

## FOREWORD

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This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the East Village/Lower East Side Rezoning project. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed project was accepted as complete by the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) as lead agency on May 2, 2008. Public notice of completion of the DEIS was distributed. A public notice addressing the hearing on the DEIS was published in the City Record, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental News Bulletin, and was also placed in a local newspaper, the *New York Sun*, on July 28, 2008. The City Planning Commission held a public hearing on the DEIS at Tishman Auditorium of Vanderbilt Hall, New York University School of Law, 40 Washington Square South, New York, New York 10012 on August 13, 2008 at 9 AM. The period for the public to submit written comments remained open until August 25, 2008.

This FEIS reflects all substantive comments made on the DEIS during the public hearing and subsequent comment period. The comments are summarized and responded to in Chapter 27, "Responses to Comments." Changes to the text and graphics from the DEIS were made in this FEIS, as necessary, in response to these comments. Unless otherwise indicated, all changes to text since publication of the DEIS are marked by double-underlined text in this FEIS. Where appropriate, deleted text is indicated by a notation in the margin.

Changes between the DEIS and FEIS include:

- In Chapter 23, "Alternatives," the R6A/C6-3A with Inclusionary Alternative was updated to reflect the provisions of the modified ULURP applications C 080397 ZMM (A) and N 080398 ZRM (A), which were filed on July 3, 2008, subsequent to the publication of the DEIS. This change did not affect the results of analyses conducted for this alternative.
- Chapter 7, "Historic Resources," was revised to reflect additional resources identified by the New York City Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC). Based on the revised analysis, there is a small increase in the number of architectural resources that would experience significant, adverse impacts. In addition, the Phase 1A Archaeological Assessment Report described in the DEIS has been added to the FEIS as Appendix J.
- The discussion of mitigation measures for the potential adverse shadow impact to Orchard Alley Garden was revised in Chapter 6, "Shadows," Chapter 22, "Mitigation," and Chapter 24, "Unavoidable Adverse Impacts," to note that the impact would remain unmitigated if funding were unavailable for the mitigation measures.
- As a result of refinements to the air quality analysis in Chapter 23, "Alternatives," changes were made to E-Designations restrictions for four sites under the R7A/C6-3A with Inclusionary Alternative.
- Chapter 5, "Open Space," and Chapter 6, "Shadows," were updated to reflect the recent opening of Toyota Children's Learning Garden, a pocket park at 603 East 11th Street.

## **East Village/Lower East Side Rezoning EIS**

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- St. Brigid’s Roman Catholic Church and School, which were slated by the Archdiocese of New York for redevelopment and included in the Reasonable Worst Case Development Scenario (RWCDS), are now slated for preservation and renovation. Accordingly, it is anticipated that RWCDS Projected Development Sites 90 and 123 would no longer be redeveloped. The analyses in Chapter 6, “Shadows,” Chapter 7, “Historic Resources,” Chapter 11, “Hazardous Materials,” Chapter 18, “Air Quality,” and Chapter 19, “Noise,” were modified to reflect this change. The density-based technical analyses in the FEIS have not been adjusted as the RWCDS increment identified in the DEIS represents a more conservative value for the analyses.
- An inadvertent editorial error resulted in the inconsistency between the development site identity numbers in Chapter 7, “Historic Resources,” and Chapter 20, “Construction Impacts,” and those found in Table 1-4 of Chapter 1, “Project Description.” The correction of these inconsistencies does not alter any of the conclusions of the FEIS. \*