

Sven, NYC

Type

Residential Typology 6: Multiple Chutes

Truck Collection Typology 4: 20–40 cu yd (RoRo) Containers

Best Practice Strategies

- 2.01 Determine waste streams and quantities
- 2.02 Plan a route
- 2.03 Design storage space
- 2.04 Plan for collection
- 2.05 Consider staff procedures
- 2.08 Provide equal convenience disposal
- 2.10 Provide clear visual cues and signage
- 2.12 Develop awareness and education programs
- 2.13 Design for occupancy
- 2.15 Provide shared assets and services
- 2.21 Volume reduction equipment

Summary

The Sven is a 71-story luxury rental apartment building in Long Island City, Queens. The development is a Durst Organization property and was designed by Handel Architects with interior amenities by Selldorf Architects. The building opened in 2022. This 958-unit building is the second-tallest building in Queens and has 50,000 square feet of amenity space.



The Sven in Long Island City, Queens

The Durst Organization manages the properties they develop, so designing buildings for efficient operations is an important consideration. Building management staff are involved in the design of new buildings to ensure waste can be well managed, and sustainability and waste goals can be met. After the successful implementation of a RoRo and balers at Via 57, and touring the dual RoRo set up at the neighboring The Max building, Durst ensured that The Sven was designed for no waste to be set out on the curb.

The RoRos are located in a 3,800 SF enclosed yard, which is within the 30' wide rear yard required by zoning. Access is from a 30' wide curb cut on 41st avenue and through a 15' high roll gate. The enclosed yard has a trellis above to lessen the visibility from apartments above, but there is 25' clear headroom below per DSNY requirements for loading the trucks.

Two 30 cubic yard compacting Roll-on Roll-off containers (RoRos) are used for the building's trash and recycling. One RoRo is exclusively for trash and the other is used for paper and cardboard (P&C) or metal, glass, and plastic (MGP) in turn. Trash moves from chutes on each floor to a vertical compactor at ground level, which compacts the material into two 3-CY containers. Once full, the 3CY containers are emptied into the RoRo. Similarly, MGP travels down from the chute into a bag carousel in the same room as the vertical compactor. Glass is then sorted out of each bag by hand, and the remaining metal and plastic are baled and stored in 3 CY containers until it is time to fill the RoRo. Paper and cardboard are collected in tilt trucks from the refuse rooms three times a day and taken in the service elevator to the ground floor. Here the cardboard is baled and the material is put into the RoRo, and after it is emptied by DSNY it is filled with MGP which is emptied by DSNY the following day.



RoRos and balers in an enclosed yard at the rear of the building

On each floor, refuse rooms are equipped with trash and MGP chutes, as well as a designated area for flattened cardboard boxes and paper. Clear signage instructs residents on how to properly sort refuse. Additionally, the building plans to add an organics collection program once the occupancy is closer to 100%. A service elevator opens directly into the refuse room allowing building staff easy access to service the rooms multiple times per day.

Throughout the building's common areas and elevators, informational screens display recommendations for energy and waste reduction, including information about clothing recycling within the building.

Residents can drop off clothing and textile recycling in a Wearable Collections drop-box in an accessible service space adjacent to the building's Amazon locker space. E-waste and bulk items are picked up on-demand by staff until enough is amassed to call for DSNY pick-up.

There are trash and recycling bins in each amenity space for residents' convenience, as well as water fountains. In the rentable party space and demo kitchen, dishwashers encourage the use of reusable dishware. In a further innovative way to reduce consumption and waste, Durst is looking to install a rental closet by Tulu, with goods ranging from vacuum cleaners to printers and projectors.



Clockwise from top: refuse room, loading dock exterior, vertical trash compactor, and bag carousel for MGP

