as well as with any other types of trolleys that would benefit from being convertible between service and waste collection trolleys.

## BRIEF SUMMARY

**[0007]** Embodiments of the invention described herein thus provide systems and methods for providing trolleys that can be converted between a meal/beverage trolley and a waste collection trolley. According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a trolley configured to be convertible between meal/beverage service and waste collection service, the trolley including: at least one dry ice compartment defined by a top flap and a dry ice compartment base, a sliding waste ring defined by an outer rim and the dry ice compartment base, the outer rim and the dry ice compartment base being hingedly cooperable such when the sliding waste ring is extended from the trolley and the dry ice compartment base is hinged away from the outer rim, an opening is defined by the outer rim configured to support a waste bag, wherein when the top flap is opened, a trash opening is defined in an upper portion of the trolley. The waste ring may be configured to maintain its securement within the trolley. The waste ring may have side notches for securement of the waste bag.

**[0008]** The trolley interior may have internal ledges for supporting meal trays or bins or both. The trolley may have first and second dry ice compartments in hinged cooperation with one another. The first dry ice compartment may be hinged open and rest along a top portion of the second dry ice compartment. In an alternate example, if first and second dry ice compartments are provided, they may have a with a central portion therebetween, such that a first top flap of the first dry ice compartment and a second top flap of the second dry ice compartment are independently openable, and when in an open configuration, the top flaps lie against the central portion. It is possible for at least one dry ice compartment to be removable from the trolley. It is also possible to provide one or more bins that may be positioned within an open space defined by a removed or hinged dry ice compartment.

**[0009]** According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for converting a meal/beverage trolley to a waste collection trolley, including: providing the above trolley , extending the sliding waste ring out from the trolley, hinging the dry ice compartment base away from the outer rim of

CLAIMS

1. A trolley configured to be convertible between meal/beverage service and waste collection service, the trolley comprising:

at least one dry ice compartment defined by a top flap and a dry ice compartment base,

a sliding waste ring defined by an outer rim and the dry ice compartment base, the outer rim and the dry ice compartment base being hingedly cooperable such that when the sliding waste ring is extended from the trolley and the dry ice compartment base is hinged away from the outer rim, an opening is defined by the outer rim configured to support a waste bag, wherein when the top flap is opened, a trash opening is defined in an upper portion of the trolley.

2. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the waste ring is configured to maintain its securement within the trolley.

3. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the waste ring comprises side notches for securement of the waste bag.

4. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the trolley comprises a trolley interior comprising internal ledges for supporting meal trays or bins or both.

5. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the trolley comprises first and second dry ice compartments in hinged cooperation with one another.

6. The trolley of claim 5, wherein the first dry ice compartment may be hinged open and rest along a top portion of the second dry ice compartment.

7. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the trolley comprises first and second dry ice compartments with a central portion therebetween, such that a first top flap of the first dry ice compartment and a second top flap of the second dry ice compartment are independently openable, and when in an open configuration, the top flaps lie against the central portion.

8. The trolley of claim 1, wherein the at least one dry ice compartment is removable from the trolley.

9. The trolley of claim 1, further comprising one or more bins that may be positioned within an open space defined by a removed or hinged dry ice compartment.

10. A method for converting a meal/beverage trolley to a waste collection trolley, comprising:

providing the trolley of claim 1,

extending the sliding waste ring out from the trolley,

hinging the dry ice compartment base away from the outer rim of the sliding waste ring,

positioning a waste bag within the opening of the sliding waste ring,

sliding the waste ring back into the trolley,

opening the top flap to define a trash opening at an upper portion of the trolley.