

FOREWORD

This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) for the East Fordham Road rezoning (“the proposed action”). Acting on behalf of the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) lead agency, the City Planning Commission (CPC), the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) determined the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed action to be complete and issued a Notice of Completion for the DEIS on May 17, 2013. A public hearing on the DEIS was held on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at 10:00 AM in Spector Hall, at the Department of City Planning located at 22 Reade Street, New York, New York 10007. Written comments were accepted through the public comment period, which ended on August 5, 2013. Written comments received on the DEIS are included in Appendix B.

This Final EIS reflects all substantive comments made on the DEIS since its publication, at the public hearing, and during the subsequent comment period. The comments are summarized and responded to in Chapter 8, “Responses to Comments on the Draft Scope of Work and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.” Changes to the text and graphics from the DEIS were made in this Final EIS, as necessary, in response to these comments. Unless otherwise indicated, and excluding this Foreword, Chapter 8, and Appendix B, which are new to the FEIS, all changes to text since publication of the DEIS are marked by double-underlining for text that is new to this Final EIS and ~~strikethrough~~ for text that is deleted from the DEIS in preparation of the Final EIS.

The principal changes between the DEIS and Final EIS for the East Fordham Road Rezoning are as follows:

- Chapter S.1, “Executive Summary,” has been modified for purposes of clarity and to reflect the current status of the EIS document.
- Chapter 1, “Project Description,” has been modified for purposes of clarity and to reflect the current status of the EIS document.
- Chapter 2, “Transportation,” and Chapter 3, “Mitigation,” have been revised based on updated and new information, including guidance and comments from NYC DOT. As described in the DEIS, DOT reviewed the specific mitigation measures proposed for each intersection to confirm adequacy and feasibility of their implementation. In reviewing the DEIS, DOT commented that mitigation measures at East Fordham Road and Arthur Avenue were based on inaccurate lane widths. The lane widths were updated and reflected in the Existing, No-Action and With-Action conditions in the Transportation chapter. As discussed in Chapter 3, “Mitigation,” the changes in lane widths do not change the ability and feasibility of mitigating all identified transportation impacts. DOT reviewed the specific mitigation measures for each intersection and concluded that the specific measures described in Chapter 3 “Mitigation” are adequate and feasible to mitigate the identified impacts.

- Chapter 4, “Unavoidable Adverse Impacts” and Chapter 5, “Alternatives,” were revised and updated to reflect DOT’s review and determination that the specific mitigation measures are adequate and feasible to mitigate all the identified impacts. Therefore, none of the identified impacts would be unmitigatable and a No Unmitigated Impact Alternative is unnecessary and not required.
- Chapter 8, “Responses to Comments on the Draft Scope of Work and Draft Environmental Impact Statement,” lists and includes Lead Agency responses to comments on the Draft Scope and DEIS. The comments include oral or written comments made during the Draft Scope public meeting on April 30, 2013 and through the comment period ending May 10, 2013 and the DEIS public hearing held July 24, 2013 and through the comment period ending August 5, 2013.
- Appendix B, “Public Comment Letters on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS),” has been added and includes written comments on the DEIS that were received through the close of the comment period ending August 5, 2013.