
CHAPTER 12: FLOODPLAIN

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the effects that the Proposed Action would have on floodplains within the Project Area. The analysis utilized in this chapter involves identifying the floodplain according to a detailed map of the area, determining the applicable policies of flood control for new construction, the prevention of structural erosion within the Project Area, and evaluating the potential effects of the Proposed Action on the floodplain area.

B. OVERVIEW

The Proposed Action would not result in a significant adverse floodplain impact.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in conjunction with Executive Order (EO) 11988, defines the term floodplain to mean “lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters including flood prone areas of offshore islands, including at a minimum, that area subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.”¹ A floodplain is part of an extensive drainage and filtration system and water cycle that serves to contain flood waters from storms. Floodplain areas are divided into two types: 100-year floodplains and 500-year floodplains. The 100-year floodplain, regulated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is defined as an area that has a 1 percent chance of flooding each year due to storms; areas within the 500-year floodplain have a 0.2 percent chance of a flood each year exceeding the base flood level. The 100-year floodplain is usually characterized by dry land, but has the potential of being covered with flood water.

The Project Area is not located within a FEMA designated floodplain; therefore the Proposed Action would not adversely affect the floodplain’s ability to contain flood waters or exacerbate flooding conditions within the Project Area or its immediate vicinity. A floodplain analysis is not required.

C. METHODOLOGY

For this chapter, the analysis involves identifying the floodplain according to a detailed map of the area, determining the applicable policies of flood control for new construction, and evaluating the potential effects of the Proposed Action on the floodplain area.

¹ Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, Section 6, May 24, 1977, from HUD website, www.hud.gov:80/offices/cpd/energyenviron/environment/lawsandregs/laws/lawsauthorities/eo/11988.cfm. See also 24 CFR § 55.2(a).

D. EXISTING CONDITIONS

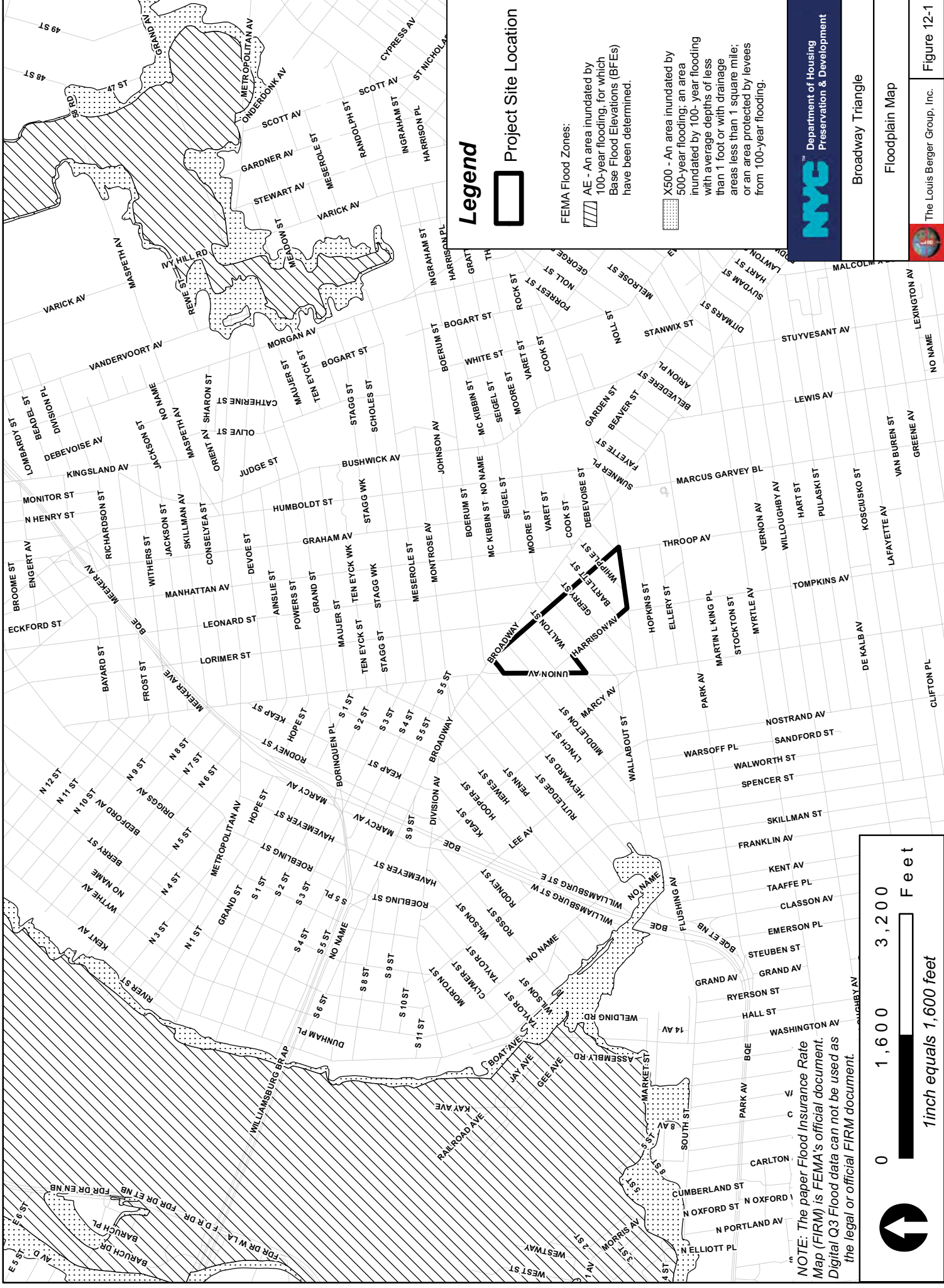
As shown in Figure 12-1, the nearest boundary of the FEMA designated floodplain is located approximately 2,300 feet or 0.4 miles to the west. As the Project Area is located outside of the FEMA floodplain, a floodplain analysis is not warranted and no impacts are anticipated.

E. NEPA CONSIDERATION

No significant adverse impacts are anticipated with respect to NEPA considerations. Pursuant to HUD's "NEPA Environmental Assessment Checklist," areas of concern under NEPA addressed in this chapter include:

- **24 CFR Part 55 Executive Order 11988**

The Proposed Project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988 as the Project Area is located outside of the FEMA floodplain. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated.



Legend

Project Site Location

FEMA Flood Zones:

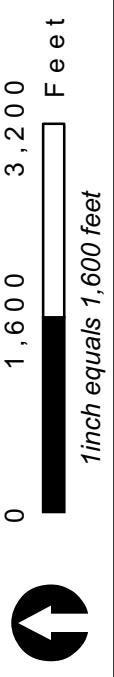
AE - An area inundated by 100-year flooding, for which Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) have been determined.

X500 - An area inundated by 500-year flooding; an area inundated by 100-year flooding with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; or an area protected by levees from 100-year flooding.



Broadway Triangle
Floodplain Map

NOTE: The paper Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is FEMA's official document. Digital Q3 Flood data can not be used as the legal or official FIRM document.



Sources: Landbase, NYC DoITT; Digital Q3 Floodplain Data, FEMA.

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