

Police Academy – College Point, Queens
CHAPTER 20: GROWTH-INDUCING ASPECTS OF
THE PROPOSED ACTION

As set forth in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, growth-inducing aspects of a proposed action generally refer to “secondary” effects of a proposed action that trigger further development. Proposals that add substantial new land use, new residents, or new employment could induce additional development of a similar kind or of support uses (e.g., stores to serve new residential uses). Actions that introduce or greatly expand infrastructure capacity (e.g., sewers, central water supply) might also induce growth, although this could be an issue only in limited areas of Staten Island and perhaps Queens, since in most areas of New York City infrastructure is already in place and its improvement or expansion is usually proposed only to serve existing or expected users.

The NYPD is proposing to construct a new Police Academy to incorporate many of the NYPD’s existing training facilities throughout the City into one consolidated campus, which would be located on approximately 35 acres of City-owned land, including a majority of the Department’s Tow Pound site in College Point, Queens. The proposed action would allow for the development of a modern complex, to be operated by the NYPD, which would consolidate in one-campus facilities for civilians, recruits, and active police officers that are currently spread across the City. The total development size would consist of approximately 2.4 million gross square feet and would include indoor training facilities, classrooms, and related support space, an indoor pistol training facility, a tactical village, an indoor track, a police museum, a visiting police/lecturer lodging facility and 2,000 parking spaces, including an 1,800-space above-grade parking garage and 200 at-grade parking spaces (“proposed development”).

The Proposed Action would introduce a new land use and an increase in density on the proposed development site, replacing primarily undeveloped land with a substantial public facility development. It would not involve a change in the site’s zoning or affect public policy. Located in the College Point, neighborhood of Queens Community District 7, the proposed development would be located on a portion of the block bounded by 28th Avenue to the north, Ulmer Street and the Whitestone Expressway Service Road to the east, 31st Avenue to the south, and College Point Boulevard to the west. The Proposed Action is not likely to foster any additional development in the surrounding area, as the College Point neighborhood is well established. Therefore, no significant development is expected to occur in the surrounding area as a result of the Proposed Action

The proposed development would introduce a sizeable recruit and worker population to the area. The expected secondary impacts of this include additional utilization of open spaces and mass transit in the surrounding area. As the proposed development would include a cafeteria and on-site passive open space areas, the proposed Academy is expected to accommodate the needs brought by the additional population. It is anticipated that some retail stores and services in the area would benefit from the additional population but the needs would not be so large as to require additional retail development.

Therefore, the Proposed Action is not expected to induce notable growth outside of the proposed development site. While the Proposed Action would improve existing infrastructure on and immediately adjacent to the Project Site, the infrastructure in the study area is already well-developed, such that improvements associated with the Proposed Action would not induce additional growth.