

The proposed action consists of two components, the first, which is known as the Phase III Upgrade, would involve construction and upgrading to improve the solids handling facilities at the Hunts Point WPCP. The second component would be undertaken to enhance nitrogen removal. No expansion of wastewater flow capacity is proposed.

The proposed action would result in a more developed project site and would incorporate an additional 4.3 acres of City-owned land into the Hunts Point WPCP. Construction of the Phase III Upgrade elements would occur on the 4.3-acre parcel and on the western portion of the existing plant site. The proposed action also includes the future transfer of a 1.2-acre portion of City-owned land to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to be mapped as parkland for inclusion in Barretto Point Park.

The proposed upgrade is not expected to alter regional growth patterns, impact residential settlement patterns, or affect the growth in employment centers. Forces underlying growth in regional and local population and employment are composed of many economic and marketplace factors that evolve outside of the infrastructure system characteristics. Demands on infrastructure systems are a result of, not a stimulus for, service area growth. Moreover, in heavily developed areas, such as the Hunts Point WPCP service area, such growth can occur regardless of new construction activity through changes in household size or amount of office square footage per employee. When new development is proposed, both public and private development decisions are governed primarily by economic, financial, and site-specific considerations within the real estate marketplace (primarily related to supply and demand—i.e., land availability, affordability, and population growth), and do not, from a development standpoint, hinge on wastewater treatment. This is particularly true in the case of the Hunts Point WPCP which is operating well below its permitted capacity of 200 million gallons per day (e.g., 2005 average dry weather flow of 114 mgd). Moreover, residential and commercial growth in several community districts within the drainage area is affected, to a considerable extent, by public policy initiatives, including funding and public subsidies, and plans that are implemented by various State and City agencies. Therefore, the proposed upgrade of the Hunts Point WPCP is not expected to induce development within the Hunts Point WPCP service area.

In addition, there would be no additional employees at the WPCP, once upgraded; therefore, the proposed action would not be expected to generate significant secondary or induced effects. \*