The City’s new Prevailing Wage Law has forced non-union buildings to adopt some arbitrary way-above-the-minimum-wage pay scale that affects a small segment of the City’s workers, supers and porters. Adding insult to injury, the City is now requiring additional OT hours at time and a half to put out trash at times that are outside the normal working hours. You are bankrupting your citizens (which, in turn, will likely bankrupt the City as more of us leave due to beyond acceptable financial and other living conditions). This is not a threat, but a virtual reality. You can’t keep squeezing unreasonable amounts of money out of New Yorkers without severe consequences. And, for what, this time? So that rats will not be on our street for about 2 hours less per day, if that?

Many of the comments already have called this plan nonsensical, stupid and the like. I’d like to add my views to the mix since my managing agent is too cowed to comment because of the possibility of retaliation by a City department.

As some have already said, this “initiative” (more like a punitive measure), like most the City implements, puts yet another onus on residents instead of squarely on the sanitation department or other City departments to figure out the best means to get rid of the rodent problem.

In addition to the comments raised by others that this will impact the seniors adversely who will be afraid of putting out trash at night due to rising crime and possibly falling (and some religious Jewish people who simply cannot put out trash at 8 pm on Friday nights), this new proposed law will affect virtually every citizen since it is not normal to require even a live-in super to put out trash between 4 am and 7 am (much less a super that typically starts at 8 am or later), nor is it advisable to require supers to stay late and put out trash at 8 pm. What actual world are regulators living in? Are you made of money yourselves, thinking it’s no big deal to require these kind of OT hours? Do the supers even want OT for this frivolous escapade, or would they rather be with their families, either having dinner at 8 pm or sleeping longer as they get ready for their day instead of getting up at 4 or 5 am to make sure they get into the City (since most can’t afford to live in the City) on time for their normal work schedule?

Turning to the receptacles. Have you seen the amount of trash in an average building? There is no way that every single street in NY won’t have wall-to-wall trash receptables to hold all this trash. Receptacles can’t be more than 55 gallons. That means numerous receptacles for each building if one eye-balls right now how many trash bags are typically put out. In addition, as many have noted, these receptacles will lose their lids rather quickly as either passersby open (and not close) them to add their trash to the mix or the sanitation dept employees have them strewn throughout the streets, causing possible traffic problems as cars hit the bins, and, as someone else noted who has seen it happen, “cans taken up by the wind, fly in the air and hit parked cars”, as well as even more costs as lost receptacles and lids must be replaced by NY residents in a never-ending treadmill.

I do understand that you want to collect trash later without interference with traffic, pedestrians, etc. But we live in a City that is very active, and you need to judge what’s the worse evil. Rats for a couple of hours (and is that really a scientifically proven fact?) vs inconveniencing (and financially impacting) practically every resident of the City. Whether there are rats on the street, in our parks or wherever, they’re not disappearing anytime soon. More sanitation trucks picking up trash quicker would be better, but we all understand the budget implication of that. Try to understand our individual budgets as well. Don’t make us pay for something that is probably not even a proven fact. Don’t make us throw money at a problem for a bloody 2 hours. I implore you.