EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During preconstruction activities for the Queens Botanical Garden (QBG) Education Building New Construction, Project Number PV272EDUC, the New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC) Office of Environmental and Hazmat Services' consultant, LiRo Engineers, Inc (LiRo)., conducted soil sampling pursuant to regular agency protocol. QBG is located at 43-50 Main Street in the Flushing section of Queens, New York. The QBG New Construction project area (herein referred to as the "Site") measures approximately 49,130 square feet (1.1 acres) of the approximately 39-acre QBG. The attached figures show the project and sample locations.

During the testing of six waste characterization soil samples within the project area, one sample analyzed in the laboratory measured a slightly elevated hazardous level of lead exceeding the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standards. This level was discovered by the NYCDDC on January 7, 2025, during review of the draft Combined Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and Phase II Environmental Subsurface Investigation (ESI) report (dated December 30, 2024) provided by the consultant.

Sample SB-24-COMP, collected from 0 to 10 feet below grade surface (ftbgs), had a toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) lead concentration of 5.3 milligrams per liter (mg/L), which exceeds the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste limit of 5 mg/L. This exceedance was detected within the northeast portion of the proposed development area. The impacted area is currently a grassy area just south of the asphalt paved path through the QBG and will remain inplace prior to removal and disposal.

Prior to removal and disposal, the contractor will provide a Material Handling Plan (MHP), Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP), and Environmental Health and Safety Plan (EHASP) for review and acceptance pursuant to NYCDDC guidelines, as well as all appliable State and Federal regulations.

The full project scope for PV272EDUC consists of a new Education Building to expand its current capacity for educational programing. The building will add six new teaching spaces, including four classrooms, a teaching kitchen, and a teaching greenhouse where educators will be able to grow and maintain plants for educational purposes. In proximity to outdoor spaces well-used by the education program, the new building will serve school groups, families, after school clubs, adults, and seniors. The proposed project will also include restrooms and information for visitors, to those exploring the immediate environs as well as other aspects of the Garden. The new building will be situated within the southern portion of the QBG just north of 133rd Street between 134th and 136th Streets. The maximum depth of excavation for the work is 6 ftbgs. QBG occupies Block 5107, Lot 200, and is bounded by Main Street to the east; Elder Avenue, 133rd Street, and Booth Memorial Avenue to the south; College Point Boulevard to the west; and, Blossom and Dahlia Avenues and Crommelin Street to the north. The QBG and is situated in an area characterized by parkland and residences.



