

## C. Community Facilities and Services

Community facilities are public or publicly funded facilities, such as schools, hospitals, libraries, day care centers, and fire and police protection. The CEQR analysis looks at an action's potential effect on the provision of services provided by those facilities that are public or publicly funded and are available to the community. This generally occurs when a project either physically displaces or alters a community facility, or causes a change in population that could affect the service delivery of a community facility, as might happen if a facility is already overutilized or if a project is large enough to create a demand that could not be met by the existing facility.

The CEQR analysis examines potential impacts on existing facilities and is not a needs assessment for new or additional services; that function is normally carried out on a continuing basis by the providers of services. The analysis generally focuses in greatest detail on those services, particularly public education, that the city is obligated to provide to any member of the community and that have precisely defined measures of utilization (e.g., enrollment/available seats).

### 100. Definitions

Although many projects include some level of analysis of community facilities, not every environmental assessment examines every community facility. The range of community facilities (or resources) that may be addressed in environmental assessments include the following:

- *Public educational facilities (schools).* CEQR analyzes potential impacts only on public schools operated, funded or chartered by the New York City Board of Education. This analysis generally relates only to primary and intermediate schools, which serve a local population, and rarely to high schools, which have a borough-wide or citywide population base. Schools are analyzed based on the potential for the project to cause overcrowding (i.e., a deficiency of available seats for a particular age group within the district).
- *Libraries.* Public libraries as analyzed under CEQR are branch libraries operated by the New York Public Library, the Queens Borough Public Library, and the Brooklyn

Public Library systems. The primary purpose of libraries is to provide information services, including written documents and computer resources, reference materials, audio and visual references, and educational services. The analysis of libraries generally focuses on the resources available to the population within the service area(s) of the library or libraries nearest to the proposed project.

- *Health care facilities.* Health care facilities include public, proprietary and non-profit facilities that accept public funds (usually in the form of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements) and that are available to any member of the community. The types of facilities include hospitals, nursing homes, clinics and other facilities providing outpatient health services. The CEQR assessment focuses on emergency and outpatient services that could be affected by the introduction of a large low-income residential population which may rely heavily on nearby hospital emergency rooms and other public outpatient services. Project-induced impacts on inpatient hospital and nursing home services are unlikely because insured patients have access to such services citywide and, with substantial declines in the need for acute care hospital beds in New York City and the nation, the potential for overutilization of inpatient beds is rarely an issue. A detailed analysis of impacts on hospital and nursing home inpatient services is therefore generally limited to actions that would have a direct effect on the facility itself.
- *Day care centers.* Publicly financed day care centers, under the auspices of the City's Agency for Child Development (ACD) within the Administration for Children's Services, provide care for the children of income-eligible households. Space for one child in such day care centers is termed a "slot." These slots may be in group day care or Head Start centers or they may be in the form of family day care in which up to 12 or 14 children are placed under the care of a licensed provider in a home setting. Projects that would introduce a substantial number of subsidized residential units are examined for potential impacts on the availability of slots at group day care centers in the vicinity of the project.

- *Fire protection.* The assessment of impacts on fire protection services relates to fire response time (i.e., the amount of time it would take for fire engines to travel from the nearest fire station to the site of the proposed project or other buildings within the primary service area of that station). However, units responding to a fire are not limited to those closest to it. Normally, more than one engine company and ladder company respond to each call and rescue companies also respond to fires or emergencies in high-rise buildings. The Fire Department does not allocate resources based on proposed or projected developments, but continually evaluates the need for changes in personnel, equipment or locations of fire stations and makes any adjustments necessary. Generally, a detailed assessment of service delivery is conducted only if a proposed action would affect the physical operations of, or access to and from, a station house.
- *Police protection.* The ability of the police to provide public safety for a new project usually does not warrant a detailed assessment under CEQR. The Police Department independently reviews its staffing levels against a precinct's population, area coverage, crime levels, and other local factors when assessing its ability to serve the community or need to redeploy services. A detailed assessment of service delivery is usually only conducted if a proposed action would affect the physical operations of, or access to and from, a precinct house.
- *Other community facilities* such as homeless shelters, jails, community centers, colleges and universities, or religious and cultural facilities are typically analyzed only if the facility itself is the subject of the proposed action or would be physically displaced or altered by the action. City-owned recreation centers are considered within the analysis of open space due to their siting on parkland.

## **200. Determining Whether a Community Facilities Assessment is Appropriate**

There are two general circumstances that trigger the need for a community facilities analysis. These relate to potential "direct" and "indirect" effects on a facility.

Actions that would add fewer than 100 residential units to an area generally do not need to consider community facilities unless the proposed action would have a direct effect on a community facility. For actions with more than 100 housing units, the following guidelines can help determine whether a community facilities assessment of potential indirect effects is necessary. Because demand for community services generally stems from the introduction of new residents to an area, detailed community facilities analyses are most commonly associated with residential projects.

### **210. DIRECT EFFECTS**

If a project would physically alter a community facility, whether by displacement of the facility or other physical change, this "direct" effect triggers the need to assess the service delivery of the facility and the potential effect that the physical change may have on that service delivery. Temporary direct effects should also be considered (for example, the temporary closing of a facility during a phase of construction). (See Section 300 for Assessment Methods and Detailed Analysis Techniques).

### **220. INDIRECT EFFECTS**

If a project would add population to an area, that population would have a demand for services and potential "indirect" effects on service delivery. Depending on the size, income characteristics, and age distribution of the new population, there may be effects on public schools, libraries, health care facilities, or day care centers.

### **230. THRESHOLDS FOR PRELIMINARY ANALYSES OF INDIRECT EFFECTS**

The actual analysis of effects on service delivery follows the same basic methodology for both direct and indirect effects—it examines the ability of community facilities to provide services both without and with the proposed action. The potential for the action to create a situation where a type of facility is overutilized (whether it is by displacement of one facility, thereby overtaxing another, or by the addition of new population) is the basis for determination of impact.

In general, the following thresholds can be used to make an initial determination of whether detailed studies are necessary to determine potential indirect impacts. (See Table 3C-1)

**Table 3C-1****Community Facility Thresholds**

| <b>Thresholds</b>                         |  |
|---|--|
| A. Need for Community Facility Assessment | Direct effect and/or addition of more than 100 residential units                               |
| B. Thresholds for Preliminary Analyses    |  |
| Public Schools                            | More than 50 elementary/middle school or 150 high school students (Table 3C-2)                 |
| Libraries                                 | Greater than 5% increase in ratio of residential units to libraries in borough (Table 3C-3)    |
| Health Care Facilities (outpatient)       | More than 600 low-to moderate-income units   |
| Day Care Centers (publicly funded)        | More than 50 eligible children based on # of low/moderate income units by borough (Table 3C-4) |
| Fire Protection                           | Direct effect only   |
| Police Protection                         | Direct effect only   |

**231. Educational Facilities**

Potential impacts on schools may result if there would be insufficient seats available to serve the population. Because it is rare that a project physically displaces an operating school, these impacts result, most often, when a project introduces school-age children to an area.

The basic analysis, therefore, typically begins with a calculation of the additional school-age population that would be introduced by a project. (Actions that would add housing units designed primarily for the elderly or consisting exclusively of studio apartments need not examine public school impacts.) To estimate the student age population of a project, first determine the number of residential units of the project and the targeted income of prospective residents. With this information, Table 3C-2 should be used to estimate the number of elementary and middle school students likely to be generated by the proposed action. This table has been developed by the Board of Education and the Department of City Planning to project the number of students by grade level, based on income levels by borough. Income levels are derived from the Section 8 Median Family Income (MFI) for a family of four in New York City. These income limits, which change annually, are used to determine eligibility for a variety of government-assisted housing programs. (For the latest annual MFI consult <http://www/hud.gov> or call the HUD User Reference Service at 1-800-245-2691.) For unassisted or market-rate housing developments,

income levels can generally be keyed to prevailing market conditions at the project location.

In general, if a project introduces more than 50 school-age children (elementary and intermediate grades), significant impacts on educational facilities may occur; further analysis of schools may be appropriate. Since high school-level students can usually elect to attend schools other than their neighborhood high schools, an analysis of high school impacts is rarely necessary. However, if the project would generate 150 or more high school students there could be an impact on the locally zoned high school and further analysis may be appropriate.

**232. Libraries**

Potential impacts on libraries may result from an increased user population. A noticeable change in service delivery is likely to occur only if a library is displaced or altered, causing people to use another library in the area, or if a project introduces a large resident population (i.e., greater than a five percent increase in housing units served).

Table 3C-3 lists the average number of residential units per library branch in each borough. If the proposed action would increase by more than five percent the average number of residential units served by library branches in the borough in which the project is located, the project may cause significant impacts on library services, indicating the need for further analysis.

**Table 3C-2**

**Projected Public School Pupil Ratios**

In New Housing Units of All Sizes

| <b>Borough</b>       | <b>Income Level</b> | <b>Elementary Level per unit</b> | <b>Middle School Level per unit</b> | <b>High School Level per unit</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>BRONX</b>         | LOW                 | 0.33                             | 0.05                                | 0.06                              |
|                      | LOW-MOD             | 0.30                             | 0.05                                | 0.06                              |
|                      | MOD-HIGH            | 0.27                             | 0.05                                | 0.06                              |
|                      | HIGH                | 0.22                             | 0.04                                | 0.04                              |
| <b>BROOKLYN</b>      | LOW                 | 0.37                             | 0.14                                | 0.09                              |
|                      | LOW-MOD             | 0.34                             | 0.13                                | 0.09                              |
|                      | MOD-HIGH            | 0.31                             | 0.13                                | 0.08                              |
|                      | HIGH                | 0.27                             | 0.10                                | 0.06                              |
| <b>MANHATTAN</b>     | LOW                 | 0.14                             | 0.03                                | 0.05                              |
|                      | LOW-MOD             | 0.12                             | 0.03                                | 0.05                              |
|                      | MOD-HIGH            | 0.12                             | 0.03                                | 0.04                              |
|                      | HIGH                | 0.10                             | 0.02                                | 0.03                              |
| <b>QUEENS</b>        | LOW                 | 0.20                             | 0.10                                | 0.05                              |
|                      | LOW-MOD             | 0.18                             | 0.10                                | 0.05                              |
|                      | MOD-HIGH            | 0.17                             | 0.09                                | 0.04                              |
|                      | HIGH                | 0.15                             | 0.07                                | 0.03                              |
| <b>STATEN ISLAND</b> | LOW                 | 0.20                             | 0.04                                | 0.08                              |
|                      | LOW-MOD             | 0.18                             | 0.04                                | 0.08                              |
|                      | MOD-HIGH            | 0.16                             | 0.04                                | 0.08                              |
|                      | HIGH                | 0.15                             | 0.03                                | 0.06                              |

**Notes: (1) Income levels are based on Annual Section 8 Median Family Income (MFI) per family of four, which is used to establish eligibility for many government-assisted housing programs.**

- Low 50% or less of MFI (generally government-assisted housing)
- Low-Mod 80% or less of MFI (generally government-assisted housing)
- Mod-High 133% or less of MFI (may be government-assisted housing)
- High Greater than 133% of MFI (unassisted or market-rate housing)

**(2) Housing projects designed for the elderly or containing only studio apartments do not need to assess school impact.**

*Sources: Board of Education, Division of School Facilities.  
Department of City Planning, May 2001.*

**Table 3C-3****Libraries and Housing Units by Borough**

| <b>Borough</b> | <b>Total Housing Units</b> | <b>Number of Libraries</b> | <b>Units per Branch</b> | <b>5% Increase in Units/Branch</b> |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bronx          | 463,212                    | 34                         | 13,623                  | 681                                |
| Brooklyn       | 880,727                    | 60                         | 14,678                  | 734                                |
| Manhattan      | 738,644                    | 41                         | 18,015                  | 901                                |
| Queens         | 782,664                    | 63                         | 12,423                  | 621                                |
| Staten Island  | 156,341                    | 12                         | 13,028                  | 651                                |

Sources: *Housing Units: 2000 Census, total occupied housing units.*

*Libraries: NYC Department of City Planning, Selected Facilities and Program Sites in New York City, 1999, branch and central/reference libraries.*

**Table 3C-4****Estimated Number of New Housing Units Yielding 50 Children Eligible for Public Day Care**

| <b>Borough</b> | <b>Income Level</b> | <b>Children per Unit up to Age 12</b> | <b>#Units to Yield 50+ Children</b> |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bronx          | Low                 | 0.33                                  | 152                                 |
|                | Low-Mod             | 0.30                                  | 167                                 |
| Brooklyn       | Low                 | 0.37                                  | 135                                 |
|                | Low-Mod             | 0.34                                  | 147                                 |
| Manhattan      | Low                 | 0.14                                  | 357                                 |
|                | Low-Mod             | 0.12                                  | 417                                 |
| Queens         | Low                 | 0.20                                  | 250                                 |
|                | Low-Mod             | 0.18                                  | 278                                 |
| Staten Island  | Low                 | 0.20                                  | 250                                 |
|                | Low-Mod             | 0.18                                  | 278                                 |

**233. Health Care Facilities**

Analyses of health care facilities are generally conducted for projects that introduce a sizeable number of new low- or moderate-income residents who may rely on nearby emergency and other outpatient clinic services. If the action would generate greater than 600 low- to moderate-income units, there may be increased demand on local public health care facilities which may warrant further analysis.

**234. Day Care Centers**

Publicly financed day care services are available for income-eligible children up to the age

of 12. Families eligible for subsidized child care must meet financial and social eligibility criteria. Gross income must fall between 225% and 275% of national poverty thresholds depending on family size, and the family must have an approved "reason for care," such as involvement in a child welfare case or participation in a "welfare-to-work" program. Projects that would produce substantial numbers of subsidized, low- to moderate-income family housing units may therefore generate a sufficient number of eligible children to affect the availability of slots at public day care centers. If the action would generate 50 or more eligible children, further analysis may be appropriate.

Table 3C-4 above calculates by borough the estimated number of low- to moderate-income housing units that could yield at least 50 children eligible for publicly financed child care. (The calculations are based on the ratios for elementary school students per low- and low/moderate-income housing unit, as presented in Table 3C-2 in Section 231. The income levels used to determine eligibility for subsidized housing—up to 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI)—are roughly equivalent to child care financial eligibility levels.)

### **300. Assessment Methods**

If the preliminary analysis (Section 200) indicates more detailed analyses are necessary for certain community facilities, the following approach may be used. This approach generally consists of delineating one or more study areas for the potentially affected community facilities, gathering information on current and future utilization levels and any plans for expansion, and, finally, assessing potential impact assuming the proposed action is implemented.

#### **310. STUDY AREAS**

The study area for detailed analysis is related to the catchment area of the individual facility. Facility-specific service areas are defined and these service areas become the study area for the analysis. Where there is no precisely defined catchment area, judgment may be called for in delineating a study area. In some cases, the study area may be the secondary study area defined for purposes of land use or socio-economic analysis. Information on community facilities for the initial identification may be obtained from *Selected Facilities and Program Sites in New York City* and the *Gazetteer of City Property* (See Section 730). This information can be verified through field surveys and contact with relevant oversight agencies (see Section 730).

The community facilities examined in detailed analyses should be identified on a map that shows the project site and area facilities. A ½-mile radius from the site of the proposed action may be drawn for purposes of scale, to provide an indication of the distance between community facilities and the site of the proposed action. Different study areas for differing community facilities may also be shown, as described below. For a generic or programmatic action, a map for each neighborhood or district affected by the proposed action may need to be provided, for those areas where the thresholds for preliminary analyses have been exceeded.

In addition, if a community facility is to be directly affected by the proposed action, it is sometimes helpful to provide a site plan or floor plan of the facility that shows the nature of the direct impact (such as the taking of land area or portion of a building used by the facility).

Study areas for detailed analyses of community facilities may be determined as follows.

#### **311. Educational Facilities**

The study area for an analysis of primary and intermediate public schools generally coincides with the region of the Community School District serving the site of the proposed action, as defined by the Board of Education. The locations of the schools may be shown on a map of the study area. If the threshold for examination of potential impacts on high schools has been exceeded, the location of the high school(s) serving students in the area in which the project is located should also be shown.

#### **312. Libraries**

Library branch catchment areas are usually the distance that one might be expected to travel for such services, typically not more than three-quarters of a mile. If no library branch exists within a three-quarter-mile radius of the project site, the study area should be extended until the nearest library branch is identified. (The study area may include more than one branch, in which case all branches of approximately equal distance should be considered.) Each identified branch library within the study area should be mapped.

#### **313. Health Care Facilities**

There typically is no specific study area for the analysis of hospitals or other health care facilities, because the catchment areas for these facilities can vary substantially. If there are any such facilities within a mile or so of the project site, they should be shown on the community facilities map.

#### **314. Day Care Centers**

The locations of publicly funded group day care centers within a mile or so of the project site should be shown. Since there are no locational requirements for enrollment in day care centers, and some parent/guardians choose a day care center close to their employment rather than their residence, the service areas of these facilities can be quite large and not subject to strict delineation on a

map. Nevertheless, the center(s) closest to the project site are more likely to be subject to increased demand.

### **315. Fire Protection**

The location of the fire station(s) serving the site should be indicated on the community facilities map only if it would be physically affected by the proposed action.

### **316. Police Protection**

The location of the police station serving the site should be indicated on the community facilities map only if it would be physically affected by the proposed action.

## **320. DETAILED ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES**

Detailed community facilities analyses are often conducted for individual facilities that may be affected by a project; for large residential projects, multiple facilities may need to be analyzed. The following process may be followed in conducting these detailed analyses.

### **321. Direct Potential Impact**

If the proposed action would displace or alter a community facility, the preliminary analysis should document the name and location of the facility as well as the type of facility (i.e., school, clinic, etc., including a description of services) and size of the facility (e.g., 600 seats, 450 beds, square footage, staffing levels, etc.) and its hours of operation. The population and/or area served by the facility (e.g., income level, age groups, residents vs. workers, repeat or one-time users) and the facility's capacity, including excess or deficiency of capacity (e.g., school seats, volumes per capita, beds, etc.) should be determined. It may be helpful to provide a site plan or floor plan of the facility that shows the nature of the direct impact (such as the amount of land area or portion of a building that would be affected). Based on how the project would change the affected facility, determine the extent to which service would be disrupted or precluded. If elimination or disruption of service would place additional demand on other nearby facilities, it may be appropriate to examine the indirect effects on those facilities, following the methodology described in Section 322.

## **322. Indirect Potential Impact**

The following methodologies may be used to assess increased demand on community facilities.

### **322.1. Public School Analysis**

**Existing Conditions.** Identify the primary and intermediate schools serving the study area (i.e., within the region of the school district in which the project would be located) through contact with the Board of Education or the Department of City Planning. The following information for each school should be provided:

- School identification by number (i.e., P.S. 24) and address;
- Current enrollment;
- Capacity;
- The excess or deficiency of available seats (i.e., utilization); and
- Grades served.

Total capacity, enrollment, and utilization data for all elementary and all intermediate/middle schools within the region should be provided. This information may be easier to comprehend when presented in a table.

**No Action Condition.** Projections for the future without the action are developed by contacting the Board of Education and the Department of City Planning to obtain enrollment projections. (There can be differences in the enrollment projections developed by the Department of City Planning and the Board of Education because of their different modeling assumptions. If there is a question as to which of the projections to use, it is often best to use the higher, i.e., more conservative, of the two projections.)

In addition to enrollment projections, information on projected changes in capacity, new programs, capital projects, and improvements that are planned in the district, that would be in place under the no action condition and could affect the availability of seats in the schools within the study area should be obtained from the Board of Education or the Department of City Planning.

**Action Condition.** To estimate the number of primary- and intermediate-level school children who would be generated by a project, follow the procedure set forth in Section 200, above. In addition, if the proposed action would include the construction of new schools, add the seats from

those schools into future capacity estimates including all appropriate details (e.g., location, number of seats, grades served, etc.).

Add the projected demand as well as new school seats associated with the proposed action to the no action projections. The available capacity or resulting deficiency in school seats for the study area or for the “region” as a whole in the case of elementary and intermediate schools, or for the affected school at the high school level should be calculated.

Note that in the event the proposed action would eliminate a school with no replacement, the action condition analysis would allocate those students from the affected facility to nearby schools, and would then focus on the effect on the schools receiving the students. It is recommended that this allocation be made with direct input from the Board of Education.

### **322.2. Libraries**

**Existing Conditions.** The detailed analysis of libraries includes a description of existing libraries within the study area, as described in Section 312, and their information services and user population. The population profile developed for the economic assessment in Chapter 3B may be used to describe the existing population served. The relevant library system or the branch libraries themselves should be contacted to obtain available information on services provided and circulation as well as an assessment of existing conditions and levels of utilization.

**No Action Condition.** To determine the future no action conditions, future population in the study area based on information in the demographic and socio-economic analyses in the environmental assessment should be estimated. Information from the New York Public Library, Queens Borough Public Library, or Brooklyn Public Library, as appropriate, concerning any planned new branches serving the study area and changes to existing branches, including building additions, the size of collections and special programs should be obtained. Using the management staff at the library branch as a resource, qualitatively discuss the effects of the added (or decreased) population on special programs, facilities, or collections should be qualitatively discussed.

**Action Condition.** The estimated population to be added by the proposed action should be determined. Add the future population to that of the no action and determine the action's effects on the library's ability to provide information services to its users. With input from management staff at the library branch, the effects of the added population (including the no action and addition) on special programs, facilities, or collections should be qualitatively discussed.

### **322.3. Health Care Facilities**

Note: A detailed assessment of potential indirect impacts on inpatient hospital beds, as outlined below, would be necessary only as a result of a direct impact on a hospital which could place additional demand on other nearby inpatient facilities. (See Sections 100 and 321.)

**Existing Conditions.** Each of the health care facilities identified in the study area should be described, considering the following information, as relevant to the type of service(s) provided:

- The name and address of each facility;
- The size of each facility (e.g., number of beds, number of visits, square footage, staffing, etc.);
- The nature of its services (including specialty services); The population it serves (e.g., income, age levels); and;
- Its utilization rate, to the extent it can be defined through discussions with the affected facility. If possible, include a qualitative discussion of management staff's assessment of the facility's utilization rate in terms of whether it is at capacity, near capacity, below capacity, or well below capacity.

For private hospitals this information is usually available from a planning or public information office within the hospital. For New York City hospitals and outpatient clinics, this information is available from the Health and Hospitals Corporation. The *Health Care Annual*, published by the United Hospital Fund (see Section 730), includes the most recent capacity and average daily census figures for all hospital and ambulatory care facilities in New York City, as well as other health facility information.

**No Action Condition.** To determine the future no action condition for health care facilities obtain information from the Health and Hospitals Corporation or other sources on new, expanded, or planned health facilities in the study area that would be expected to be complete by the project

build year should be obtained. Also, data should be analyzed from the projected population growth rate (see Chapter 3B) to determine whether the operating capacity of the facilities in the study area could be affected by increases in population. Any expected changes to the utilization rate or nature of services to be provided at the potentially affected health care facilities should be discussed. This assessment should be reviewed with management staff at the potentially affected facility and/or appropriate staff at Health and Hospitals Corporation.

**Action Condition.** The potential effects of the proposed action on health care facilities in the study area should be assessed in terms of its potential impact on utilization levels. Specifically, the project's anticipated population distribution by income and by age and estimate their effect on the use of facilities in the study area (e.g., length of wait for admission or treatment) should be summarized. It is recommended that this assessment be made in conjunction with appropriate staff of the facility or the Health and Hospitals Corporation.

#### **322.4. Day Care Centers**

**Existing Conditions.** Existing day care facilities within the study area, from Department of City Planning reports, field surveys and through contact with ACD, including their location, number of slots (capacity), ages served, and their enrollment (utilization) and length of waiting lists, should be documented. It may also be appropriate to obtain any available information on the number of family day care slots in the study area.

**No Action Condition.** To determine future no action conditions, ACD should be contacted to obtain information on the following:

Any changes planned for day care programs or facilities in the area of the proposed action, including closing or expansion of existing facilities and establishment of new facilities.

Any expected increases in the population of children under 12 within the eligibility income limitations (summarized from the socioeconomic analysis) as potential additional demand. The potential effect of any population increases on demand for day care services in the study area should be assessed, taking into account past utilization trends (usually in the form of waiting lists for each of the facilities). This estimate should be made in conjunction with staff from ACD. It is

important to understand that not all guardians of eligible children choose to place their children in public day care facilities, a trend that is likely to vary by location.

**Action Condition.** The action condition analysis compares the number of projected day care-eligible children with the number of available slots estimated in the future no build analysis. Table 3C-4 should be used to estimate the number of day care-eligible children associated with a project. (For example, a 200-unit low-income project in the Bronx may be expected to yield 66 children under the age of 12.) The number of these children who may meet the social and income eligibility criteria for public day care should be estimated. Of these, the number of children likely to affect day care centers in the study area should be calculated, taking into account children who would enter family day care or centers outside the study area.

#### **322.5. Fire Protection**

**Existing Conditions.** The location of those stations serving the area in which the proposed action would be located or that would be directly affected by the action should be documented. Other information, such as the type of equipment at those stations, may also be useful. In addition, in some locations, the Fire Department may have other concerns related to response time or access. It may be helpful to contact the Fire Department regarding service issues.

**No Action Condition.** Contact with the Fire Department may be helpful to document physical changes planned for station houses or equipment additions to the service area for the future no action scenario. In addition, summarize new projects and population that would be added to the service area in the future no action condition.

**Action Condition.** Contact with the Fire Department is often useful in performing an assessment of the effects of the proposed action. The following information regarding the proposed action will help the Fire Department to assess those effects:

- Location of project site or affected area (address and tax blocks and lots);
- Physical size of the proposed action's land area (square feet);
- Predominant building types expected for action and no action projects;
- Number of residential units; and

- Description of uses and activity patterns (from the land use assessment; see Chapter 3A).

The Fire Department's assessment is then used by the lead agency in making its own assessment of the action's effects.

### **322.6. Police Protection**

**Existing Conditions.** The location of the precinct house that would be directly affected by the proposed action should be documented.

**No Action Condition.** Contact with the Precinct Commanding Officer of that precinct of the Police Department may be useful in assessing future no action conditions. Documentation of physical changes planned for station houses expected in the future no action scenario may be appropriate for the assessment. In addition, new projects and population that would be added to the service area in the future no action condition should be summarized.

**Action Condition.** Contact with the Police Department is often useful in performing an assessment of the effects of the proposed action. The following information regarding the proposed action will help the Police Department to assess those effects:

- Location of project site or affected area (address and tax blocks and lots);
- Physical size of the proposed action's land area (square feet);
- Predominant building types expected for action and no action projects;
- Number of residential units; and
- Description of uses and activity patterns (from the land use assessment).

The Police Department's assessment is then used by the lead agency in making its own assessment of the action's effects.

## **400. Determining Impact Significance**

The determination of whether an impact on a community facility would be significant is made based on whether the people in the area would have adequate service delivery in the future with the project. Generally, the same assessment of service delivery is appropriate whether the potential effects of the action would be direct or indirect. Generally, if service delivery would deteriorate to unacceptable levels as a result of a substantial (more than five percent) increase in

population served by a facility, a significant impact could result.

### **410. SCHOOLS**

If the impact assessment finds that the proposed action would cause an increase of five percent or more in a deficiency of available seats in the affected schools (generally those within the study area or "region"), a significant impact may result, warranting consideration of mitigation.

### **420. LIBRARIES**

Generally, if a proposed action would increase the study area population by five percent or more over no action levels, and this increase would impair the delivery of library services in the study area, a significant impact could occur, warranting consideration of mitigation.

### **430. HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

To determine the potential for a significant impact at health care facilities, whether the proposed action would result in an increase of five percent or more, over the no action condition, in the demand for services (e.g., number of visits) that would exceed capacity at affected facilities in the study area should be assessed.

### **440. DAY CARE CENTERS**

If the project would result in 1) a demand for slots greater than remaining capacity of day care center(s), and 2) that demand constitutes an increase of 5 percent or more of the collective capacity of the day care center(s) serving the area of the proposed action, a significant adverse impact may result, warranting consideration of mitigation.

### **450. FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION**

The Police and Fire Departments can each be contacted for their assessment of the action's effects on their operations. This information can be used in the determination of the potential significant impacts to their operations. It is recommended that a written statement from these departments be obtained regarding their recommendations. The lead agency must then weigh these data and come to its own determination as to significance.

## **500. Developing Mitigation**

Mitigation measures for significant impacts on a community facility in most cases require the commitment from the agency or institution having jurisdiction over the facility. For this reason, early coordination is advised.

In many instances, a commitment to construct a new facility or change an existing facility may not be available by the build year of the proposed action and the unmitigated impact must be disclosed with an analysis of the suggested mitigation and measures that would be taken to implement it.

Following are some examples of mitigation measures for community facilities impacts.

### **510. SCHOOLS**

Possible measures to mitigate a significant impact that results in school overcrowding include: relocating administrative functions to another site, thereby freeing up space for classrooms; making space within the buildings associated with the proposed action or elsewhere in the school study area available to the Board of Education; restructuring or reprogramming existing school space within a district; and adjusting school service area boundaries (provided that does not redistribute students to an even more crowded district). For very large residential projects, construction of a new school or an addition to an existing school may be the most appropriate mitigation.

Potential mitigation should be reviewed with the Board of Education to determine its feasibility, particularly when an action by the Board of Education is required to facilitate the mitigation.

### **520. LIBRARIES**

If the proposed action is expected to have a significant impact on libraries within the study area, mitigation should be targeted to alleviate the impact created, for example, by adding volumes if adequate space within the library branch exists adding building space to accommodate more users or creating programs to accommodate new users. To mitigate the significant impact, the improvements must occur within the service area of the impacted library.

## **530. HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

If the project would result in significant operational impacts to health care facilities, mitigation would be tailored to the specific type of impact. This could include the provision of additional equipment, examination rooms, additional types of services, or other facilities particular to the operation of the health care facility. Potential mitigation measures should be reviewed with operators of the affected facility.

### **540. DAY CARE CENTERS**

Mitigation for a significant day care impact, developed in consultation with Administration for Children's Services and ACD, could include provision of space on-site for a day care center, or provision of a suitable location off-site within a reasonable distance. In some cases, it may be necessary to provide for the expansion of an existing facility to mitigate the impact.

### **550. FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION**

Mitigation for inadequate police and fire protection as a result of the proposed action could include upgrading existing equipment, acquisition of new equipment, or construction of a new firehouse or police precinct building. Construction of new facilities is typically the responsibility of the Fire or Police Department. Provision of land on-site for a Fire or Police Department facility may be considered appropriate mitigation. Potential mitigation should be reviewed with the Fire and Police Departments to determine its feasibility and appropriateness.

## **600. Developing Alternatives**

Alternatives that would reduce or eliminate significant impacts on community facilities include redesigning or relocating a project to avoid having direct effects on existing facilities, or a smaller project that would result in a smaller population that would not cause a significant adverse impact on the facilities.

## **700. Regulations and Coordination**

### **710. REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS**

There are no specific City, State, or Federal statutory regulations or standards governing the analysis of community facilities.

## **720. APPLICABLE COORDINATION**

Those agencies that operate or have jurisdiction over the affected facilities are best consulted early in the CEQR process. These agencies have the most up-to-date information regarding existing operations and capacity as well as future condition projections of their facilities. It is often appropriate to coordinate with the agency with jurisdiction over the affected facility in the assessment of impacts as well as the development of mitigation. Mitigation would typically require the approval or commitment of the operating agency. At a minimum, the concurrence of the affected agency on the accuracy of both the impact assessment and the mitigation is recommended.

## **730. LOCATION OF INFORMATION**

Publications, maps, annual reports, and projections are prepared and made available by the agencies and institutions described below.

### **731. Educational Facilities**

Projections for new school-age children and information on existing and planned school facilities, including the Board of Education's "Utilization Profile Reports" with data on schools by district:

- Department of City Planning  
Planning Coordination Division,  
Education Unit  
22 Reade Street  
New York, NY 10007
- The Board of Education  
Chief Executive of Division of School Facilities,  
28-11 Queens Plaza North  
Long Island City, NY 11101

### **732. Libraries**

Information requests for library branches should be directed to each of the system's public relations offices:

- New York Public Library (serves the Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island)  
Office of Public Relations  
8 West 40th Street  
New York, NY 10018

- Queens Borough Public Library  
Office of Public Relations  
89- 11 Merrick Boulevard  
Jamaica, NY 11432
- Brooklyn Public Library  
Office of Public Relations  
Grand Army Plaza  
Brooklyn, NY 11238

### **733. Health Care Facilities**

The United Hospital Fund issues reports including "Health Care Annual" with capacity and utilization information and maps showing the locations of inpatient and outpatient services in New York City and the metropolitan area.

- United Hospital Fund  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10118  
To order toll-free, call 888-291-4161)

For information on the city's public hospitals and outpatient facilities:

- New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation  
Division of Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations  
125 Worth Street  
New York, NY 10013

### **734. Day Care Centers**

Information on publicly funded and operated day care centers is available from the Administration for Children's Services' Agency for Child Development:

- Agency for Child Development  
Sweeney Building  
30 Main Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

### **735. Fire Protection**

The Commissioner's Office of the Fire Department of New York is consulted for information and determination related to fire protection assessment. This office is located at:

- New York City Fire Department  
9 Metrotech Center  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**736. Police Protection**

The Precinct Commanding Officer at the local precinct of the New York City Police Department that would serve the site is consulted for information and determination related to police protection assessment.

**737. Other Information**

- *Selected Facilities and Program Sites in New York City:* borough volumes and database on diskette with information on public and private schools, health care, libraries, day care and other community facilities by address, block/lot and community district; updated periodically.
- *Citywide Statement of Needs:* Proposed expansions, relocations, closings, , and new City facilities for the next two fiscal years.

- *Gazetteer and Atlas of City Property* (published annually): Information on all City-owned and -leased property by block/lot and community district.

Department of City Planning Bookstore  
22 Reade Street  
New York, NY 10007

- *Annual Capital Budget and 3-Year Capital Plan::* Appropriations for City capital projects.

Office of Management & Budget  
75 Park Place  
New York, NY 10007

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