projects at Polo Grounds over the years. Hester St. and NYCHA worked closely with this group of resident leaders to understand the existing challenges around waste management, and to engage them as key partners in the outreach as well as the design and implementation of the actual workshops. For outreach, we mobilized TA board members. building and floor captains, and youth organizers involved in MAP and Green City Force (GCF) as outreach partners who distributed flyers around the development, within floors and lobbies of their buildings, and tabled at the bi-weekly Harvest Days and other existing community events.

In recognition of the many diverse cultural communities that exist at Polo Grounds, materials were produced in five different languages and interpreters for Spanish, French, Cantonese and Mandarin were in attendance at the workshops. All workshops took place at the centrally located Police Academy League (PAL) Community Center.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CHECKLIST Research the neighborhood and its history Conduct asset mapping and in-depth analysis Provide consistent and trained facilitation Engage community leaders Host multiple-format listening and workshop sessions Establish a consistent feedback loop with residents Document residents' needs, ideas, and proposals Develop a shared vision and establish goals Finalize and communicate project vision Evaluate projected goals

NYCHA Connected Communities Guidebook

#### Interactive and Innovative

Engagements used a range of interactive media to help provide residents with an in-depth understanding of the project. Marvel Architects created a physical model of the facilities that participants could walk around and study, to help visualize the space. The Navillus team installed a full-size mock-up of the hopper door for participants to test out. The Hester Street team also preserved workshop momentum with interactive games such as raffles and bingo, all the ultimate goal of developing participants' commitment to the process.

# Trusting and Building Relationships

Although we sought a large audience by promoting the workshops through flyering, tabling, and email blasts, we found that workshops were attended by a core group of dedicated residents. Workshops built on the collective knowledge generated by each previous session. Each session provided feedback loops that encouraged deeper exploration and conversation, by summarizing questions and answers in a FAQ sheet that got updated throughout the engagements, distributing a What We Heard summary of points raised in the previous workshop to catch up those who could not attend, and we wrapped up small group table conversations with a full group share-back session to build a shared understanding of the points raised by residents.

Hester Street collaborated with residents on outreach and, in an effort to be respectful of people's time and recognize the value of their expertise, partners were compensated for their time.



Hopper Door full size mock-up



В	1	N	G	0
Spring 2023	The recycling rooms	The Terminal Building	True	Rats
Saturday, December 10th, 10 – 11:30 AM	Three times a week	Key fobs	Ms. Serena Chandler	Two hour-rated fire-resistant covering
Through the hopper door on our floor	Fall 2024	FREE	Educating other residents	The ground floor of each building
Juliette Spertus at juliette.spertus @nycha.nyc.gov	One on every floor	In our building's recycling room	Heat sensors	Automatically multiple times a day
Plastic, metal, paper, and cardboard	13-gallon	Input from the residents and staff	Us, the residents!	Pressurized air

Game prizes, childcare, and language interpretation were available for residents at all four workshops.

## Workshops

Workshop 1

September 21

#### Purpose: Identify issues with current waste collection system and introduce the New Trash System

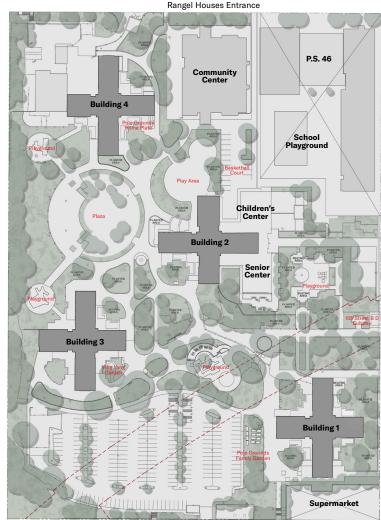
As the kickoff workshop in the series, this session opened up with introductions to the various team members involved in the design and construction of the design-build project. Marvel Architects provided an overview of the pneumatic waster collection system itself. Activities included participants marking their favorite places on the Polo Grounds campus, a performative contest involving two volunteers testing their cardboard box break-down skills, and both open forum and facilitated breakout conversations to identify concerns and questions about the pneumatic system, which was included in a Frequently Asked Questions sheet distributed at subsequent workshops.

#### **Key Takeaways**

- Safety concerns such as misuse of building trash chutes and recycling rooms and fire safety
- Need for accountability among neighbors to use the system correctly
- Interest in ensuring accessibility throughout the system, and better signage to minimize confusion around uses
- Questions about construction timeline, jobs for NYCHA residents, where bulk items would be stored, and whether construction would engender more pests



Workshop 1 started with an icebreaker activity that tested residents' cardboard box break-down skills.





your favorite place.

請把圓形貼紙貼在地圖中您最喜歡的地方

Is your favorite place not shown on the map? Write it down on a sticky note and place it on the map!

如果您喜欢的地方在地图上并未被标出,请把该处写在便签贴纸上并贴在地图上

如果您喜歡的地方在地圖上並未被標出,請把該處寫在便簽貼紙上並貼在地圖上





Residents marked their favorite places at Polo Grounds and set community agreements for discussion over the workshop series.

Workshop 2 October 18

#### Purpose: Introduce the new Hopper Door and Terminal Building

The focus of this workshop was to get resident input on the design and functionality of the hopper doors - through interacting with a full-size model of the new Hopper Door - and the terminal building. Hester Street provided display boards with prototype designs for educational signage that would be installed around Polo Grounds and provided a series of prompts for residents to provide feedback on the signage.

#### **Key Takeaways**

#### **Hopper Doors**

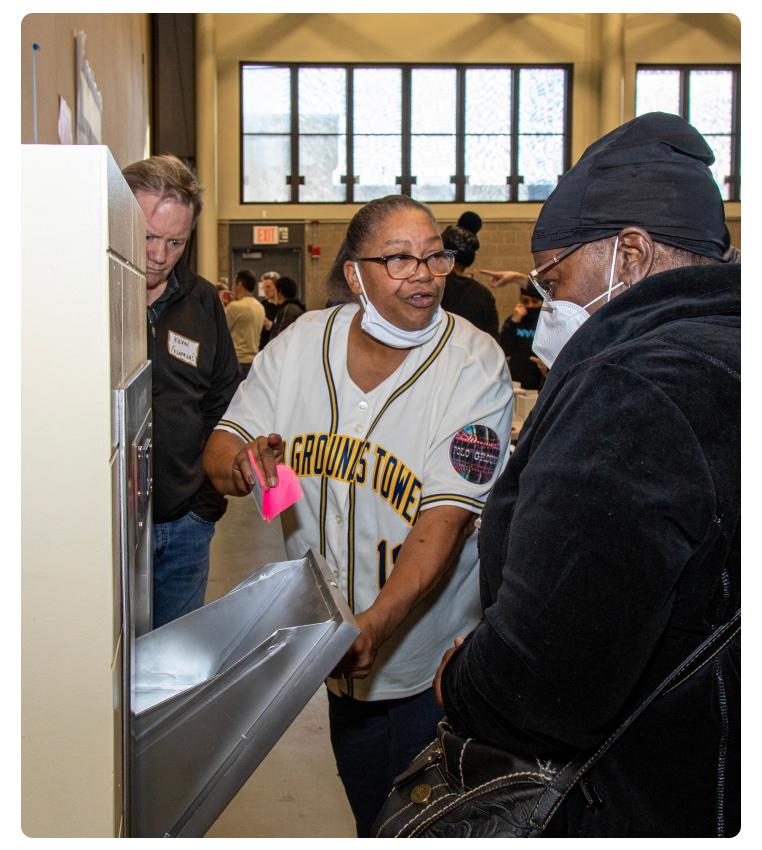
- Safety concerns for children and seniors around the hopper door due to its heaviness
- Importance of clear and visual signage on the hopper/chutes on allowable items for disposal
- Strong concern about potential misuse of the chutes and a recommendation to incentivize use of the right-sized trash bags
- · Positive responses and appreciation for proposed new hopper doors with larger openings

#### **Terminal Building**

- Questions about reduction of parking spaces due to siting of the Terminal building, and whether the building would reduce access to natural light for Building 3 residents
- · Concern around system failures and speed and ease of response and repair from staff
- Excitement for a proposed new gathering space outside of the building and the concept of being able to view inside the Terminal building



40+ residents participated in Workshop 2.



Hopper Door mock-up

Workshop 3 November 17

#### Purpose: Feedback on the Recycling Room Function and Design

In this workshop, participants had the opportunity to interact with a physical model of the Recycling Room and focus solely on the design and safety features of the room. Participants played a bingo game using the "trash facts" generated from the FAQ sheet. This interactive game checked for understanding and provided some fun, including prizes for the winning participants. Breakout table conversations focused on specific design elements of the recycling room, including safety and accessibility features (key fob access, entryway, room management/security) and resident usage (determining what items residents recycle (now and in the future), optimal signage (including placement, content, design, etc.)

#### **Key Takeaways**

- Lack of consensus around recycling room features, but workshop launched an important dialogue
- Education during and after construction is needed to prepare residents to use the new room
- A phased approach to opening the recycling room could allow property management to proactively address safety and security concerns
- Signage should be clear, visual, and specific, showing acceptable items for disposal and which bins and chutes accept each type of item
- The physical model is critical to understanding the layout of the building lobby with the new Recycling Room installed
- Interest in developing creative solutions to encouraging resident behavior change around waste and recycling





Physical model showing resident and staff facing areas of the recycling room. Resident area (with green floor) shows hopper doors for system and bins for other materials.



Resident indicating entrance to recycling room opposite elevators in lobby.

Workshop 4 December 10

#### Purpose: Explore educational installations for Polo Grounds community

The final workshop used the synthesis of resident input from the previous 3 workshops to create a mock-up of a proposed "Educational Installation" that was requested by residents to inform other Polo Grounds residents, many of whom did not attend these focused workshops. The installation would cover key information about the new system and any impacts to current waster collection practices, what to expect during and after construction, and how to best use the new system. The workshop space was laid out like an exhibit with the proposed installation signage and mock-up images on one wall. Participants were encouraged to view and respond to each of the 3 stations: Hopper Station, Recycling Room, and Terminal Building in small groups. Participants provided feedback on signage clarity and information, and whether images and installations were instructive enough to help residents understand and prepare for the new pneumatic waste collection system.

#### **Key Takeaways**

- Imagery should be relatable: include photos of Polo Grounds residents in the renderings, customized to each building
- Display images of finished recycling room during construction
- · Billboards announcing construction should be placed at key places around the campus
- Reaching residents in smaller groups is important: Either building or floor-level meetings should regularly happen to discuss the current status, issues, and ideas for construction
- Request for clear, timely, and consistent communication of construction and other operational updates







Residents interacted withlarge-scale Educational Installations, displayed on the wall in three stations



# What We Heard

#### **Broad Input**

- 1. Excitement for the New Trash System, and the possibility for new recycling methods
- Strong support for and interest in establishing a new Recycling Room in each of the buildings in the prospect of promoting better waster collection practices, accountability and systematically adding composting, textile recycling, and e-waste recycling
- Overall positive resident response to the new trash management system and the pressing need for major upgrades to promote cleaner facilities and grounds: "Esta es una buena idea de la basura."
- 2. Concern for pests, fire, and general safety issues at all levels of the system
  - Residents have a general concern for pests being introduced into the building as a result of construction activity and digging up grounds for installation of underground chute system
  - Concerns about fireproofing of pneumatic system due to chronic issues with fires in the trash chutes
  - Establishing the right security and locking system for recycling rooms, while also keeping
    rooms accessible for residents: "If we lock the Room for the night, what happens if I need to
    recycle something?"
- Questions of ADA and language accessibility throughout the New Trash System
- Many Polo Grounds residents require ADA accommodations; repeated requests were made for the design to be ADA accessible.
- 4. Demand for transparency, accountability, and further education of the New Trash System
  - Residents requested a way to continue learning about the New Trash System, and if there could be a web portal and contact to follow the construction process and ask outstanding questions: "Some of my concerns are the residents that don't come to the workshops. How can we get them more informed about the new waste system?"

#### 5. Ideas on signage design and implementation around Polo Grounds

- Ensure that signage is installed at multiple sites around campus outside of each building and in common gathering spaces
- Residents felt that all signage should use direct and accessible language and be highly visual, colorful, and translated in all appropriate languages: "I am grateful to be accommodated and educated."

# 6. Love for Polo Grounds, its people, its culture, and specific places within it

 There was no shortage of love for Polo Grounds, with some of their favorite places being the Senior Center, the Ying Yang Garden, and the Plaza: "Business and cultural moments come out of Polo Grounds everyday, and that needs to be involved in the design, construction, and implementation of the New Trash System"







60 residents of Polo Grounds Towers were engaged over the course of the workshop series.



## Recommendations

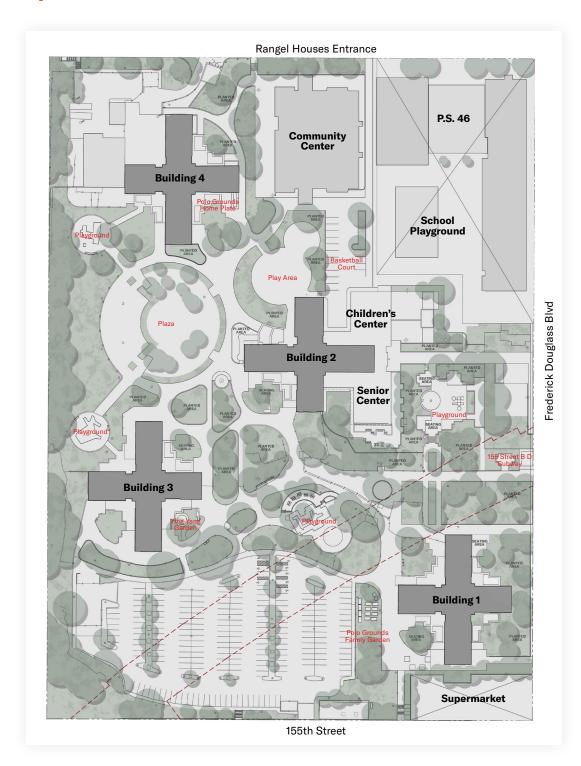
One of the biggest takeaways from the engagement process was the importance of establishing clear next steps to ensure that the relationships developed with Polo Grounds Residents continued during and beyond the construction phase.

Here are some recommendations put forth by residents, Hester Street and NYCHA Sustainability around what steps can be taken to ensure the successful implementation of the New Trash System.

- Continue conversations with Polo Grounds management to incorporate their thoughts and ideas into the design and implementation process
- 2. Establish regular, accessible, and ongoing engagement and educational opportunities for residents and NYCHA Sustainability team throughout the construction process
  - Provide QR codes and email contacts on all educational installations
- · Post a physical construction timeline outside of the construction trailer
- Schedule regular check-ins with Tenant Association President and Board on resident feedback
- Complete the design and implementation of Educational Installations initiated in Design-Build engagement workshops
- Ensure that the installations are placed in each building lobby and across the campus in popular common meeting places
- Create informational materials that incorporate guidance provided by the residents and include representation of current residents
- Continue to coordinate engagement with NYCHA partners working at Polo Grounds such as Compost Power and MAP
- 3. Set up pages on the NYCHA website providing further information about the project including construction timeline, FAQs, current system status alerts and updates, and how-to-guides on recycling and depositing trash
- 4. NYCHA to incorporate resident education and engagement into new procedures after operation begins

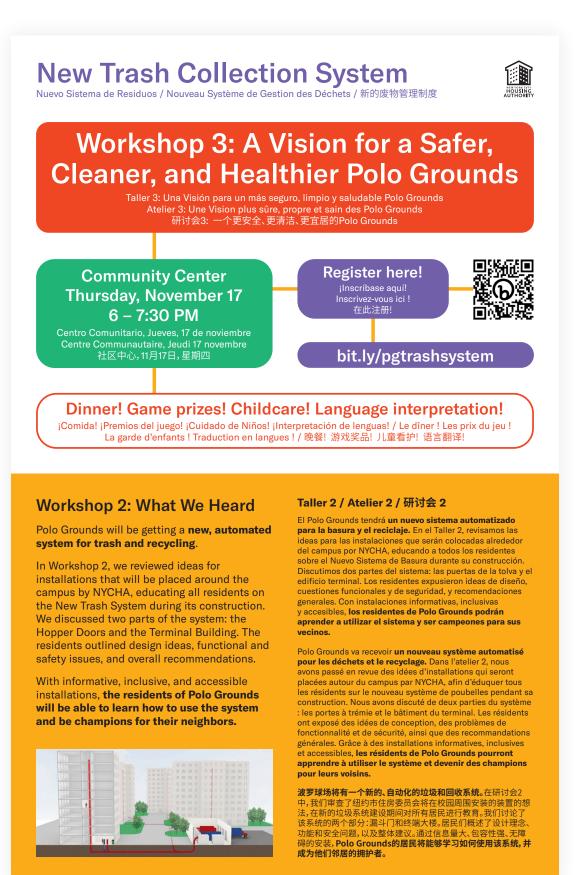
# Appendix

#### Site Map

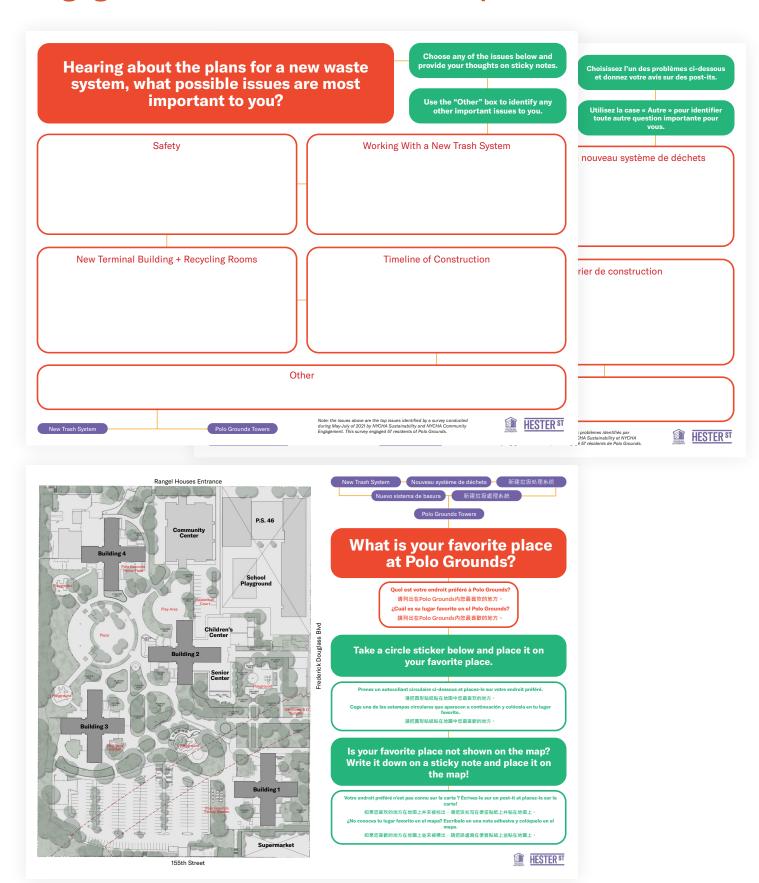


Polo Grounds Towers Site Map

#### **Outreach Materials**



**Outreach Poster** 



**Activity Boards** 

#### LOGISTICS

3.00	33 11111	CHECK-IN with HST Lead for <u>assignments</u> (in hallway) Facilitators/Notetakers - provided with name tags + table assignment (Name, NYCHA/HST, Pronouns)
5:35	10 min	NYCHA + HST staff bio break

5:45	15 11111	Set up Tables				
6:00	5 min	Facilitator/Notetakers settle in at your Table				
Table Se	t-up Diagram	Reference diagram (link) for room/tables set up				
Sign-in Table  Food + Refreshments Table  Small Group Tables (8-10 seats)  Table Materials		Sign-in sheet, name-tags, participant consent forms (photography?)				
		Boxed dinners + beverage for pick-up at Food Tables  Designated language tables (Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, French)				
						Each table should have:  10 chairs for 6-8 participants + 1-2 facilitator/notetaker (timekeeper)  Table number cards Run of Show/Facilitator Guide (hard copy) Activity Board + 8"x10" Maps Note-Taking-Template (English/Spanish/Chinese/French) Laptop if notetaker is taking digital notes Supplies: post-its and writing utensils, post-its/stickers
		table numbers, directional signs at entrance for WM workshop				
		Wrap up		Take photos of the boards     Collect all notesheet, boards, and bring all table materials to sign-in table for HST staff to pack up     Facilitator/notetaker to debrief and jot down any key takeaways from table group		

#### ROLES + TABLE

	capture your thoughts and recommendations. [Agenda slide]				
	But before we get into that, let me pass the mic to my colleague Clyde who's recruited 2 volunteers				
1 min (30-second activity)	Ciyde/NYCHA: Ice-breaker Activity: box break-down race (need 2 volunteers)  Hi, I'm Clyde with NYCHAand I'm here to introduce the first ever Pole Grounds Box Breakdown Championship. Thank you & for volunteering! [2 contestants come up to the stage with pre-assembled boxes before them.]  We're going to give them 30 seconds to break down and recycle the following boxes. Let's see how many they can break down. All of you in the room, please make some noise for our 2 volunteers!  On your mark, get set, GO! [Break-down boxes]  Congratulations to the winner:! You have the honorary title of Polo Grounds Box BreakDown CHAMP				
	[Both volunteers get a raffle prize for volunteering.] Hand the mic to Katy				
1 min SLIDES:	Katy/NYCHA Community Agreements  Hi, I'm Katythen: review agreements on slide.				
Comm Agreement s Slides	Announcements + transition to presentation:  I'm pleased to announce that we have officially launched the new Polo Grounds Compost Program! To walk the talk, we've set up this Compostable Bin for all of us to use to throw out today's organics.  Also: if you didn't pick up a raffle ticket at the sign-in table, please see Clyde or raise your hand and we'll get you a ticket!  Now, I'd like to turn your attention to Guido Hartray and Esteban Backer, our architects and Kevin Smith construction team lead to give you a quick overview of our plans for this New PG Trash System.				

#### SENTATION + OPEN FORUM (20 MIN)

[hands mic to Guido/Marvel]

- Provide an overview of the project and where we're at now
   Hear what questions residents have about the project Ask residents to respond to initial design plans
  - - Slide deck projected on wall
      Flip board (for jotting down open forum questions)
      Activity Boards for all (5-7) tables

- $\circ\quad$  If multiple people try to speak at once, the names of people who have
- something to say and let everyone speak, one at a time, without interruption.
- Make sure the space is kept safe + respectful
   If someone is using hurtful language, try "That term can be hurtful, could you
- please refrain from using it?"

   If someone asks a question that you don't know the answer to, be honest and tell them you don't know. Jot down the question for NYCHA staff.

#### **USING THIS GUIDE**

Talking points in purple

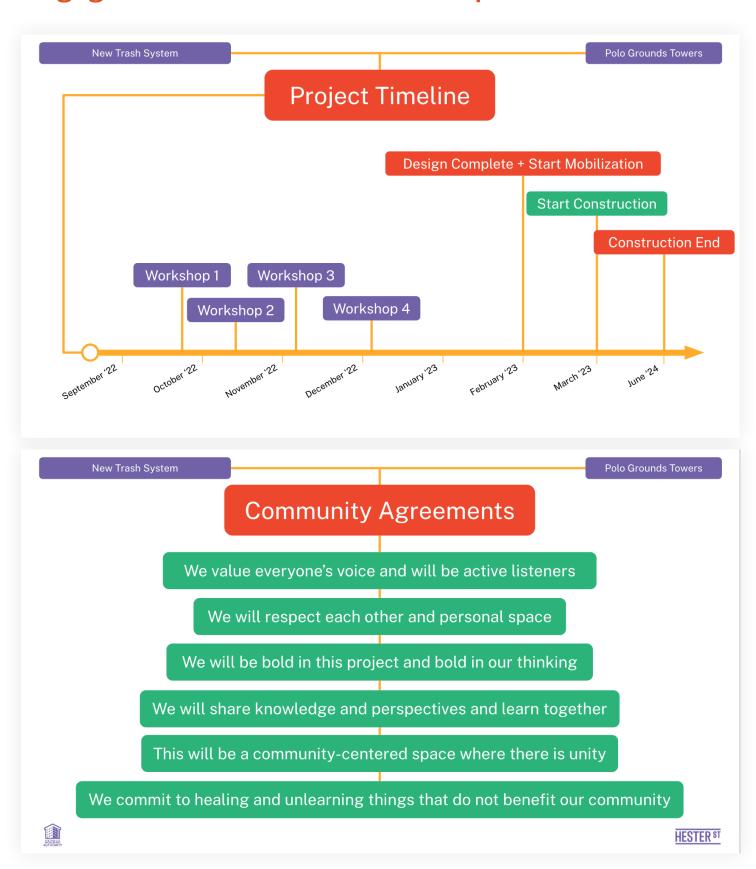
#### **RUN OF SHOW & FACILITATION GUIDE**

RON OF OTH	W & FAGILITATION COIDE		
ARRIVAL (1	5 min)		
Objective:	Create a welcoming environment		
	Materials:   Sign-in sheet, Nametag, Raffle tickets   Boxed dinners   FAVE PLACE BOARD on easel or wall near sign-in table		
10 min	Residents Sign-in + Settle in at Tables		
	Utsa/HST + Clyde/NYCHA: 2 Greeters at the "Sign-In" table greet + sign in each participant (sign-in sheets)		
Fave Spot	Thank them for taking the time to join the workshop     Give them a nametag + a raffle ticket + Photo Release Form     Assign (written on Nametag) and direct language participants to the appropriate table:     Spanish Speakers Table     Mandarin Speakers Table		
MAP board displayed at entrance	French Speakers Table     Invite residents to place a dot sticker on large Polo Grounds Map on their FAVORITE PLACE/SPOT before sitting at their table		
	[Devin/HST: to operate slides/tech support] Cover slide up.		
At the Tables:	Facilitators: + Notetakers: Welcome Residents when they arrive at your table. Encourage residents to eat their dinner while participants settle in. If they haven't already, encourage residents to place a sticker on the FAVORI PLACE/SPOT flipchart at entrance.		

BREAKOUT	TABLE ACTIVITIES (35 MIN)	
10 min  Breakout! Slide Projected  TABLE BOARDS: Fave Place Map	Activity 1:  Devin: to operate Deck and be time-checker FACILITATOR: Introduce yourself and your role. Ask people to introduce themselves (name + pronouns) and what building they reside in.  You were invited to share your favorite place/spot at PG. What did you pick and why?  Please place a color dot on that site - and tell us about that space Please feel free to vocalize these and/or write them down on a post-it and put them on the map (8.5 x 11) We'd be happy to help write them down as you share them with the group too.	FACILITATOR Post-it note-taker:  Juliette Katy Clyde Devin Utsa Lillian Spanish French Cantonese Mandarin
20 min  TABLE BOARDS: Issues Board	Activity 2:  FACILITATOR: Hearing about the plans for a new waste system, what possible issues are most important to you?  Place a post-it on those options and explain why. Choose any of the issues below and provide your thoughts on sticky notes: Safety Working With a New Trash System New Terminal Building + Recycling Room Timeline of Construction Other	FACILITATOR  Juliette/french Katy Clyde Devin Utsa Lillian Spanish - Guido/ Esteba Cantonese Mandarin

5 min	Wrap up of Breakout Discussion
	FACILITATOR:  • "We're about to wrap up our breakout discussion so I wanted to see if
	anyone wants to volunteer to share 1 highlight or takeaway from our conversation. [Identify volunteer]
	"And before we move into the full group discussion, are there any questions or final thoughts or themes you want to share before this group

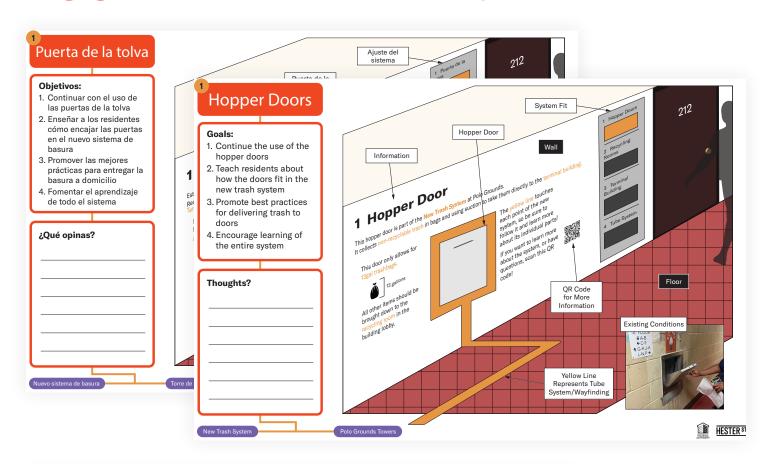
**Facilitation Guide** 

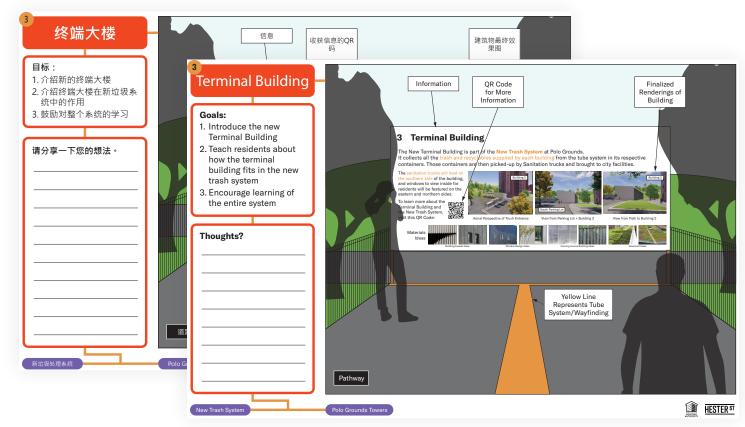


请扫二维码参与我们的问卷调查·欢迎您对我们的讲座和工作提出意见。 請掃二維碼參與我們的問卷調查。歡迎您對我們的講座和工作提出意見。 Polo Grounds New Trash System Feedback Survey: Workshop #1 This survey is for feedback on Workshop #1 for the Polo Grounds New Trash System. Please let us know how the workshop went, and if you have any questions, concerns, or comments to make! Q5: On a scale from 1 (I have little understanding) to 5 (I understand completely), For all general inquiries about this project, please cont how well do you understand the new Pneumatic Waste Management System? at Juliette.Spertus@nycha.nyc.gov. utsa@hesterstreet.org (not shared) Switch accou 1 2 3 4 5 \* Required I have little understanding O O O O I understand completely Q1: What is your name? (If you would rather stay anonymous, ignore this qu Q6: Is there any feedback you would like to give us about Activity 1: Naming your \* favorite place at Polo Grounds? Write "n/a" if you have no feedback. Your answer Your answer Q2: What is your email address? \* Q7: Is there any feedback you would like to give us about Activity 2: Expanding on Your answer important issues with the new waste system? Write "n/a" if you have no feedback. Your answer Q3: What group do you represent? (choose all tha Polo Grounds Residents Polo Grounds Staff Q8: Is there anything you are still unsure of when it comes to the Pneumatic Waste Management System? Building/Floor Captains at Polo Grounds Tenant Association Board at Polo Grounds Your answer Q9: How did you feel about the Workshop itself? (i.e. the food and drinks, language availability, set-up, etc.) Your answer

Scan this QR code to take our survey and let us know how we did, and how you are feeling

Slide Deck Post-Workshop Feedback Survey





**Activity Boards** 





**Trash Collection System** 

**NYCHA Polo Grounds** 

In Workshop 1, residents discussed the installation of a new, automated system for transporting trash and recycling from each building to a central facility, anticipated to be completed by 2024. We answered questions related to safety, cleanliness, and accessibility, and discussed other benefits and challenges. This system will improve quality of life for residents and working conditions for staff, but **all residents need to understand the system for it to work!** The final design will include your input.

**Final Synthesized Takeaways** 

**Residents' favorite places** are outdoor spaces like The Plaza, the Yin Yang Garden and the Senior Square, and indoor spaces like their individual apartments and the Senior Center.

**Questions** residents have about the New Trash System include:

- Fire resistance and safety
- Confusion about the recycling rooms and what happens in them
- Misuse of the system at individual parts (i.e. not dropping litter down hopper chute)

**Issues** residents have brought to light include:

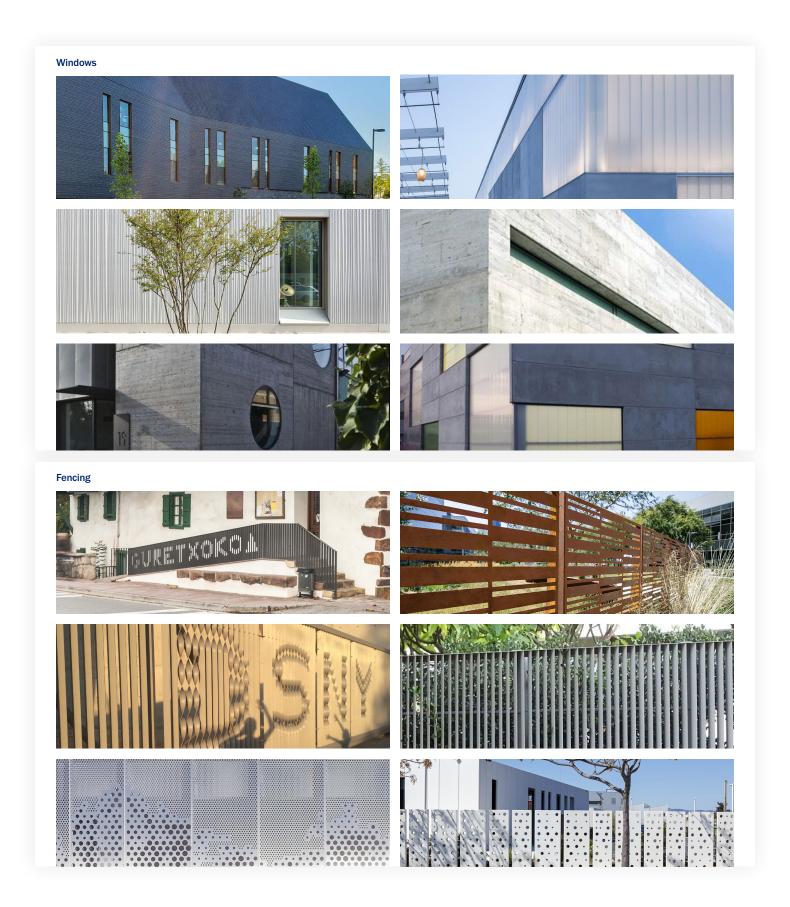
- Safety issues like fire, misuse of the recycling rooms from other people, pests, and bulk item build-up
- Issues with the system include holding other residents accountable for not using the system correctly, the proper placement and inclusion of recyclables, bulk-items, and reusable items, and getting NYCHA management on board with the new system
- Issues with the Terminal Building and Recycling Rooms include accessibility around and within recycling rooms, misuse of recycling rooms, and confusion from educational signage
- Issues with the Timeline of Construction include if there are jobs for NYCHA residents within the construction of this project, as well as a worry for more pests during construction
- Other issues include proper outreach methods being used, the hopper doors being difficult for seniors, and trash/recyclables building up in elevators

Thanks for joining us! RSVP for Workshops 3 and 4 at bit.ly/pgtrashsystem

What We Heard







Participatory Design Samples

Renderings







#### **New Trash System Bingo – NYCHA Polo Grounds**

В	- 1	N	G	0
Spring 2023	The recycling rooms	The Terminal Building	True	Rats
Saturday, December 10th, 10 –11:30 AM	Three times a week	Key fobs	Ms. Serena Chandler	Two hour-rated fire-resistant covering
Through the hopper door on our floor	Fall 2024	FREE	Educating other residents	The ground floor of each building
Juliette Spertus at juliette.spertus @nycha.nyc.gov	One on every floor	In our building's recycling room	Heat sensors	Automatically multiple times a day
Plastic, metal, paper, and cardboard	13-gallon	Input from the residents and staff	Us, the residents!	Pressurized air

Bingo Activity



#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Trash Collection System** 

**NYCHA Polo Grounds** 

#### When will this system be constructed?

Construction will start in Spring 2023 and will be completed by Fall 2024.

#### How often will the containers of trash be picked up?

The containers will be picked up from the collection facility at Polo Grounds about three times a week.

#### Will this system be fire resistant?

Yes. Hopper doors on each floor and in the new recycling rooms will be self-closing, made of fire-rated steel, and designed to prevent material from catching inside or outside the door. The trash chute will be fire-rated masonry construction. If burning material goes into the chute or a fire starts at the bottom, heat sensors at the base of the chute will activate a sprinkler system and put out the fire.

The transport pipe section, made of heavy steel pipe, will be downstream of waste valves in each of the four Polo Grounds buildings. It will be covered in a two hour-rated fire-resistant covering. The vacuum inside the pipe will extinguish most fires, but if burning material enters the pneumatic transport pipe, the equipment will shut off valves to contain the fire so it is not able to spread.

#### What other safety measures will be put in place?

In addition to fire safety measures, new hopper doors will have a tray to prevent large objects from being put into the chute. They will also have an interconnected locking mechanism so that as needed staff can lock hopper doors on all 30 floors from a touch screen at the base of the chute. The recycling rooms will be secured as discussed in the following response.

#### Will this system be accessible?

Inside the new ground floor recycling rooms hopper doors will be ADA and wheelchair accessible. New hopper doors installed on each floor will be ADA accessible to the extent possible based on existing site conditions. Signage for blind or visually impaired can be added.



#### How will the recycling room be secured?

The recycling room door will be lockable. The room will also be covered by two CCTV cameras and will have bright LED lighting and a window so that the interior of the room is visible from the lobby. The plan calls for a key fob lock so that residents can use the same key that they use to enter the building to access the recycling room. The recycling room can be secured so that it is only accessed during certain hours. The final design for securing the room will be determined with property management and resident input.

#### How big are the hopper doors? Will the system accommodate large items?

The exact dimensions of the new hopper doors are still being determined. The goal is to increase the opening of the hopper doors so that 13-gallon kitchen trash bags will fit but include features to prevent bulky objects such as broom handles or rolls of carpeting from clogging the chute.

#### How often will the chute be cleaned?

The gravity chute will be cleaned as needed. If the pneumatic transport pipes need to be cleaned, a procedure similar to cleaning sewer lines can be administered.

#### What if you accidentally drop something down the chute, like keys?

For safety reasons, NYCHA staff are not permitted to sort through material that falls down the existing trash chutes. Anything that is dropped down the chute would be lost. The same would be true after the pneumatic system is installed.

#### Will this system attract pests, like rats and raccoons?

No. Chutes will be emptied automatically, multiple times a day, so trash will be continuously removed from the building. In addition, the system is completely sealed. The trash chute will connect directly to the transport pipe which will connect directly to the container at the collection facility.

#### How can we make sure everyone knows how to use the system correctly?

The system will include signage with straightforward instructions so residents know how to use the system, but we know it can be hard to make sure everyone is using it correctly. We need YOU to help us get out the word and be leaders at Polo Grounds to teach your neighbors how to properly use the system for a cleaner, healthier campus for all.

Do you have any other questions? Write them on an index card!

Frequently Asked Questions

# **Educational Installations**

Instalaciones educativas Installations éducatives

教育设施

教育設施

The following installations are drafts of the **educational signage** that will appear around Polo Grounds **during construction.** 

Las siguientes instalaciones son esbozos de la señalización educativa que aparecerá en los alrededores del Polo Grounds durante las obras.

Les installations suivantes sont des ébauches de la signalisation éducative qui apparaîtra autour de Polo Grounds pendant la construction.

下面的装置是施工期间将出现在Polo场地周围的教育标志的草稿。

以下裝置是施工期間將出現在 Polo Grounds 周圍的教育標牌草稿。

To learn more about the New Trash System and the timeline of construction, scan this QR code.



Para obtener más información sobre el nuevo sistema de recogida de basuras y el calendario de construcción, **escanee este código QR.** 

Pour en savoir plus sur le nouveau système de collecte des déchets et sur le calendrier de construction, scannez ce code QR.

要了解更多关于新垃圾系统和建设时间表的信息,请扫描这个OR码。

要了解有關新垃圾系統和建設時間表的更多信息,請掃描此二維碼。

We will review the installations in groups. Please take sticky notes and **leave your thoughts** directly on the installations as you review them.

Revisaremos las instalaciones en grupos. Por favor, tomen notas adhesivas y deien sus pensamientos directamente en las instalaciones mientras las revisan.

Nous examinerons les installations en groupes. Veuillez prendre des notes autocollantes et **laisser vos pensées** directement sur les installations pendant que vous les examinez.

我们将分组审查这些装置。请用便签在装置上直接留下你的想法,因为你在审查它们。

我們將分組審查安裝。 請記下便利貼,並在您查看它們時直接在裝置上留下您的想法。

# On a In the residential building floor lobby

En un piso residencial

Dans un étage résidentiel

在一个住宅楼层

在住宅樓層

En el vestíbulo del edificio

Dans le hall du bâtiment

在大楼大厅

在大樓大廳

Au parking sud

En el aparcamiento sur

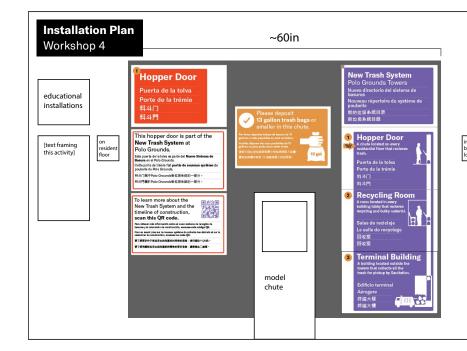
southern

parking lot

在南部的停车场

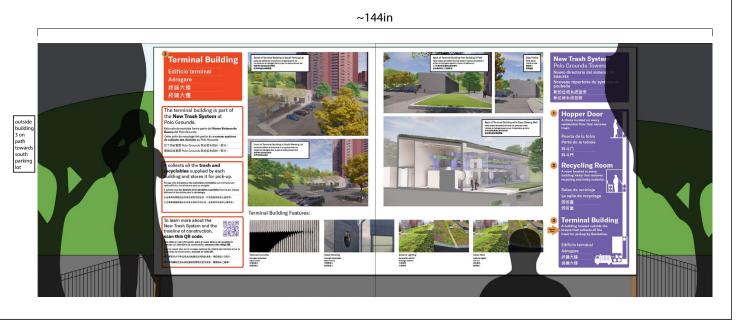
At the

在南停車場



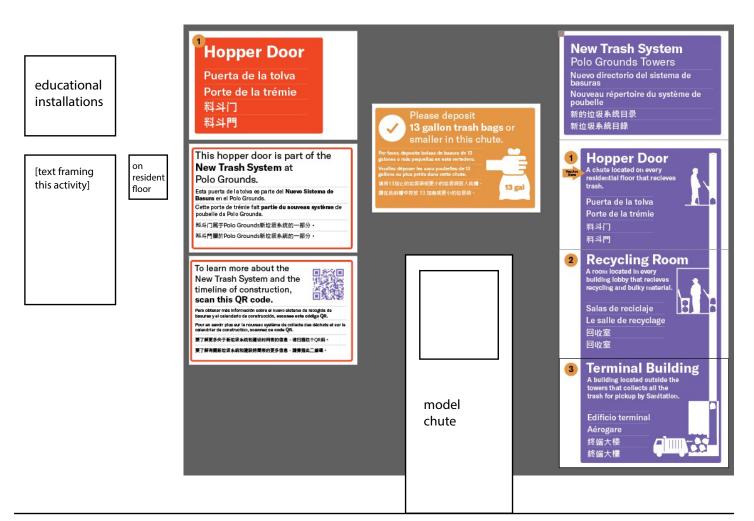


~80in



Educational Installation Instructions and Plan

Hopper Door Signage Mockup











#### New Trash System

Polo Grounds Towers

Nuevo sistema de eliminación de basura

Nouveau système de collecte des déchets

新建垃圾处理系统

新建垃圾處理系統

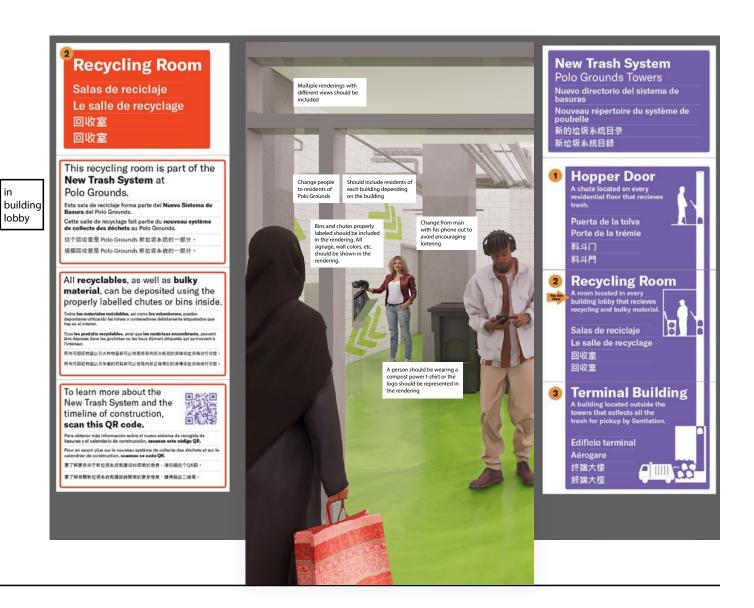






Hopper Door Signage

Recycling Room Signage Mockup



**Recycling Room** 

Salas de reciclaje

Le salle de recyclage

回收室

回收室

#### This recycling room is part of the **New Trash System** at Polo Grounds.

Esta sala de reciclaje forma parte del **nuevo sistema de** eliminación de basura del Polo Grounds.

Cette salle de recyclage fait partie du **nouveau système** de collecte des déchets au Polo Grounds.

这个回收室是 Polo Grounds 新垃圾系统的一部分。

這個回收室是 Polo Grounds 新垃圾系統的一部分。

All recyclables, as well as bulky material, can be deposited using the properly labelled chutes or bins inside.

Todos los materiales reciclables, así como los voluminosos, pueden depositarse utilizando las tolvas o contenedores debidamente etiquetados que hay en el interior.

Tous les produits recyclables, ainsi que les matériaux encombrants, peuvent être déposés dans les goulottes ou les bacs dûment étiquetés qui se trouvent à

所有可回收物品以及大件物品都可以使用里面有适当标签的滑道或垃圾箱进行存放

所有可回收物品以及笨重的材料都可以使用內部正確標記的滑槽或垃圾箱進行存放

#### This room is only accessible to Polo Grounds residents and staff, and is monitored remotely by CCTV.

A esta sala sólo pueden acceder los residentes y el personal del Polo Grounds, y está vigilada a distancia por circuito cerrado de televisión.

Cette pièce n'est accessible qu'aux résidents et au personnel de Polo Grounds, et est surveillée à distance par CCTV.

这个房间只有Polo Grounds的居民和工作人员可以进入,并由闭路电视进行

這個房間僅供 Polo Grounds 居民和工作人員使用,並由閉路電視遠程監控。

**Recycling Room** A room located in every building lobby that recieves recycling and bulky material. Salas de reciclaje Le salle de recyclage 回收室



Please deposit all 13 gallon trash bags into the trash chute.

or favor deposite **todas las bolsas de** basura de 13 galones en el vertedero.

回收室

euillez déposer tous les sacs poubelles de





#### This room **does** take:

·Cans/metal ·E-waste ·Cardboard Compost

Textiles •Paper

Cette pièce prend : Les canettes/métaux, le compos

这个房间确实需要。罐头/金属、堆肥、电子垃圾、纺

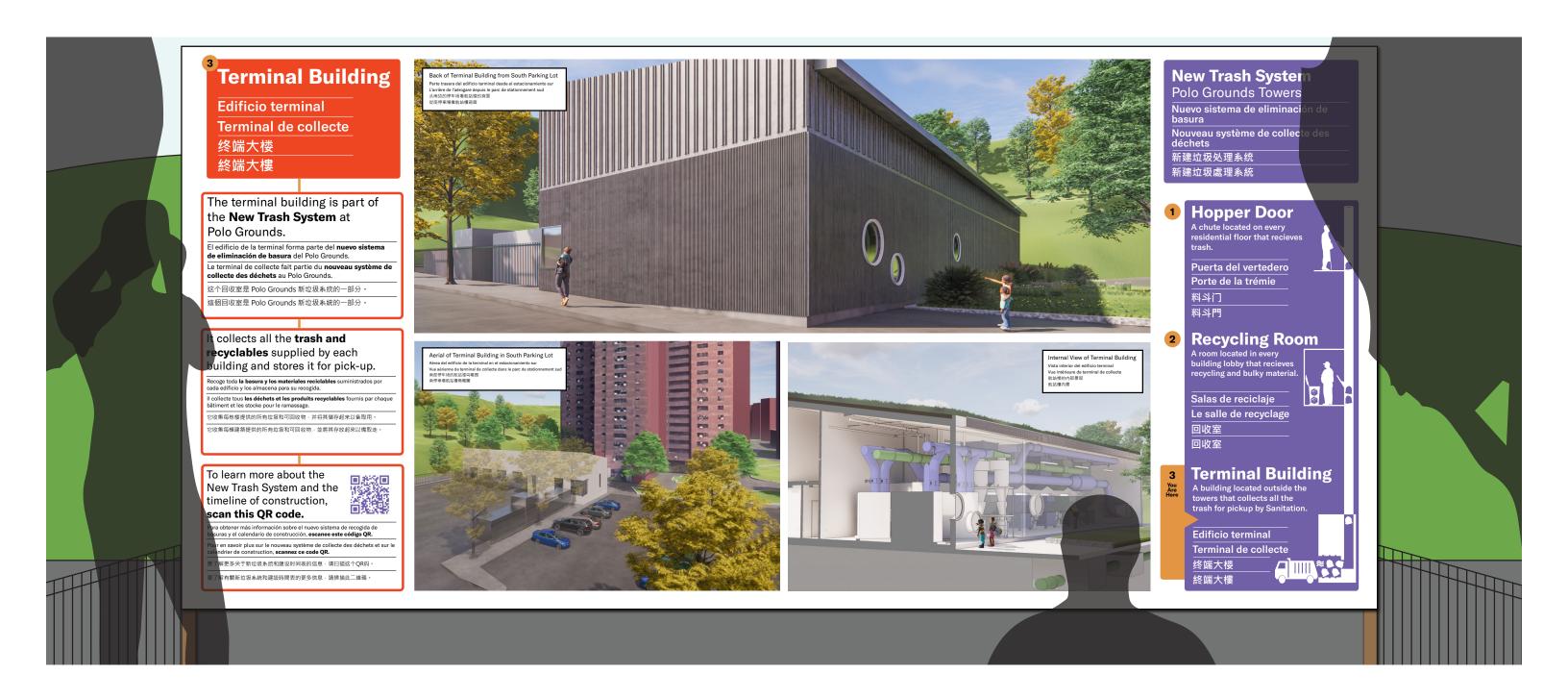
這個房間確實需要:罐頭/金屬、堆肥、電子垃圾、約







Recycling Room Signage



Terminal Building Signage Mockup (outside Building 3 towards south parking lot)