

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

This chapter assesses the effect of the proposed action on public health. As defined by the 2014 *City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual*, public health is the organized effort of society to protect and improve the health and well-being of the population through monitoring; assessment and surveillance; health promotion; prevention of disease, injury, disorder, disability, and premature death; and reducing inequalities in health status. The goal of CEQR with respect to public health is to determine whether adverse impacts on human health may occur as a result of a proposed project and, if so, to identify measures to mitigate such effects.

The *CEQR Technical Manual* states that a public health assessment is not necessary for most projects. Where no significant adverse unmitigated impacts are found in other CEQR analysis areas—such as air quality, water quality, hazardous materials, or noise—no public health analysis is warranted. If, however, an unmitigated adverse impact is identified in any of these other CEQR analysis areas, the lead agency may determine that a public health assessment is warranted for that specific technical area.

The proposed action would include zoning map and text amendments that would facilitate a new predominantly residential mixed-use development by the Applicant on two blocks it owns in the South Williamsburg section of Brooklyn Community District 1. The RWCDs associated with the proposed action would result in the development of a maximum of approximately 1,147 dwelling units (DUs), of which approximately 344 DUs would be affordable, approximately 64,807 gross square feet (gsf) of local retail space, and accessory parking on a two-block development site (also referred to as the “project area”) bounded by Walton Street, Harrison Avenue, Gerry Street and Union Avenue. The development would also include 26,000 sf of publicly-accessible open space. As described in the relevant analyses of this EIS, the proposed action would not result in an unmitigated significant adverse water quality or construction impacts, and, with the assigning of an (E) designation (E-427) to Block 2249, Lots 23, 37, 41, and 122, and Block 2265, Lot 14, no unmitigated significant adverse impacts would occur in the areas of hazardous materials, air quality, or operational noise.

## **B. PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS**

The proposed action, which would include the implementation of an (E) designation related to hazardous materials, air quality, noise and which would be subject to the existing Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) controls on the project area’s Southern Block (Block 2269) under the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), is not expected to result in significant adverse impacts in the following technical areas that contribute to public health: air quality, operational noise, water

quality, hazardous materials, or construction. Therefore, no further analysis is warranted at this time.

### **C. PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSMENT**

As described in Chapter 9, “Hazardous Materials,” the goal of a hazardous materials assessment is to determine whether a proposed action would lead to a potential increased exposure of hazardous materials to people or the environment or whether the increased exposure would lead to significant public health impacts or environmental damage. In order to make this determination, the hazardous materials assessment identifies if the project site may have been adversely affected by current or historical uses at or adjacent to the project site or whether the proposed action would introduce hazardous materials to the site, such that the property would require an (E) designation, Restrictive Declaration, or other comparable measures.

As described in Chapter 9, past environmental investigation and remediation work has occurred in the project area located in the southeastern section of Williamsburg in Brooklyn Community District 1, and the Southern Block (Block 2269) is subject to a VCA under the jurisdiction of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The project area would be developed pursuant to the requirements of an (E) designation (E-427) that would be recorded as part of the proposed action (for the Northern and Southern Blocks) and the VCP (for the Southern Block). With the required remedial actions that will be carried out with the OER and DEC oversight as a pre-condition that must be satisfied before the project area can be redeveloped and occupied, the proposed action would not have the potential to result in significant adverse hazardous materials impacts.

For a listing of the tax lots that would be subject to the (E) designation and text related to hazardous materials requirements, refer to Chapter 9, “Hazardous Materials.”

With the requirements of the (E) designation to be assigned to the project site there would be no impact from the potential presence of contaminated materials. The implementation of the preventative and remedial measures outlined in the (E) designation would reduce or avoid the potential for significant adverse hazardous materials impacts from the Proposed Actions and, thus, would not have the potential to result in significant adverse public health impacts.

It also should be noted that the (E) designation would also specify requirements related to air quality and noise that would preclude the potential for significant adverse impacts in those areas. Refer to Chapter 13, “Air Quality,” and Chapter 15, “Noise,” for a listing of the tax lots that would be subject to the (E) designation requirements pertaining to these areas and the measures that would be binding on new buildings developed in the project area.

In addition, the proposed action would not result in significant adverse impacts related to water quality or construction.