

FOREWORD¹

This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Public Safety Answering Center II (PSAC II) project. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the PSAC II project was accepted as complete by the New York City Police Department (NYPD), as lead agency under City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR), and issued for public review and comment on August 18, 2008. Public notice of completion of the DEIS was distributed, and a public notice addressing the hearing on the DEIS was published in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental News Bulletin (ENB) and was also placed in a local newspaper, the New York Post, on December 1, 2008. A public hearing on the DEIS was held on December 17, 2007 by the New York City Planning Commission (CPC) in conjunction with the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) at Spector Hall, 22 Reade Street. Oral and written comments were accepted at that hearing and throughout the public comment period, which was held open until December 31, 2008.

This FEIS reflects changes to the proposed project since publication of the DEIS, revisions made to impact studies, and all substantive comments made during the public review period of the DEIS. Notable changes subsequent to publishing the DEIS include the following:

- ◆ Chapter 19, “Alternatives” was modified to include a 911 Call and Dispatch Center Alternative, which was developed in response to the current budget pressures faced by New York City and to comments received during the public review process. This alternative examines a reduced program for the public facility in which PSAC II would function only as a 911 Call and Dispatch Center, similar to the existing PSAC I in Downtown Brooklyn. The command center operations for the FDNY and NYPD, which are part of the Proposed Action, would not be relocated to the proposed development site. This alternative examines a reduced development program for PSAC II that would include a lower building height and less building gross square footage from the Proposed Action.
- ◆ Revisions to background projects. Where appropriate, impact studies were updated to account for changes to the development program for the Towers at the Hutchinson Metro Center (HMC), as well as to account for other No-Build development projects.
- ◆ Revisions to the transportation studies. The traffic studies have been modified to account for revisions to capacity calculations at a number of intersections, as well as revisions to proposed mitigation measures. Background traffic volumes were adjusted for changes in projected No-Build development.
- ◆ Chapter 18, “Mitigation” was updated to reflect additional discussions conducted between the DEIS and FEIS with the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) with respect to potential mitigation measures. Chapter 18 and Chapter 22, “Unavoidable Adverse Impacts” were revised to note that traffic impacts would remain unmitigated if the NYPD does not place traffic enforcement agents at intersections during the temporary Consolidated Operations of PSAC II.

¹ This foreword is new to the FEIS.

- ♦ Chapter 16, “Construction” was revised to include a detailed traffic study analysis.

In addition to these changes, the FEIS identifies the comments received during the public review period and provides responses in a new chapter, Chapter 23, “Comments and Responses.” A new appendix has also been added to the FEIS, Appendix B, “Written Comments.” Where appropriate, the text of other chapters of this FEIS was revised in response to comments, revisions in the analyses, or changes in the project. Unless otherwise indicated by a footnote, and this Foreword, all revisions changes to the text are indicated by double underlining.