

Under both the Existing and the No Build conditions all of the projected and potential development sites are essentially built and devoid of natural resources. The sites contain no landscaped features with natural resources values, have no subsurface conditions, the disruption of which might affect the function or value of an adjacent or nearby natural resource, and are neither near nor contiguous to any natural resources (see Tables 1-4 and 1-5 in Chapter 1, “Project Description”). Any vegetation on these sites in the existing condition would be typical urban invasive vegetation with no vegetation or wildlife habitat value. Wildlife in the area is also urban mammals and transitory avian wildlife. There are no streams, ponds, or lakes that would provide any habitat for aquatic-related wildlife. In sum, there is limited habitat in the project area and there would be development in the No Build condition such that no impacts on natural resources are expected under the proposed actions.

A modeling analysis was prepared that evaluated the potential impact of the proposed project with respect to the added sanitary sewer inputs and changes in runoff patterns. Based on the calculated pollutant loads for each category of loading source and each drainage area tributary to Jamaica Bay, the majority of pollutant loading increases are due to projected population and employment increases between existing 2005 conditions and future 2015 conditions (there is a reduction in runoff). The results of the modeling show that increases in total pollutant loadings between future no build and future build conditions tend to be small, generally less than one percent over all WPCP drainage areas and less than two percent within the Jamaica WPCP drainage area. In the case of fecal coliform, the loading to Jamaica Bay will drop in the future conditions relative to the existing condition due to the full implementation of the Paerdegat CSO Retention Facility. In sum, no water quality impacts would result from the proposed project and correspondingly there would not be any impacts on the aquatic resources and habitats of Jamaica Bay. \*