

# The Max, NYC

## Type

Residential Typology 4: Trash Room with Chute and Bins

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

## Best Practice Strategies

- 2.02 Plan a route
- 2.04 Plan for collection
- 2.05 Consider staff procedures
- 2.08 Provide equal convenience disposal
- 2.10 Provide clear visual cues and signage
- 2.13 Design for occupancy
- 2.21 Volume reduction equipment

## Summary

The Max is a rental development in Hell's Kitchen designed by Arquitectonica, with SLCE as the architect of record, for TF Cornerstone in 2018. With over 1,000 rental units and 45,000 square feet of amenities, this is one of the largest residential buildings in Manhattan. The building is named after the late Max Elghanayan, who conceived this building's innovative waste management system which optimizes the efficiency of operations for staff and ensures that no bags of trash or recycling are set out on the curb.



44-story luxury residence, the Max in Hell's Kitchen, Manhattan

The Max is outfitted with two 30 cubic-yard Roll-On Roll-Off (RoRo) compactors in a large 2700 SF ground floor room, which handle all the trash and there is an adjacent 1700 SF recycling room. The RoRos are accessed through 12'-6" wide 15' high roll doors, and the truck enters the loading dock, which has 34' high headroom. These are accessed from the back of the building on West 56th Street, adjacent to the DSNY Sanitation garage.

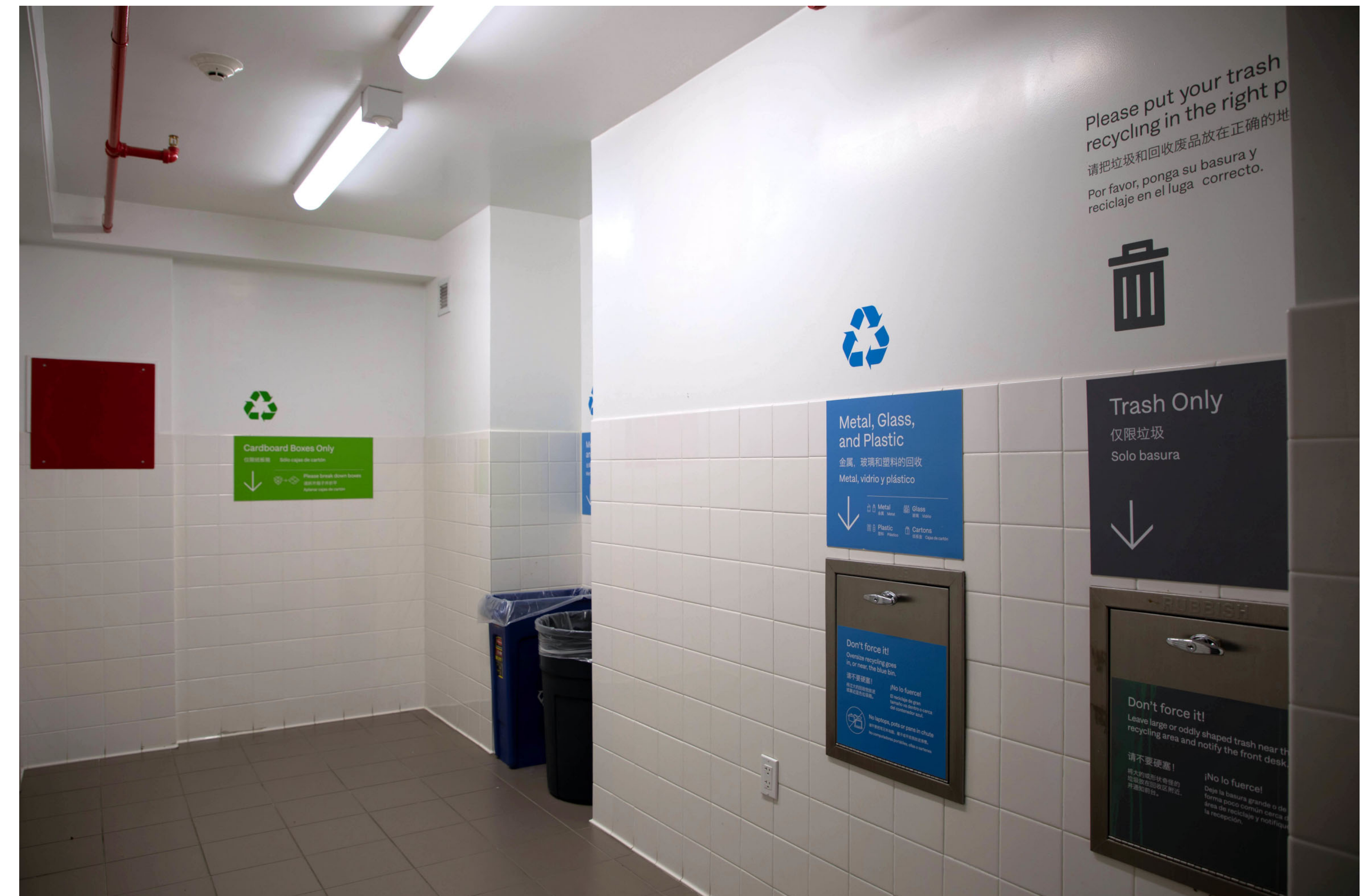
Large refuse rooms on each of the 41 floors were designed to move trash and metal, glass, and plastic (MGP) down through two separate chutes. The trash chute is connected to a vertical compactor which compacts the material into 3 cubic yard containers. When full, a container is moved with a pallet jack and emptied into the trash RoRo. The metal, glass, and plastic chute was designed to feed into a vertical compactor and clear sausage bags that would be put into the recycling RoRo. But the bottles and cans made too much noise going down the chute, so the chute has been locked, and MGP is instead collected from bins in the refuse room via tilt trucks in the service elevator just like paper and cardboard. The paper and cardboard are compacted in the RoRo, and the MGP bags are stacked in the Recycling Room. Once the cardboard RoRo has been emptied, staff fill it with MGP and DSNY picks it up the following day. The compactor for trash is picked up about every 5 days, while the one for recycling is picked up for each stream about once a week.



A large space for the building's two RoRos, and 4,400 SF compaction and compaction rooms

On the residential floors above, clear signage in 110 SF refuse rooms instructs residents where to place their trash and recycling in English, Chinese and Spanish. Larger boxes and small e-waste are left on the floor in designated pick-up areas. Two service elevators located inside each refuse room allow porters to quickly service each waste room three times per day without navigating tilt trucks through hallways.

Bulk items and large e-waste are picked up from apartments on-demand and items are stored in a bulk area of the 1700 SF recycling room and 2700 SF compaction room. When the bulk and e-waste areas are full, DSNY is called for a pick-up. The building does not currently separate organic or textile waste.



The Max's clear signage of refuse rooms and loading dock on 56th Street

