

Foreword*

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Cornell NYC Tech Project was certified as complete by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development (ODMED), as lead agency under City Environmental Quality Review, and issued for public review and comment on October 10, 2012. A public hearing on the DEIS was held on February 6, 2013 concurrently with the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) public hearing held by the New York City Planning Commission at Spector Hall, 22 Reade Street, New York, NY 10007. Oral and written comments were accepted at that hearing and throughout the public comment period, which was held open until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 19, 2013.

This Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) reflects notable changes subsequent to publishing the DEIS, which include the following:

- Site Plan. As described in the DEIS, the proposed special district would provide for flexibility in architectural design within limits established to ensure adequate access of light and air to the street and surrounding waterfront open areas, and to encourage more attractive and innovative building forms. Design of the project site buildings is ongoing, and thus the figures presented in the DEIS were reflective of the design under consideration at that time. Since then, the site plan was updated to reflect some modifications to the likely Phase 1 development and more current building forms for the Phase 2 development. Therefore, the illustrative site plan is updated in the FEIS as are the analyses that depend on building form: Chapter 6, “Shadows,” Chapter 7, “Historic and Cultural Resources,” Chapter 8, “Urban Design and Visual Resources,” and Chapter 15, “Air Quality.”
- Chapter 4, “Community Facilities.” The analysis of schools has been updated to reflect the Department of Education’s 2011-2012 school year enrollment figures.
- Chapter 5, “Open Space.” The open space chapter has been updated to reflect the opening of the Four Freedoms Memorial.
- Chapter 14, “Transportation.” The transportation chapter has been updated to account for changes to the traffic analyses based on discussions with the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT). These changes to the analyses were accounted for in the air quality and noise analyses and other FEIS analyses, as appropriate.
- Chapter 20, “Construction.” A discussion of a two potential barging techniques under consideration for the Phase 1 construction period has been added to Chapter 20, “Construction.” The construction chapter has also been updated to account for changes to the traffic analyses based on discussions with NYCDOT.
- Chapter 21, “Mitigation Measures,” was revised to account for ongoing coordination with the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). The chapter was also updated to account

* This Foreword is new to the FEIS.

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for changes to the traffic and pedestrian analyses based on discussions with NYCDOT and the New York City Fire Department.

In addition to these changes, the FEIS summarizes the comments made during the public review period and provides responses in a new chapter, Chapter 26, "Response to Comments." Where appropriate, the text of other chapters of this FEIS was revised in response to comments, revisions in the analyses, or editorial changes. These revisions and changes are indicated by ~~strikethroughs~~ and double underlines.