

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the demand for solid waste and sanitation services from the proposed action. The proposed action would not exceed the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) thresholds that require a detailed assessment of the new demand for solid waste and sanitation services.

As detailed below, residents, employees, and visitors associated with the proposed action would create a new demand for solid waste and sanitation services. The proposed action would generate residential, commercial, and some regulated medical wastes. The new residential solid waste and recyclable materials would be collected by the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY), while the commercial and regulated medical waste would be collected and disposed of by private waste carters.

B. PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS

The proposed action (both the proposed Flushing Commons project and the Macedonia Plaza project) would increase the volume of solid waste generation at the rezoning area, generating an estimated 216,399 pounds of solid waste per week (about 107 tons per week). The proposed action would be required to comply with the City's recycling program. It is expected that all the residential waste and recyclable materials would be collected and disposed of by the DSNY. Commercial and regulated medical waste would be handled by private waste carters. The solid waste generated by the proposed action would represent a minimal increase in the City's waste stream. Therefore, no adverse impact on solid waste handling and disposal systems would result.

C. EXISTING CONDITIONS

In New York City, DSNY is the City agency responsible for collecting and disposing of residential, institutional, and City agency solid waste and recyclable materials. DSNY collects this waste and delivers it to solid waste management facilities or transfer stations located in and around the City. The waste is then processed and transported to out-of-the-City disposal facilities. Commercial carters are responsible for the waste collection of commercial and retail uses in New York City, although private waste service companies also deliver waste to the same transfer stations.

The municipal parking lot (Lot 25), which is the portion of the rezoning area that would be redeveloped by the proposed action, generates a very small amount of solid waste. This solid waste is collected and disposed of by the DSNY. As described in Chapter 1, "Project Description," the rezoning itself is not expected to result in redevelopment of the Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church site (Lot 46).

D. THE FUTURE WITHOUT THE PROPOSED ACTION

In the future without the proposed action, there are no planned changes to the City's solid waste management facilities. No changes to the private waste management facilities are also expected. The amount of solid waste and recyclable materials generated at the rezoning area is not expected to change.

E. PROBABLE IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action would be required to comply with the City's recycling program, which includes source separation of solid waste in conformance with City recycling regulations and State solid waste laws. Materials to be separated include paper, cardboard, metal, and certain plastics, all of which reduces the stream of waste to landfills. The analysis below conservatively does not include that reduction.

The hotel scenario for the proposed Flushing Commons project was conservatively assumed for this analysis (and not the office scenario) because the hotel scenario would generate more solid waste. The proposed Macedonia Plaza project, as described in Chapter 1, is also included in the analysis.

As indicated in Table 12-1, the proposed action would generate an estimated 216,399 pounds of solid waste per week. For this analysis, it is conservatively assumed that the existing uses at the project site generate little or no solid waste. Therefore, the increase in demand for solid waste and sanitation services is estimated to equal the newly generated demand (or about 108 tons per week).

Table 12-1
Projected Solid Waste Generation

Use	Number of Employees	Generation Rate (Pounds per Week)	Generation (Pounds per Week)
Residential	2,236*	17 per employee or resident	38,012
Retail	661	79 per employee	52,182
Restaurant	287	251 per employee	72,037
Hotel/Banquet	405	75 per employee	30,404
Commercial Office	440	13 per employee	5,720
Community Facility	241	75 per employee	18,044
Total Waste Generation			216,399
Note: * Total value includes residents and employees.			
Source: Rates from <i>City Environmental Review (CEQR) Technical Manual</i> , December 2001.			

It is expected that all the residential waste and recyclable materials would be collected and disposed of by DSNY. Commercial and regulated medical waste would be handled by private waste carters. The approximately 108 tons per week of solid waste is a small fraction (less than 0.06 percent) of the 175,000 tons per week total solid waste generated in New York City. An average garbage truck for containerized collections carries about 16 tons. The proposed action would therefore generate about seven truckloads per week. This would represent a very small increase in the amount of solid waste generated in the area. According to the guidelines in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, no adverse impact on solid waste handling and disposal systems would result. *