

# SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

## CHAPTER 5

The socioeconomic character of an area includes its population, housing, and economic activity. Socioeconomic changes may occur when a project directly or indirectly changes any of these elements. Even when socioeconomic changes would not result in impacts under CEQR, they are disclosed if they would affect land use patterns, low-income populations, the availability of goods and services, or economic investment in a way that changes the socioeconomic character of the area. In some cases, these changes may be substantial but not adverse. In other cases, these changes may be good for some groups but bad for others. The objective of the CEQR analysis is to disclose whether any changes created by the project would have a significant impact compared to what would happen in the future without the project.

The assessment of socioeconomic conditions usually separates the socioeconomic conditions of area residents from those of area businesses, although projects may affect both in similar ways. Projects may directly displace residents or businesses or may indirectly displace them by altering one or more of the underlying forces that shape socioeconomic conditions in an area. Usually, economic changes alone are not assessed; however, in some cases their inclusion in a CEQR review may be appropriate, particularly if a major industry would be affected or if an objective of a project is to create economic change.

As with each technical area assessed under CEQR, the applicant should work closely with the lead agency during the entire environmental review process. If the lead agency determines that it is appropriate to consult or coordinate with the City's expert technical agencies and service providers on the socioeconomic conditions assessment, it should consult the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) as early as possible in the environmental review process for information, technical review, recommendations, and mitigation relating to socioeconomic conditions. Section 700 further outlines appropriate coordination with DCP and other expert agencies.

### 100. DEFINITIONS

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#### 110. DIRECT AND INDIRECT DISPLACEMENT

**Direct displacement** (sometimes called primary displacement) is the involuntary displacement of existing residents or businesses from a site or sites directly affected by a proposed project. Examples include a proposed redevelopment of a currently occupied site for new uses or structures, or a proposed easement or right-of-way that would take a portion of a parcel and thus render it unfit for its current use. The occupants and the extent of displacement are usually known, and the disclosure of direct displacement can therefore focus on specific businesses and a known number of residents and workers.

In contrast, for a project covering a large geographic area, such as an area-wide rezoning, the precise location and type of development may not be known because it is not possible to determine with certainty the future projects of private property owners, whose displacement decisions are tied to the terms of private contracts and lease terms between tenants and landlords existing at the time of redevelopment. Therefore, sites are analyzed to illustrate a conservative assessment of the potential effects of the proposed project on sites considered likely to be redeveloped and examines whether existing businesses and residents on those sites may be displaced.

**Indirect displacement** (also known as secondary displacement) is the involuntary displacement of residents, businesses, or employees that results from a change in socioeconomic conditions created by the proposed project. Examples include lower-income residents forced out due to rising rents caused by a new concentration of higher-income housing introduced by a proposed project; a similar turnover of industrial to higher-paying commercial tenants spurred by the introduction of a successful office project in the area or the introduction of a new use, such as residential; or increased retail vacancy resulting from business closure when a new large retailer saturates the market for particular categories



of goods. The assessment of indirect displacement usually identifies the size and type of groups of residents, businesses, or employees affected. In keeping with general CEQR practice, the assessment of indirect displacement assumes that the mechanisms for such displacement are legal. For information on applicable laws and regulations affecting residents, see Subsection 711, below.

## **120. POPULATION AND HOUSING**

Population and housing assessments focus on the residents of an area and their housing conditions. If a socioeconomic assessment is appropriate, a profile of a residential population typically includes the following characteristics: total number of residents, household size, income, and any other appropriate indicators of the economic conditions of residents. In addition, it is often helpful to break down income levels into groupings that are commonly used in the City to define income levels for low, moderate, and middle income for eligibility for inclusionary housing and other public assistance programs. Income levels are typically based on a family of four. For a description of current definitions, refer to <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hpd/services-and-information/area-median-income.page>. These definitions typically change annually based on economic factors. A more detailed assessment also includes some or all of the following characteristics: average income of households living in small and large buildings, poverty status, education, and occupation.

The housing profile typically characterizes the type and condition of the housing stock, units per structure, whether owner-occupied or rented, vacancy rates, recent real estate trends, investments in affordable housing by City, State, and not-for-profit organizations, and housing costs and values. As appropriate, single room occupancy (SRO) units, group quarters, shelters, and hotel units that contain year-round, permanent residents may be included in the housing unit count. Housing may also be characterized according to the income of its occupants (*e.g.*, low-, moderate-, or high-income housing). Regulations that protect tenants' continued occupancy and the availability of housing subsidies are identified and disclosed where residential displacement is a possibility.

## **130. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES: BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT**

Economic activities that characterize an area generally include the businesses or institutions operating there and the employment associated with them. Depending on the project in question, those people who are served by the businesses may also be considered in the assessment. Also, if there are groups of businesses that depend on the goods and services of businesses that are likely to be affected by the project, it may be appropriate to consider the effects on those businesses as well.

The businesses may be classified as commercial (office-based services, retailing, transient hotels, and other business activities typically found in urban commercial districts), industrial (manufacturing, construction, wholesale trade, warehousing, transportation, communications, and public utilities—activities typically found in manufacturing districts), or institutions (schools, hospitals, community centers, government centers, and other like facilities with a charitable, governmental, public health, or educational purpose).

## **140. INDUSTRY ASSESSMENTS**

A project may not displace, but may affect, the operation of a major industry or commercial operation in the city. In these cases, the lead agency assesses the economic impacts of the project on the industry in question.

## **200. DETERMINING WHETHER A SOCIOECONOMIC ASSESSMENT IS APPROPRIATE**

A socioeconomic assessment should be conducted if a project may be reasonably expected to create socioeconomic changes within the area affected by the project that would not be expected to occur without the project. Under the following circumstances, a socioeconomic assessment would generally be appropriate:

- The project would directly displace residential population to the extent that the socioeconomic character of the neighborhood would be substantially altered. All projects should disclose the number of existing residents that they would directly displace, regardless of whether or not it is considered a significant impact. Displacement of fewer than



500 existing residents would not typically be expected to alter the socioeconomic character of a neighborhood. For projects exceeding this threshold, assessments of the direct residential displacement (331.1), indirect residential displacement (332.1), and indirect business displacement (332.3) are appropriate.

- The project would directly displace more than 100 existing employees. For projects exceeding this threshold, assessments of direct business displacement (331.3) and indirect business displacement (332.3) are appropriate.
- The project would directly displace a business that is unusually important because its products or services are uniquely dependent on its location; that, based on its type or location, is the subject of other regulations or publicly adopted plans aimed at its preservation; or that serves a population uniquely dependent on its services in its present location. Information provided in Chapter 4, “Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy,” may be useful in determining whether an assessment is appropriate. If any of these conditions is considered likely, assessments of direct business displacement (331.3) and indirect business displacement (332.3) are appropriate.
- The project would result in substantial new residential development. Typically, residential development of 250 units or less would not have significant socioeconomic effects. For projects exceeding this threshold, an assessment of indirect residential displacement (332.1) is appropriate.
- The project would result in substantial new commercial development that is markedly different from existing uses, development, and activities within the neighborhood. Typically, commercial development of 200,000 square feet or less would not have significant socioeconomic effects. In rare cases, it is possible that smaller projects may require an assessment if they have the ability to greatly alter socioeconomic conditions in the neighborhood. These types of uses should be identified in consultation with the lead agency but could include hotels or entertainment uses in non-commercial districts. For projects exceeding this threshold, an assessment of indirect business displacement (332.3) is appropriate.
- The project would add to, or create, a retail concentration that may draw a substantial number of sales from existing businesses within the study area to the extent that certain categories of business close and vacancies in the area increase, thus resulting in a potential for disinvestment on local retail streets. Projects resulting in less than 200,000 square feet of retail on a single development site would not typically result in socioeconomic impacts. If the proposed development is located on multiple sites across a project area, a preliminary analysis is likely only warranted for retail developments in excess of 200,000 square feet that are considered regional-serving and are not primarily intended to serve the local population. For projects exceeding these thresholds, an assessment of the indirect business displacement due to market saturation (332.5) is appropriate.
- If the project is expected to affect conditions within a specific industry, an assessment (333.1) is appropriate. For example, a citywide regulatory change that would adversely affect the economic and operational conditions of certain types of businesses or processes may affect socioeconomic conditions in a neighborhood: (1) if a substantial number of residents or workers depend on the goods or services provided by the affected businesses; or (2) if it would result in the loss or substantial diminishment of a particularly important product or service within the city. Since the range of possible types of projects that may warrant an analysis of specific industries varies, the lead agency, in consultation with the Mayor’s Office of Environmental Coordination (MOEC), should provide guidance as to whether an analysis is warranted.

The above thresholds are based on agency experience and expertise, including a review of applications that included detailed assessments or resulted in significant, adverse impacts on socioeconomic conditions and would, for most projects, serve as an indication of when further analysis is recommended. However, certain circumstances may warrant different thresholds. Since the socioeconomic assessment seeks to determine the effect of the proposed project relative to the expected No-Action conditions of the study area, the proposed threshold may be too high or low depending on the characteristics of the study area. For example, the introduction of 300,000 square feet of retail across several development sites in a dense neighborhood, such as Downtown Brooklyn, would be unlikely to result in the saturation of the marketplace for particular goods to such an extent that the project would result in increased vacancies on local commercial streets. Most likely, the population density and aggregate incomes in the area are sufficiently high to absorb additional sales. Furthermore, any



increase in population associated with the project would be expected to generate additional demand for retail. In contrast, a 175,000 square foot discount department store at a single location may have a different effect in a lower density neighborhood, such as those on Staten Island, where total consumer expenditures are not as high for particular categories of goods. In these circumstances, the lead agency may determine that a lower or higher threshold is appropriate for a specific project.

## 300. ASSESSMENT METHODS

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The nature of the proposed project determines the geographic area and socioeconomic conditions to be assessed, the methods to use, and the level of detail by which they are studied. By comparing the characteristics of the proposed project to the circumstances in Section 200 above, the lead agency can identify the socioeconomic assessment issues that apply. If a determination on the appropriateness of further assessment is not evident without further study, a preliminary assessment may be warranted. In most cases, a preliminary assessment is conducted because the detailed assessment builds upon the information provided in the preliminary assessment. Any assessment, preliminary or full, usually begins with selection of a study area. After the preliminary assessment, or as a result of a detailed assessment, the size of the study area may be enlarged or reduced.

### 310. STUDY AREA DEFINITION

Typically, the socioeconomic study area boundaries are similar to those of the land use study area, as described in Chapter 4, "Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy." The study area encompasses the project site and adjacent area within 400 feet, 0.25 mile, or 0.5 mile, depending on project size and area characteristics. The socioeconomic assessment seeks to examine the potential to change socioeconomic character relative to the study area population. For projects that result in an increase in residential population, the scale of the relative change is typically represented as a percent increase in population.

A project that would result in a relatively large increase in population may be expected to affect a larger study area. Therefore, a 0.5-mile study area is appropriate for projects that would increase population by 5 percent compared to the expected No-Action population in a quarter-mile (0.25 mile) study area. When the percent increase will not be known until after a preliminary analysis is conducted, the applicant may begin with a 0.25 mile study area for the preliminary analysis and then expand to a 0.5 mile study area if the analysis reveals that the increase in population would exceed 5 percent in the 0.25 mile study area.

It is often appropriate to adjust the size of the study area to make its boundaries contiguous with those of census tracts. Identify all census tracts with at least 50 percent of their area within the quarter- or half-mile buffer. The study area should include each of those census tracts in their entirety. Exclude all census tracts that have less than 50 percent of their area within the buffer area. Any census tracts that overlap with the project site should be included in their entirety, regardless of the percentage census tract area that is included in the generalized study area.

For projects covering a large area, it may be appropriate to create subareas for analysis if the project affects different portions of the study area in different ways. Subareas are locations of at least one census tract that warrant special consideration because they are locations where land use characteristics or real estate trends are distinct from the rest of the study area. For example, if a project concentrates development opportunities in one portion of the study area and would result in higher increases in population in that portion, it may be appropriate to analyze the subarea most likely to be affected by the concentrated development. Distinct sub-areas should be based on recognizable neighborhoods or communities in an effort to disclose whether a project may have disparate effects on distinct populations that would otherwise be masked or overlooked within the larger study area.

Some projects may result in direct or indirect effects that are either beyond the half-mile boundary or are such that typical site-specific study areas are not appropriate. For example, a proposal for a large retail use may change shopping patterns in a trade area that extends well beyond the typical half-mile. In this case, depending on the types of goods to be sold, the study area could comprise all shopping strips within a three-mile radius of the site. In short, there is no established "area" applicable to all socioeconomic analyses. A study area(s) should be developed that reflects the areas likely to be affected by the project. Generic actions may result in socioeconomic changes that would affect numerous



locations throughout the City. In these cases, multiple or prototypical study areas may be appropriate. Other generic actions, such as a regulatory change that would affect operating conditions in a specific industry, may affect the City as a whole.

### **320. DETERMINING EXISTING AND BUILD-YEAR RESIDENTIAL POPULATION**

In order to create the boundaries of a project's study area, and to assess the likelihood of direct and/or indirect impacts on the residential population, it is necessary to estimate the existing population and the no-action, build-year population.

Estimating the existing population can be done starting from the most recent decennial census, since it is the most accurate census product and is intended to be a complete count of all people living within the city. Since this source can be more than a decade old by the time a new census is released, it is recommended that the analysis account for the change that may have happened in an area during the time between the CEQR analysis and when the last decennial census was conducted. This can be done by summing the net change of completed construction projects (new buildings, demolitions, and major alterations) that were completed after April 1 of the decennial year in which the last census was conducted and using the average household size to populate those units. It may also be necessary to estimate some degree of vacancy for the additional units. This ought to be a reasonable estimate of the existing population at the time of the analysis.

Projecting the future population of a study area is done in a similar way, but instead of summing the unit counts of projects that have been completed, the focus will be on those projects that are still under construction. Generally, for projects that have estimated build years that are three years into the future, only permitted construction should be incorporated into the analysis. However, certain projects that have build years more than three years out, may need to include DOB applications that are filed but not yet permitted and are in a more preliminary stage of development. Additionally, it may be appropriate to include projects that have not yet entered the Department of Buildings permitting pipeline, for example a known project that is seeking a rezoning, but which is also expected to be completed by the build year.

Department of Buildings data that have been vetted, cleaned, and geocoded by the Department of City Planning can be accessed on [DCP's website](#).

### **330. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT AND DETAILED ANALYSIS**

A preliminary assessment should first be prepared that addresses socioeconomic conditions that may be affected by the proposed project. For example, if a project may affect employment patterns, the preliminary assessment would provide a greater level of detail in describing and assessing economic activities and employment profiles. The purpose of the preliminary assessment is to determine whether a proposed project has the potential to introduce or accelerate a socioeconomic trend. If this is the case, a more detailed assessment may be warranted. The purpose of the preliminary assessment described below is to learn enough about the effects of the proposed project in order to either rule out the possibility of significant impact or determine that more detailed analysis is appropriate. A list of data sources that may be useful in completing the assessment is available in Section 730.

If it has been determined that a socioeconomic impact may be likely or cannot be ruled out based on the preliminary assessment, a detailed analysis is warranted. A detailed analysis aims to describe existing and anticipated future conditions to a level sufficient to understand the relationship of the proposed project to such conditions. The analysis assesses the change that the project would have on these conditions and identifies whether the impact is significant and potentially adverse. The discussions of information and analyses set forth below offer guidance, some or all of which are useful for a range of projects. Since it is not possible to anticipate all projects that might affect socioeconomic conditions, it may be that some proposed projects warrant more or different information and analyses than are suggested here. In all cases, however, the analysis should allow the lead agency to understand the potential for, and extent of, a significant adverse impact to a level that allows appropriate mitigation to be explained and considered. If specific information is not available, it may be necessary to make assumptions. As described in Chapter 2, "Establishing

the Analysis Framework,” these assumptions should reflect the worst case of the range of conditions that can reasonably be anticipated.

### **331. Direct (or Primary) Displacement**

In most cases, direct displacement would not constitute a significant adverse socioeconomic impact under CEQR. Projects that involve the large scale, direct displacement of residents that is sufficient to warrant a detailed environmental assessment are relatively rare. An example of a detailed assessment of direct business displacement is the [2008 Willets Point Development Plan, Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement](#).

#### **331.1. Direct Residential Displacement: Preliminary Assessment**

Direct residential displacement is not by itself a significant socioeconomic impact under CEQR. Impacts from residential displacement may occur if the numbers and types of people being displaced would alter the socioeconomic character of a neighborhood and perhaps lead to indirect displacement of remaining residents. Historical examples that might have warranted a detailed assessment under contemporary environmental review practices include urban renewal projects such as Lincoln Square in the 1950's. This project relocated thousands of low-income persons and introduced a more affluent population. Another example is a road construction project, like the one to build the Cross Bronx Expressway in the late 1940's and 1950's, which required the clearance of tenement buildings in the Tremont section of the South Bronx. Although these types of projects are now rare, it is possible that the displacement of more than 500 existing residents may potentially alter a neighborhood's socioeconomic character and, therefore, warrant further analysis of direct residential displacement.

The analysis should determine the amount of displacement relative to the study area population and compare and contrast the average incomes of displaced residents with the average income of all residents in the study area population. The following analysis should be considered when conducting a preliminary assessment of direct residential displacement. The thresholds provided below provide guidance and serve as a general rule; however, the lead agency may determine that lower or higher thresholds are appropriate under certain circumstances.

- The first step is to determine whether the displaced population represents a substantial or significant portion of the population within the study area. Displacement of less than 5 percent of the primary study area population would not typically represent a substantial or significant portion of the population.
- If the displaced population represents greater than 5 percent of the primary study area population, the analysis should then determine whether the average income of the displaced residents is markedly less than the average income of residents of the overall study area.

A detailed assessment should be conducted if preliminary analysis shows that:

- More than 500 residents would be directly displaced by a proposed project;
- The displaced residents represent more than 5 percent of the primary study area population; and
- The average income of the directly displaced population is markedly lower than the average income of the rest of the study area population. The lead agency may consult DCP on the methodology for determining the estimated incomes of the directly displaced and study area populations, if such data are not readily available.

Sources of information to use in this assessment include the [U.S. Census](#) and the [NYC Housing and Vacancy Survey](#).





### **331.2. Direct Residential Displacement: Detailed Analysis**

#### **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The detailed assessment of direct residential displacement focuses on the socioeconomic characteristics of the residents that would be displaced as these relate to the housing profile of the neighborhood. If the preliminary assessment indicates that a detailed analysis is warranted, the detailed analysis then would determine whether relocation opportunities exist within the study area for these displaced households. Building on information provided in tasks conducted in the preliminary assessment, the following information should be described:

- The prevailing trends in vacancies and rental and sale prices of units on-site and within the neighborhood are identified. This information serves to identify the potential for residents to be displaced or relocated within the study area. For example, if the housing to be directly displaced is of a type and cost that is limited in amount in the neighborhood, it is unlikely that the displaced tenants would be able to relocate in the study area. Sources for data on housing prices and trends include the U.S. Census of Population and Housing, real estate reference services, and local realtors.

#### **FUTURE NO-ACTION CONDITION**

For the project's build year, assess conditions related to demographic and housing characteristics of the study area or neighborhood. Relevant information might include whether: the housing stock in the area is expected to expand or decrease; the number of residents on the site is expected to increase or decrease; rents are expected to increase or remain stable; population and land use changes are expected; any other relocation is anticipated; the tenants' conditions are expected to change (*e.g.*, rent increases, family size increase). This information may be obtained through interviews with real estate brokers or persons expert in local conditions and through coordination with the land use analysis (see Chapter 4, "Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy"). The conclusions of the existing conditions analysis are then revised to include relevant information about the future No-Action condition.

#### **WITH-ACTION CONDITION**

For the project's build year, determine how information described in the No-Action condition would change as a result of the proposed project. The analysis of With-Action conditions considers the effects of the project in concert with No-Action trends and conditions. If the number of low-income residents to be displaced exceeds 5 percent of the primary study area population—or relevant sub-areas, if the displaced population is located within the subarea identified—and the displaced population could not be relocated within the larger study area, the project may result in a significant change in the socioeconomic character of the study area, and a potential significant adverse impact may occur.

### **331.3 Direct Business Displacement: Preliminary Assessment**

For all projects that exceed the screening threshold, the type and extent of existing businesses and workers to be directly displaced by a project should be disclosed, whether or not there would be a significant displacement impact. A preliminary assessment to determine the potential for significant displacement should consider the following circumstances:

- Whether the businesses to be displaced provide products or services essential to the local economy that would no longer be available in its "trade area" to local residents or businesses due to the difficulty of either relocating the businesses or establishing new, comparable businesses. The "trade area" may be the study area or, depending on the size of the area from which the majority of customers or clients of the businesses are drawn, a broader area.
- The analysis should focus on businesses for which comparable goods or services may not be found within the study area, either under existing conditions or in the future with the proposed project. For example, the displacement of a convenience store on a local retail strip would not be expected



to result in significant adverse impacts because it is generally likely that similar stores exist within the study area or would locate there to meet demand. On the other hand, an example of direct displacement that would warrant additional analysis might be the demolition of buildings on a local retail corridor for a highway project or other non-retail uses. If comparable retail does not exist within the project study area, more analysis would be warranted to assess the likelihood of a significant adverse impact.

- Sources of information to use in this assessment include [Zip Code Business Patterns](#), a product of the U.S. Census, Journey-to-Work data from the U.S. Census, or the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LEHD) [Origin-Destination Employment Statistics \(LODES\)](#) from the US Census Bureau. Local development corporations or business improvement districts may also collect data or publish reports on businesses within the study area.
- Whether a category of businesses is the subject of other regulations or publicly adopted plans to preserve, enhance, or otherwise protect it. An example would be the displacement of an industrial business from a primary industrial area or of a supermarket in an area mapped for FRESH (Food Retail Expansion to Support Health) zoning incentives. In these examples, an analysis may be warranted to assess the likelihood of an impact. Information provided in Chapter 4, “Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy” should be helpful in determining whether any of the displaced businesses are the subject of other regulations or publicly adopted plans to preserve, enhance, or otherwise protect them.

If any of the conditions listed above are possible, then an assessment of relocation opportunities is appropriate.

- Assess whether the business would be able to relocate in the study area or elsewhere in the City. This assessment is based on a comparison of the products, services, and locational needs of the business with the consumer base and available properties in the study area. This assessment should account for other regulations, permits, or approvals that make relocation challenging.

If it is determined that relocation opportunities within the study area or city are limited, then a detailed assessment is appropriate.

#### **331.4 Direct Business Displacement: Detailed Analysis**

##### **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The detailed assessment of direct business displacement focuses on the specific conditions that describe the businesses to be displaced and the characteristics of the study area related to the displacement. The objective of the detailed assessment is to better understand the operational characteristics of the displaced businesses and assess whether the product or service they provide would continue to be available in the study area. One or more of the following tasks may be appropriate:

- Describe the operational and financial characteristics of the business to be displaced; the products, markets, and employment characteristics of the business to be displaced, and the effects of this business on the City’s overall economy. Information on retail sales, employment, wages, and other indicators of business performance and characteristics can be obtained online or in publications from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the NYSDOL. Useful data sources available from the U.S. Census Bureau include the Economic Census, which include the Census of Retail Trade, County Business Patterns, the Annual Survey of Manufactures, Non-Employer Statistics, and the Survey of Business Owners. Special economic reports are also available from the Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies. In addition to data on employment in New York State, the NYSDOL also provides industry projections and special industry-specific reports.





- Determine whether the business to be displaced has an important or substantial economic value to the City. Describe its products and services and its economic value. This analysis should consider who the customers are of these products or services and whether similar products or services would continue to be available to these customers. Describe location needs, if any.

***FUTURE NO-ACTION CONDITION***

For the project's build year, assess conditions related to the site and the study area in the future. Relevant information may include: any changes in the uses on-site; whether the available commercial or industrial space in the area is expected to expand or decrease; whether rents are expected to increase or remain stable; and whether the tenants' conditions would change (*e.g.*, rent increases, lease expiration). This information is obtained from persons with expertise in the local conditions, through interviews with real estate brokers, and through coordination with the land use analysis (see Chapter 4, "Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy"). The conclusions of the existing conditions analysis are then revised to include relevant information about the future No-Action condition.

***WITH-ACTION CONDITION***

Describe the likely effects of the proposed project on the businesses being displaced and on the character of the study area, as relevant. This analysis is based largely on a comparison with the analysis of existing conditions, adjusted to account for future trends that would occur without the project. If the business to be displaced by the proposed project has an important or substantial economic value to the City and the product or service they provide would no longer be available within the trade or study area, the loss of that business may constitute a significant adverse impact.

## **332. Indirect Displacement**

### ***332.1. Indirect Residential Displacement: Preliminary Assessment***

The objective of the indirect residential displacement analysis is to determine whether the proposed project may either introduce or accelerate a trend of changing socioeconomic conditions that may potentially displace a vulnerable population to the extent that the socioeconomic character of the neighborhood would change. Generally, an indirect residential displacement analysis is conducted only in cases in which the potential impact may be experienced by renters living in privately held units unprotected by rent control, rent stabilization, or other government regulations restricting rents, and whose income or poverty status indicates that they may not support substantial rent increases. These renters are known as a "vulnerable population" that could be subject to displacement. Examples of projects where a detailed assessment was conducted include the [Greenpoint-Williamsburg Rezoning](#), the [125th Street Corridor Rezoning](#), and the [East Harlem Rezoning](#).

In all cases, the potential for indirect displacement depends not only on the characteristics of the proposed project, but on the characteristics of the study area. Usually, the characteristics of the proposed project are known—the objective of the preliminary assessment, then, is to gather enough information about conditions in the study area so that the effect of the change in conditions with the proposed project relative to expected future conditions in the study area can be better understood. At this stage, an analysis of data at the study area level is generally adequate for the preliminary analysis, and detailed census tract-level descriptions are not warranted. Although relevant data on population and housing may vary depending on the proposed project, information on study area characteristics typically include the following:

- ***TOTAL POPULATION FOR THE STUDY AREA, FOR THE BOROUGH, AND FOR THE CITY.*** To understand trends, it is useful to include data from the most recent census and from the previous decade. If there is reason to believe that longer-term trends should be assessed, then the data from the most recent census and the previous two decades may be presented. Where available, data on the number of permits issued for new or demolished housing units may be used to estimate changes in population since the previous U.S. Census. Data for the city, borough, or Public



Microdata Use Area (PUMA) from the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) may also be used to supplement census data and provide information on current conditions. The data should also include the projected change in population in the study area in the future without the project so that the project's addition may be expressed as a percent increase over existing and future No-Action conditions.

- **HOUSING VALUE AND RENT.** The U.S. Census provides information on median housing value and median contract rent. This information reflects the range of rents for both units of different sizes and ages and occupants who may have moved in recently or lived in their units for a long time. However, these data are of limited use because they fail to distinguish between units subject to market rents and those under some form of rent regulation. To understand current trends, particularly trends affecting unregulated rental housing, this information may be supplemented by discussions with real estate brokers and examination of current apartment listings. The key to this analysis is to understand the extent to which the market-rate rents and sales prices for new housing and existing unregulated rental housing in the future with the project would differ from, or conform to, the existing trends of market-rate rents and sales. Housing sales are recorded and available through various real estate publications.
- **COOPERATIVES AND CONDOMINIUM CONVERSION.** In some neighborhoods the conversion of units to cooperatives or condominiums is an indication of upgrading trends. Information on these conversions is available through various real estate publications.
- **ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS NOT SUBJECT TO RENT PROTECTION**
- **MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND OTHER INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF RESIDENTS, SUCH AS PERCENT OF PERSONS LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL**

The aforementioned information should be provided as it pertains to the following step-by-step analysis for a preliminary assessment of indirect residential displacement:

### **STEP 1**

Determine if the project's increase in population is large enough relative to the size of the population expected to reside in the study area without the project to affect real estate market conditions in the study area.

- If the population increase is less than 5 percent within the study area, or identified subareas, further analysis is not warranted as this change would not be expected to affect real estate market conditions.
- If the population increase is greater than 5 percent in the study area as a whole or within any identified subareas, move on to Step 2.
- If the population increase is greater than 10 percent in the study areas as a whole or within any identified subarea, move on to a Detailed Analysis.

### **STEP 2**

Determine if the proposed project would add new population with higher average incomes compared to the average incomes of the existing populations and any new population expected to reside in the study area without the project. Doing this analysis requires three pieces of information: the existing ratio of affordable to market-rate units; the projected average income of households occupying the affordable units; and the projected average income of households occupying the market-rate units.

When calculating the number of affordable units and the incomes of households occupying them in the with-action scenario, only those Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) Options that are actually being sought by the applicant should be considered. MIH has 4 different Options available, each intended to



target different levels of income. Under Option 1, 25% of residential floor area will be set aside for units for residents with incomes averaging 60% of Area Median Income (AMI). Option 2 requires 30% of floor area for units for residents with incomes averaging 80% of AMI. Option 3, or the Deep Affordability Option requires 20% of residential floor area to be for units for residents with incomes averaging 40% of AMI. Finally, Option 4, the Workforce Option requires 30% of floor area to be for units for residents with incomes averaging 115% of AMI. It is only necessary to report whatever available Option is the most conservative. The more conservative Option, in the case of this analysis, is the one that produces the highest average income for the introduced population. Typically Option 2 is the most conservative of the stand-alone options, but this is dependent on how expensive the market-rate housing, and therefore the expected income of the households occupying those units, is in the study area.

The MIH Option being analyzed determines the percentage of units that are permanently affordable and the percent of Area Median Income (AMI) that households occupying those units will make on average. The percent of AMI does not equate to a single dollar figure, however. It is a range of possible incomes depending on the size of the household in question. A table with this information can be found on the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development website. In 2025, 60% AMI ranges from \$68,040 for a single person to \$128,340 for an eight-person household. This means that once the percent AMI is determined by the MIH Option(s) chosen, it needs to be converted to a single number based on the average household size of the socioeconomic study area. This number will represent the average household income for the affordable units.

The average household size for the study area will likely fall between two whole numbers. For example, the study area average household size might be 2.5 people per household. In order to estimate the AMI level necessary, it is possible to split the difference between the AMI for two-person households and three-person households. This calculation can be seen below and is done by subtracting the lower value in the household size range from the average household size for the study area (Step 1). Step 2 is the difference between the lower bound (2-person households) of the incomes for that percent of AMI and the higher bound (3-person households). Step 3 multiplies Steps 1 and 2 together. Step 4 adds Step 3 to the lower bound of household income (2-person households) and is the projected average income of households occupying the affordable units.

Step 1:  $2.5 - 2.0 = 0.5$

Step 2:  $\$64,440 - \$57,300 = \$7,140$

Step 3:  $0.5 * \$7,140 = \$3,570$

Step 4:  $\$3,570 + \$57,300 = \$60,870$

Determining the income of households in market-rate units is a very different calculation from that of the affordable units. There is no one official, public source for this information. While ACS data can be used to determine trends in the study area, it is not very helpful for this exercise since ACS rent data does not distinguish between households living in rent regulated units and those living in market-rate units. Typically, a proprietary source of rental data such as StreetEasy would be used to determine the current market rents for units in the study area. The average, median, and third quartile of these market rents should be reported, as well as the count of units surveyed, broken out by the number of bedrooms. In some markets, it may be necessary to interview brokers familiar with the market or reference multiple data sources.

In order to get a single, unified estimate of the average rent for market-rate units, it is necessary to estimate the unit mix of the new, market-rate units. Unless the actual unit mix for a development is known,



it is necessary to assume that the unit breakdown of the new market-rate units will mirror the unit mix of the current market-rate units in the study area. The third quartile of market rate unit rents can be assumed to represent 30% of the introduced population's monthly income. This assumption is based on the fact that new construction tends to be at the higher end of market rents and that 30% is the standard threshold for what is considered a rent-burdened household.

Once the average incomes for the households occupying both the affordable units and the market-rate ones have been calculated, they should be combined into a single weighted average. The weighting depends on the percentage of units that are proposed to be affordable. If, for example, MIH Option 1 is being proposed, 25% of the units are affordable and 75% are market-rate.

If the project would introduce a more costly type of housing compared to existing housing and the housing expected to be built in the No-Action condition, then the new population may be expected to have higher incomes. In some cases, the study area would already be experiencing socioeconomic change and the housing to be developed under a proposed project represents a continuation of an existing trend, and not a new trend.

If the expected average income of the new population would be less than or within the margin of error of the average income of the study area population, no further analysis is warranted. If the expected average income of the new population would exceed the average income of the study area population, then Step 3 of the analysis should be conducted.

### **STEP 3**

Consider whether the study area has already experienced a readily observable trend toward increasing rents and the likely effect of the action on such trends. For the purposes of Step 3, "near" is defined as within a half-mile of the study area boundary.

- If the vast majority of the study area has already experienced a readily observable trend toward increasing rents and new market-rate development, further analysis is not warranted. However, if such trends could be considered inconsistent and not sustained, the applicant should consult with the Department of City Planning on whether a detailed analysis is warranted.
- If no such trend exists either within or near the study area, the action could be expected to have a stabilizing effect on the housing market within the study area by allowing for limited new housing opportunities and investment. In this circumstance, further analysis is not warranted.
- If those trends do exist near to or within smaller portions of the study area, the action could have the potential to accelerate an existing trend. In this circumstance a detailed analysis should be conducted.

#### **332.2. Indirect Residential Displacement: Detailed Analysis**

The objective of the indirect residential displacement analysis is to determine whether the proposed project may introduce a trend or accelerate a trend of changing socioeconomic conditions that may potentially displace a population of renters living in units not protected by rent stabilization, rent control, or other government regulations restricting rents. The purpose of the detailed assessment is to determine whether there is a substantial population living within the unprotected units who may be at risk of indirect displacement under the proposed project because their incomes are too low to afford increases in rents.

The approach to the detailed assessment of indirect residential displacement builds upon information provided in the preliminary assessment but involves more in-depth analysis of census information and may also include field surveys.



The analysis should characterize existing conditions of residents and housing in order to identify the vulnerable population that may be subject to displacement, assess current and future socioeconomic trends in the area that may affect these populations, and examine the effects of the proposed project on prevailing socioeconomic trends and, thus, its impact on the identified populations at risk.

**STEP 1**

The goal of this analysis is to identify whether a population that would be vulnerable to secondary displacement exists within the study area, and if so, its general size and location. The population at risk is renters living in privately held units unprotected by rent control, rent stabilization, or other government regulations such as Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) that limit rents, whose incomes or poverty status indicate that they could not support substantial rent increases. Using an estimate of the number of low-income, renter households in the study area and the unit counts for non-regulated units and regulated units with and without income restrictions, the population at risk of displacement can be approximated. It should be assumed that units that have income restrictions contain low-income households. Unregulated units and those with rent regulations but no income restrictions may contain households above and below the 80% AMI threshold. The remaining low-income population should be proportionally distributed between both categories.

**DETERMINE THE AMOUNT AND GENERAL LOCATION OF PROTECTED AND UNPROTECTED HOUSING UNITS WITHIN THE STUDY AREA.** The data used to provide a housing profile are found in the U.S. Census, in DCP's housing permit data files, from agencies owning or operating housing in the area, and through surveys, as indicated below:

- **HOUSING UNITS.** The U.S. Census provides information on numbers of housing units, their size, their occupancy (by renters or owners), and the size of structures in which the units are located. As with population information, it is useful to compare census tracts within the study area, the total study area, the borough, and the City, to understand the particular conditions of the study area. Trends in housing can also be obtained by comparing the most recent census with the previous one or two decades. Where there is reason to suspect that the latest census data no longer describe the existing conditions, annual information on new housing units can be obtained from DCP and combined with Census data to more accurately estimate current conditions.
- **HOUSING STATUS.** Various mechanisms regulate rent levels in the City, including:
  - Rent control, which applies to units that are located in buildings built before 1947 with three or more units and that have been occupied by the same tenant since 1971;
  - Rent stabilization, which sets the rent of units in buildings of six units or more that were built before 1974 or that have received tax abatements or exemptions under one of several city programs;
  - Mandatory Inclusionary Housing, which requires a share of new housing built through certain zoning actions to be permanently affordable. More information regarding the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program is available [here](#);
  - Direct public subsidies to the landlord through such means as rent subsidy payments, low-interest mortgages, and/or partial real estate tax exemptions; and
  - Public ownership.

Units identified in the study area should ultimately be classified into three categories: those subject to rent regulations and income requirements; those subject to rent regulations, but not income requirements; and those subject to neither rent regulations nor income requirements.

- **GROUP QUARTERS, HOTELS, AND SRO UNITS.** If there is reason to believe that SRO units, group quarters, shelters, or hotel units contain a sizable population of year-round, permanent residents in the



study area, it may be appropriate to inventory these units and estimate their residential population. This can be done using a field survey, interviewing managers or even desk clerks, and observing the people entering and exiting the building.

DETERMINE WHETHER THE UNPROTECTED HOUSING IS LIKELY OCCUPIED BY LOW-INCOME TENANTS WHO COULD NOT AFFORD INCREASES IN RENT AND THEREFORE WOULD BE VULNERABLE TO INDIRECT DISPLACEMENT. The following information may be used to estimate the general size and location of such a population. Available sources of these data are the U.S. Census, the [American Community Survey](#) (ACS), [Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy](#) (CHAS), and the [NYC Housing and Vacancy Survey](#) (HVS):

- Total number of households within the study area under existing conditions. This should already be estimated by using the most recent Census and adding to it all housing that has since been completed, modified by the area's occupancy rate.
- Share of households within the study area that are renters. This analysis is primarily concerned with renter households, since sale of a home by a homeowner is viewed as voluntary and not considered to be involuntary displacement, making them generally less vulnerable to the types of market changes considered here. The share of households that are renters should be multiplied by the total number of households in the study area.
- Renter Households making less than or equal to 80% AMI. CHAS data include estimates of the number of renter households with incomes less than or equal to 80% AMI accounting for household size. This can be used as a proxy for the number of households that would be unable to bear significant rent increases and might therefore be vulnerable to displacement. Because of the temporal mismatch between CHAS data and the existing conditions analysis due to the lag in CHAS release, the share of low-income households identified in CHAS should be used instead of the raw count. The share of households that are low-income should be multiplied by the number of renter households in the study area.
- Counts of protected and unprotected housing.
- The low-income households should be distributed between the three types of housing identified. All housing that is restricted to low-income households should be occupied as such. The remaining low-income households identified should be proportionally distributed between housing units with rent regulations, but no income restrictions and fully market rate units.
- The low-income households in market rate units are the ones that are vulnerable to indirect displacement. Divide the number of vulnerable households by the total number of households in the study area to determine the share of study area that is vulnerable to indirect displacement.

If the analysis identifies a number of vulnerable households potentially subject to indirect displacement that exceeds 5 percent of households within the study area, proceed to Step 2.

## **STEP 2**

Determine whether the project reduces the potential for the direct displacement of vulnerable populations by including affordable housing. If the affordable housing included in the proposed project reduces the percentage of vulnerable, low-income households below 5% of the study area, no further analysis is warranted. If the project does not introduce any alleviating factors or if they are not large enough to reduce the vulnerable households below 5 percent of the total households, then proceed to Step 3.

## **STEP 3**

Determine whether the study area's investment patterns indicate neighborhood stability or displacement vulnerability. This analysis should focus on housing investments, indicators of neighborhood change, and the potential effects of new developments. Assessment of the themes described below should be done





through the lens of the existing conditions, future conditions without the action, and future conditions with the action within the study area.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENTS. Examine affordable housing initiatives in the study area by:

- **TYPES OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Identify publicly assisted housing projects, Mandatory Inclusionary Housing developments, and other subsidized, income-restricted housing units. This information might be collected from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) or interviews with local organizations involved in affordable housing.
- **TENANT COMPOSITION:** Analyze occupancy trends within these developments (e.g., income levels, household demographics).

ASSESS KEY MARKET STABILITY INDICATORS AND DISPLACEMENT VULNERABILITY. The detailed assessment should include an analysis of key indicators that signal whether the study area's real estate market is stable or experiencing shifts that may impact vulnerable populations:

- **TRENDS IN MARKET-RATE HOUSING:** Consider whether market-rate developments have increased in volume and price.
- **SIGNS OF ECONOMIC DISTRESS:** Identify building code violations, foreclosures, and vacancy rates as indicators of instability.
- **NEIGHBORHOOD TURNOVER:** Determine if vulnerable households are being replaced by higher-income residents. Consider whether recent trends indicate the introduction of a higher income population in areas with a vulnerable population that may not be captured by the demographic data used in Step 1 of the detailed analysis. The analysis should consider evidence of recent investment, including the type and amount of new housing development and major alterations of existing buildings.

EVALUATE LIKELY EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. Once the broader market conditions are assessed, determine whether the proposed development influences stability or displacement risk:

- **PROJECT INTENT:** Clarify how a project is intended to fit in within the context of an existing neighborhood. For instance, whether the project aims to stabilize a historically disinvested area.
- **EXPECTED HOUSING COMPOSITION:** Analyze whether the proposed development is likely to affect displacement or market pressures.
- **PHYSICAL & MARKET BOUNDARIES:** Identify factors like geographic barriers (railroads, rivers) that may create distinct real estate zones within the study area.

In neighborhoods with large proportions of residents vulnerable to displacement, if it is determined that the study area's investment patterns indicate neighborhood instability or displacement vulnerability and that the proposed project can plausibly be expected to exacerbate those patterns as compared to the No-Action Scenario, then the project may result in a significant change in the socioeconomic character of the study area, and a potential significant adverse impact may occur.

### **332.3. Indirect Business Displacement: Preliminary Assessment**

The objective of the indirect business displacement analysis is to determine whether the proposed project may introduce trends that make it difficult for those businesses that provide products or services essential to the local economy to stay within the study or trade area in the future. The purpose of the preliminary assessment is to determine whether a proposed project has potential to introduce such a trend. If this is the case, a more detailed assessment may be appropriate. An example of a detailed assessment of indirect business displacement is the [Manhattanville in West Harlem Rezoning and Academic Mixed-Use Development Final Environmental Impact Statement](#).



In most cases, indirect displacement of businesses occurs when a project would markedly increase property values and rents throughout the study area, making it difficult for some categories of businesses to remain in the area.

Additionally, indirect displacement of businesses may occur if a project directly displaces any type of use that either directly supports businesses in the area or brings a customer base to the area for local businesses, or if it directly or indirectly displaces residents or workers who form the customer base of existing businesses in the area.

Often, enough information is known about the proposed project to understand whether the new land use would introduce a trend that may increase property values. Information provided in Chapter 4, “Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy” is often adequate to determine whether the study area is likely to contain certain categories of businesses, such as industrial firms, that may face an increase in rents due to the proposed project. Additionally, general information on employment patterns may be available at the block level through LEHD. Local development corporations or business improvement districts may also collect data or publish reports on businesses within the study area. If an assessment of the businesses in the study area reveals the potential for the project to introduce trends that make it difficult for those businesses to remain in the area, a detailed assessment is appropriate.

#### **332.4. Indirect Business Displacement: Detailed Analysis**

The objective of the indirect business displacement analysis is to determine whether the proposed project may introduce trends that make it difficult for those businesses that provide products or services essential to the local economy to stay within the study or trade area in the future. If a detailed analysis is being conducted, the analysis would have concluded in the preliminary assessment that the project has the potential to introduce such a trend. The purpose of the detailed assessment, then, is to determine whether the project would increase property values and thus increase rents for a potentially vulnerable category of businesses, and whether relocation opportunities exist for those firms.

The assessment approach varies depending on the particular indirect displacement issue identified in the preliminary assessment.

##### **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The first step is to develop a profile of the study area to determine whether it includes any potentially vulnerable category of businesses.

##### **ECONOMIC PROFILE**

Some or all of the following tasks may be applied to construct an economic profile of the study area.

- If the area is large enough, gather employment data available from LEHD, or other available source of employment data, such as County and Zip Code Business Patterns, products of the U.S. Census. This data provides a picture of an area's employment base by key industry sector and, through the use of multi-year data, trends in employment.
- Determine whether any studies that provide relevant, current data have already been conducted. The most likely sources of data are found through DCP, The New York City Department of Small Business Services, and the New York City Economic Development Corporation. Local community boards, local development corporations, or business improvement districts may also have appropriate data.
- Generally, to supplement secondary data as appropriate, develop an up-to-date profile by collecting primary data. This may include conducting a building-by-building field survey of the relevant area. The survey should focus on the number and types of firms; indicators, if any, of recent trends (e.g., whether there are already signs of new business investment or disinvestment); and available space, as well as real estate brokers active in the area. Real estate



brokers are often excellent sources for determining trends in tenancy, rental and sale prices for space and whether there are special relationships among the activities of the area's businesses.

- As appropriate, supplement the survey data and other data through interviews with other relevant public officials (e.g., particular industry specialists), trade associations, local development corporations, and/or merchant associations. In some instances, interviews with selected businesses identified in the field survey may be used to gain important insights into trade areas, customer base, unusual linkages, relocation possibilities, etc.
- Identify trends and conditions in the underlying economy.

**REGULATORY PROTECTIONS.** Determine how existing regulations and laws may affect possible shifts in the economic base of the area.

**DETERMINE WHETHER LAND USE, BUILDING STOCK, TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHER SERVICES REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE POTENTIALLY DISPLACED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY EXIST IN THE STUDY AREA.** This is undertaken first by identifying the elements necessary and then by coordinating with the land use analysis or other appropriate technical area.

**IDENTIFY CATEGORIES OF BUSINESSES AT RISK.** Using the information gathered, characterize the existing economic profile, focusing on categories of businesses that may be vulnerable to displacement if property values and rents were to rise. Assess this likelihood, given public policy and other factors that affect economic conditions in the area.

**DESCRIBE THE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BUSINESS TO BE DISPLACED.** Also describe the products, markets, and employment characteristics. Describe the effects of this business on the City's economy. Information on retail sales, employment, wages, and other indicators of business performance and characteristics can be obtained online or in publications from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and NYSDOL. Useful data sources available from the U.S. Census Bureau's Economic Census include the Census of Retail Trade, County Business Patterns, the Annual Survey of Manufactures, Non-Employer Statistics, and the Survey of Business Owners. Special economic reports are also available from the Census Bureau's Center for Economic Studies. In addition to data on employment in New York State, NYSDOL also provides industry projections and special, industry-specific reports.

**DETERMINE WHETHER THE BUSINESS TO BE DISPLACED HAS AN IMPORTANT OR SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC VALUE TO THE CITY.** Describe what economic value it has and the effects of its products and services. This analysis should consider who the customers are of these products or services and whether similar products or services would continue to be available to these customers. Describe location needs, if any.

#### **FUTURE NO-ACTION CONDITION**

For the project's build year, determine whether any factors would emerge that would affect the underlying economic base of the target area. This may include the influences of specific development projects, the enactment or expiration of relevant regulations and laws, and an assessment of underlying trends as identified above and in the land use analysis (see Chapter 4). Also, assess conditions related to the study area in the future to determine relocation opportunities. Relevant information may include: whether the available commercial or industrial space in the area is expected to expand or decrease within the City or trade area and whether rents are expected to increase or remain stable for comparable properties. This information is obtained from experts in the local conditions, through interviews with real estate brokers, and through coordination with the land use analysis (see Chapter 4, "Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy"). The conclusions of the existing conditions analysis are then revised to include relevant information about the future No-Action condition.

#### **WITH-ACTION CONDITION**

The assessment of existing and future No-Action conditions provides a picture of the local economic base, changes that have occurred over the years, and changes, if any, that may be expected in the future.



Qualitatively assess, based on historical patterns of development in comparable neighborhoods and the strength of the underlying trends, whether and under what conditions the project would stimulate changes that would raise either property values or rents and, if so, whether this would make existing categories of tenants vulnerable to displacement. This conclusion assumes that the businesses would be displaced by legal means. The analysis should also consider whether relocation opportunities exist for the affected categories of businesses. If the indirectly displaced businesses are of a category of businesses described above in this section as both vulnerable to displacement and providing essential goods or services and could not be relocated within the study or trade area or the City, there may be a significant adverse impact.

**332.5. Indirect Business Displacement due to Retail Market Saturation: Preliminary Assessment**

Occasionally, development activity may create retail uses that draw substantial sales from existing businesses. While these economic pressures do not necessarily generate environmental concerns, they become an environmental concern when they have the potential to result in increased and prolonged vacancy leading to disinvestment. Such a change may affect the land use patterns and economic viability of the neighborhood. Indirect displacement due to market saturation is rare in New York City, where population density, population growth, and purchasing power are often high enough to sustain increases in retail supply. The purpose of the preliminary analysis is to determine whether the project may capture the retail sales in a particular category of goods to the extent that the market for such goods would become saturated as a result, potentially resulting in vacancies and disinvestment on neighborhood commercial streets.

A retail capture rate analysis typically includes the following steps:

1. Determine if the categories of goods to be sold at the proposed development are similar to the categories of goods sold in stores found on neighborhood retail streets within the study area. Categories of retail goods for which a high share is purchased online, such as computer hardware and software or consumer electronics, would not typically be considered businesses that are likely to affect the types of stores that are most prevalent on local commercial streets. Thus, if the proposed retail is of a type that is primarily competitive with online retailers, no further analysis is warranted.
2. Determine the primary trade area for the proposed “anchor” stores – the largest stores in the proposed development that are expected to be the primary sources of added retail sales. The primary trade area is the area from which the bulk of the store’s sales are likely to be derived. The trade area may be expressed in either mileage (e.g., a 1.5 to 2-mile radius from a site is a typical primary study area for a large supermarket; a larger trade area would be typical for a department store) or travel time.
3. Through data available from the [Census of Retail Trade](#) or other proprietary sources, estimate sales volume of relevant retail stores within the trade area. Relevant retail stores include those establishments that would be expected to sell categories of goods similar to those sold in anchor stores in the project.
4. Through data available from the census and from the U.S. Department of Commerce or other proprietary sources on retail spending, determine the expenditure potential of shoppers for relevant retail goods within the primary trade area. Expenditure potential is the amount that customers in the trade area—typically residents and workers—may be expected to spend on the relevant categories of retail goods.
5. The sales generated by key retailers developed in item 3 and the expenditure profile developed in item 4 may be compared to determine whether the trade area is currently saturated with retail uses or whether there is likely to be an outflow of sales from the trade area. This assessment is based on the percentage of available sales currently derived by existing stores (the capture rate) and the residue of dollars left unspent.



6. For the project's build year, determine whether any factors would emerge that would affect conditions within the trade area. These may include factors not associated with the proposal, such as projected increases in population that would provide a stronger base of shoppers, other projected retail developments, anticipated store closings, or rising incomes.
7. Project the sales volume for the project's anchor tenants. This would be based on the size of the store and on industry standards for sales derived from an appropriate source.
8. Compare the project sales volume with the dollars available within the trade area. If the capture rate for specific, relevant categories of goods would exceed 100 percent, it may have the potential to saturate the market for particular retail goods, and a detailed assessment is warranted.

**332.6. Indirect Business Displacement Due to Retail Market Saturation: Detailed Analysis**

If the preliminary assessment identifies the potential for a proposal to create market saturation for particular categories of retail goods, a detailed assessment is necessary to determine whether the project may result in an increase in vacancy in retail store fronts, affecting the viability of neighborhood shopping areas in the study area.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The detailed analysis of the potential effects of market saturation builds upon the preliminary assessment and is intended to identify retail areas that directly overlap with the proposed retail anchors. The following tasks may be appropriate.

- Develop a profile of the retail environment within the trade area. This involves locating key retail concentrations within the trade area; creating, usually through field surveys, an inventory of their retail uses; and, through visual observation or discussions with local realtors, development corporations, or merchant associations, developing an understanding of recent trends and overall conditions.
- Profile stores that provide goods similar to those of the project anchors. For example, in the case where the shopping center would be anchored by a supermarket, this profile should include the location, size, characteristics (e.g., availability of parking, hours of operation), and sales volume of trade area supermarkets. These data can be collected through field observations (for availability of parking and hours of observation) or through consultation with DCP (for detailed information from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets). The number of other food stores should also be identified though, because of their sheer number, a detailed profile may not be necessary. Where there are other anchors, similar procedures may be followed. Key competitors can be identified and profiled.

**FUTURE NO-ACTION CONDITION**

For the project's build year, determine whether any factors would emerge that would affect conditions within the trade area. These may include projected increases in population that would provide a stronger base of shoppers, other projected retail developments, or anticipated store closings or rising incomes. Additionally, it should be acknowledged that New York City's commercial streets are dynamic, and potential turnover due to changes in consumer spending, shopping trends, demographics, and population growth independent of the proposed project should be considered.

**WITH-ACTION CONDITION**

Add the proposed project to the baseline established in the future No-Action conditions. Assess impacts on local shopping areas. Consider the proposed project's effect on the demand for new retail businesses that could locate on the commercial street, based on increased purchasing power within the trade area resulting from a new population.



There may be a potential for a significant adverse impact on retail businesses if a project would result in decreased shopper traffic on neighborhood commercial streets that causes increased vacancy that would affect the economic viability of retail business in the study area. This should be considered likely if all of the following conditions are expected:

- The anchor stores of the proposed project have the potential to affect the ability of stores selling similar categories of goods located on neighborhood commercial strips to capture sufficient sales volume to remain in operation;
- These stores draw a substantial share of shopper traffic to the neighborhood commercial strips or the street contains a concentration of businesses that sell the relevant categories of retail goods; and
- Limited demand for retail tenants is expected due to purchasing power in the trade area

### **333. Adverse Effects on Specific Industries**

#### ***333.1 Adverse Effects on Specific Industries: Preliminary Assessment***

It may be possible for a given project to affect the operation and viability of a specific industry not necessarily tied to a specific location. An example would be new regulations that prohibit or restrict the use of certain processes that are critical to certain industries. If the following questions cannot be answered with a clear "no," then a detailed investigation is appropriate:

- Would the project significantly affect business conditions in any industry or any category of businesses within or outside the study area? It may be helpful to refer to information provided in Chapter 4, "Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy," to make this determination.
- Would the project indirectly substantially reduce employment or impair the economic viability in the industry or category of businesses?

The industries or categories of businesses that should be considered in this assessment are those specified in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as promulgated by the U.S. Census Bureau. This analysis should focus on the potential effects upon specific industries that are not related to the displacement of businesses or residents, as this should be considered in the direct and indirect displacement analyses above. For example, projects that aim to create a new approval or requirement for a specific type of industry or business, such as the special permits that currently exist for hotels or self-storage facilities, would need to conduct this analysis.

#### ***333.2 Adverse Effects on Specific Industries: Detailed Analysis***

##### ***EXISTING CONDITIONS***

The key to understanding potential impacts on specific industries or categories of businesses is to develop an understanding of the relationship between the proposed project and the business conditions experienced by potentially vulnerable industries or categories of businesses. This may involve field observation and interviews with select business owners and other persons with relevant expertise. For non-location-specific actions, such as changes in regulations for particular industries, it is important to understand the relationship between the processes intended for regulation and the operation of the businesses. Again, this may involve either special research or interviews with potentially affected businesses.

Industries and categories of businesses may be affected by structural changes in the city, national, and global economies, altering the demand for the product or service they provide and the relative cost of doing business at their current location, compared with other possible locations where these industries or categories of businesses could operate. In addition, technological changes and tax or regulatory policies at the state and federal level may affect the operational characteristics of industries or categories of





businesses. In a detailed analysis, it is important to develop an understanding of the underlying trends that exist independently of the proposed project.

***FUTURE NO-ACTION CONDITION***

Determine any factors that would affect the future operations of vulnerable businesses identified in the analysis of existing conditions. For example, it may be possible that technological advances may phase out the types of processes proposed for regulation.

***WITH-ACTION CONDITION***

Potential effects may range from changes in operations that may be of little overall consequence to the individual businesses, changes that may add costs but would not cause displacement or relocation, or changes that would result in displacement or relocation. For example, for changes in regulations that affect the basic processes conducted by a business, the analysis may consider whether that process is critical for the operation of the business, whether there are acceptable substitutes that would not materially affect the operations of the businesses, and whether relocation to other areas with less stringent regulations would be a more viable option. In some cases, the project may directly or indirectly affect businesses that support or interact with other businesses or industries in the area, which would then be secondarily affected. If there is potential for these businesses to be affected, this should be described and analyzed.

A significant adverse impact may occur if it is determined that the proposed project would affect operating conditions for any category of business that has an important or substantial economic value to the City.

## **400. DETERMINING IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE**

This section proposes specific thresholds to offer guidance on when a significant adverse impact may reasonably be expected. However, certain circumstances may warrant different thresholds. The lead agency should determine whether the specific circumstances of the proposed project warrant a determination of significant impacts even if the impact thresholds in this section have not been reached.

### **410. DIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **411. Residential Displacement**

Impacts of direct residential displacement are usually considered significant if they would markedly change the socioeconomic character of the study area by dislocating substantial numbers of lower-income households that could not relocate within the study area. Generally, if the number of low-income residents to be displaced exceeds 5 percent of the primary study area population—or relevant sub-areas, if the displaced population is located within the subarea identified—and the displaced population could not be relocated within the study area, a potential significant adverse impact may occur. In these cases, mitigation should be considered.

#### **412. Business Displacement**

A situation in which businesses that have an important or substantial economic value to the City would be displaced by the project and could not relocate into suitable space according to their reasonable vocational needs may be considered a significant adverse impact warranting consideration of mitigation.

### **420. INDIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **421. Residential Displacement**

Generally, if the detailed assessment identified a vulnerable population potentially subject to indirect displacement that exceeds 5 percent of the study area—or relevant sub-areas, if the vulnerable population is located within the



subarea identified—the project may substantially affect the socioeconomic character of the study area, and a significant adverse impact may occur. In these cases, mitigation should be considered.

#### **422. Business Displacement**

Generally, if a proposed project would trigger a socioeconomic change that would result in displacement of a category of businesses that has an important or substantial economic value to the City, and, given the trend created or accelerated by the proposed project, they would not be likely to find comparable replacement space in their market area, the impact would be considered significant and adverse and mitigation should be considered.

#### **423. Retail Market Saturation**

If development activity creates retail uses that draw substantial sales from existing businesses to the extent that it results in increased and prolonged vacancies leading to disinvestment, thereby affecting the land use and economic viability of the neighborhood, a significant adverse impact may occur and mitigation should be considered.

### **430. EFFECTS ON SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES**

If a project would substantially impair the ability of a specific industry or category of businesses that have an important or substantial economic value to the City to continue operating within the City, a significant adverse impact may occur, and mitigation should be considered.

## **500. DEVELOPING MITIGATION**

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### **510. DIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **511. Residential Displacement**

For significant impacts that result from direct residential displacement, mitigation would consist of relocation of the displaced residents within the neighborhood. Possible measures include provision of relocation assistance, including lump sum payments, payment of moving expenses, payment of brokers' fees, and payment of redecorating expenses. When direct displacement would cause a significant impact, the mitigation may also be the creation or replacement of affordable units elsewhere in the study area to offset the effects of the project. The extent of mitigation may be limited by overall project feasibility. If all significant impacts cannot be feasibly mitigated, then an unmitigated impact should be identified.

#### **512. Business Displacement**

Mitigation for business displacement is similar to residential mitigation, but the opportunities can be more limited, depending on the nature and extent of the impact. Measures include helping to seek out and acquire replacement space inside or outside the study area; provision of relocation assistance, including lump sum payments, payment of moving expenses, payment of brokers' fees, and payment for improvements to the replacement space (if the new landlord is not providing for improvements). The extent of mitigation may be limited by overall project feasibility. In such cases, an unmitigated impact should be identified.

### **520. INDIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **521. Residential Displacement**

Similar to the mitigation for direct residential displacement discussed above, mitigation for indirect residential displacement would consist of creating housing within the study area with specific opportunities for residents identified as potentially vulnerable to indirect displacement. Mitigation measures for indirect residential displacement include: providing appropriate, comparable space as part of the project, either on-site or off-site but within a reasonable distance of the current location of the units that would be displaced; creating new rent-



regulated units through programs such as inclusionary housing, preservation of existing rent-stabilized units, or the development of new publicly assisted units within the study area. Full mitigation of an indirect residential displacement impact may not be possible given the difficulty of identifying the population affected by the project. In these cases, a partially unmitigated impact should be identified.

### **522. Business Displacement**

Mitigation measures for indirect displacement of businesses include enactment of regulations and policy. Similar to direct business displacement, measures also include helping to seek out and acquire replacement space inside or outside the study area; provision of relocation assistance, including lump sum payments, payment of moving expenses, payment of brokers' fees, and payment for improvements to the replacement space (if the new landlord is not providing for improvements).

### **523. Retail Market Saturation**

For adverse impacts on local commercial streets, mitigation includes funding for local commercial revitalization efforts and capital improvements or funding for efforts to attract new businesses in an effort to reduce vacancy. For example, funds that enhance the streetscape along a commercial strip may encourage patrons to continue shopping there, despite new shopping options.

## **530. EFFECTS ON SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES**

For specific industries affected by changes in regulations, mitigation may include financial assistance that reduces operating costs and offsets impacts or lifting of other regulations.

## **600. DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVES**

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### **610. DIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **611. Residential Displacement**

For a project that would result in significant impacts because of direct displacement of residences, a smaller project or an alternative configuration that avoided them may be considered if the residences to be displaced occupy only a portion of the study area. Another alternative could be to include appropriate housing units within the project. In some cases, particularly for public projects, different sites that would reduce or eliminate residential displacement may be considered.

#### **612. Business Displacement**

Similarly, for projects that would result in significant impacts because of direct displacement of businesses, a smaller project or an alternative configuration that avoided displacement may be considered if those businesses occupy only a portion of the project site. In some cases, particularly public projects, different sites that would reduce or eliminate business displacement may be considered.

### **620. INDIRECT DISPLACEMENT**

#### **621. Residential Displacement**

For residential projects, alternatives that avoid indirect residential displacement would include a different housing mix as part of the project—for example, including more affordable units that replace those to be affected in the study area. A different mix of uses, or less dense uses, may also be considered. In some cases, particularly public projects, different sites may be considered.



## **622. Business Displacement**

Where indirect displacement of businesses is an issue, alternatives are similar to those for indirect residential displacement: altered mix of uses, perhaps to include some space for those uses that would be indirectly displaced; less intense uses; or, if appropriate, alternative sites.

## **630. EFFECTS ON SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES**

It is difficult to be specific as to alternatives in the case of impacts on specific industries, since the cases are so disparate. If the action involves promulgating regulations, a change to the regulations or to the timing may be an appropriate alternative. Other alternatives depend on the specific circumstances of each project.

# **700. REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION**

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## **710. REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS**

### **711. Regulations Affecting Residents**

As discussed above, residential tenants are afforded protection against displacement through state rent regulations, regulations guiding the conversion of rental units to co-operatives or condominiums, and provisions against the harassment of tenants. For those being displaced by a city project or from a property owned or managed by the City, relocation benefits are provided. These regulations are summarized below.

#### **711.1. Rent Regulation**

The New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) administers both rent control and rent stabilization, two programs aimed at regulating the rents paid by tenants. Rent control covers tenants in rental buildings constructed prior to February 1947 who moved in prior to July 1971. Rent stabilization generally applies to buildings with six or more units constructed before 1974 or those buildings that receive benefits of a tax abatement program. Rent adjustments for rent-controlled apartments are made based on a determination of a maximum base rent, *i.e.*, the rent that would be required to operate the unit under prevailing cost conditions and to provide the owner an 8.5 percent return on the equalized assessed value of the building. Rents in controlled units may be adjusted to account for increases in heating fuel costs.

Rent stabilization also applies to SRO units in buildings constructed before July 1, 1969, with six or more units and renting for less than \$350.00 per month or \$88.00 per week on May 31, 1968.

For information on the current permitted annual rent increases for rent-stabilized tenants, see the [Rent Guidelines Board website](#).

The [Department for the Aging administers the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption Program \(SCRIE\)](#), which regulates rents for tenants 62 years old and over whose household income is \$20,000 or less. For these tenants, annual rent payments cannot exceed 33 percent of annual income.

#### **711.2. Co-op and Condominium Conversion**

The conversion of rental units to co-ops or condominiums was a strong phenomenon of New York City's real estate market during the 1980's. Two routes to conversion are possible—eviction plans, which require the approval of 51 percent of the tenants in the building and which allow for the eviction of tenants who do not purchase their apartments once the conversion plan has been declared effective; and non-eviction plans, which require the approval of 51 percent of the tenants and which do not allow the eviction of tenants who do not purchase their units. Disabled persons and senior citizens are protected from eviction regardless of the kind of plan offered, their income level, or the length of residency in the building. Since virtually all conversion plans in New York City have been non-eviction plans, co-op and condominium conversion activity does not pose a strong displacement threat to tenants.



### **711.3. Additional Protection for SRO Tenants**

Since residents of SRO units have at times been subject to displacement (see Subsection 711.4, below), it should be noted that there are other provisions in the law (also administered by DHCR), other than rent stabilization, which provide an added degree of protection to SRO tenants. These cover the following: the provision of basic services, such as heat, hot water, janitorial services, maintenance of locks and security devices, repairs and maintenance, and painting; and evictions, including those required as a result of plans for demolition. In the case of demolition, the owner is responsible for the relocation of tenants to suitable housing at the same or lower regulated rent in a closely proximate area and for paying moving expenses.

### **711.4. Anti-Harassment Provisions**

Despite the protection afforded tenants under rent control and rent stabilization, tenants can be forced out of their apartments through illegal activities, such as harassment by landlords. Both the New York City Department of Housing, Preservation and Development (HPD) and DHCR administer measures against harassment that, in the more severe cases, provide very strong penalties for persons found guilty of harassment and illegal eviction. With regard to SRO units, no plans for demolition or alteration may be approved by the Commissioner of Buildings unless the Commissioner of HPD either has certified that there has been no harassment of lawful occupants within the 36-month period prior to the date of submission of an application for certification of no harassment or has issued a waiver of such certification.

- **LOCAL LAW 7 OF 2008.** This law creates civil penalties for certain types of tenant harassment. Some of the actions that qualify as harassment under this legislation include: use of force or threats against a lawful occupant; repeated or prolonged interruptions of essential services; use of frivolous court proceedings to disrupt a tenant's life or force an eviction; removal of the possessions of a lawful tenant; removal of doors or damaging locks of a unit; or, any other acts designed to disturb a lawful occupant's residence. The law also prevents similar actions by third parties working on the landlord's behalf.

### **711.5. Relocation Assistance for Direct Residential Displacement**

If a city project results in the acquisition of properties containing residential tenants, HPD will offer relocation assistance to any site occupants in compliance with city and state law. For those who are to be displaced under an Urban Renewal Plan, relocation will comply with all applicable laws and regulations including, but not limited to, Section 505 (4)(e) of the Urban Renewal Law. If federal funding is involved, HPD will provide benefits and services under the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601), as amended (Uniform Relocation Act). If feasible, HPD will relocate families and individuals to be displaced into "decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings, which are or will be provided [on-site] or in other areas not generally less desirable in regard to public utilities and public and commercial facilities, at rents or prices within the financial means of such families or individuals, and reasonably accessible to their places of employment."

## **712. Regulations Affecting Businesses**

Regulations, such as rent regulations, to prevent involuntary, indirect displacement, are not available to businesses. However, the City and State do offer incentives and payments in selected areas to help offset economic trends that may displace certain types of businesses. Eligible categories of businesses thus receive some measure of protection against economic displacement. For information on specific incentive programs available to businesses, see Subsection 712.1, below. In addition, businesses directly displaced by city projects may receive benefits and services under state and federal law, as applicable.

### **712.1. City and State Commercial and Industrial Programs and Incentives**

The City and State offer a number of programs and incentives to commercial and industrial businesses designed to help retain and expand such businesses at their current locations or in New York City. Most of the programs and incentives are administered by the New York City Department of Finance (DOF), New



York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), and the New York State Economic Development Council (NYSEDC). Information on these programs can be obtained from [DOF's](#), [NYCEDC's](#), or [NYSEDC's](#) websites.

#### **712.2. Relocation Assistance for Direct Business Displacement**

If a city project results in the acquisition of commercial properties, HPD will relocate site occupants in compliance with state law. Businesses displaced under an Urban Renewal Plan will be relocated in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the State's Urban Renewal Law. If federal funding is involved, site occupants will receive benefits and services in compliance with the Uniform Relocation Act.

### **720. APPLICABLE COORDINATION**

Socioeconomic conditions analyses often use information gathered for assessments in other technical areas. Similarly, data gathered for the socioeconomic analyses may be useful for other technical areas. Therefore, the lead agency should coordinate environmental review among those conducting the different technical analyses.

In addition, coordination with government agencies may be appropriate when their policies apply to the proposed project. These include the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, which administers rent regulations, and the New York State Attorney General's Office, which regulates cooperative and condominium offering plans.

### **730. LOCATION OF INFORMATION**

#### **731. Census of Population and Housing and American Community Survey**

- New York City Department of City Planning
  - Population Division
  - 120 Broadway, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor
  - New York, NY 10271
  - <https://www.nyc.gov/content/planning/pages/planning/population>,
  - <https://popfactfinder.planning.nyc.gov>
- U.S. Department of Commerce
  - Bureau of the Census
  - 395 Hudson Street, Suite 800
  - New York, NY, 10014-7451
  - <http://www.census.gov>, <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

#### **732. Other Population, Economic, and Land Use Data**

- [CEQR Data Hub Datasets](#) is a repository of data publicly available for CEQR review purposes.
- Housing Database. Biannual data product outlining housing-related DOB activity since 2010. Source: Department of City Planning, <https://www.nyc.gov/content/planning/pages/resources?search=housingdatabase#datasets>
- Employment and unemployment data, number of firms, and total payroll. **Source:** New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL), <https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/>
- Economic databases, as follows:





- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LEHD Origin-Employment Destination Statistics or LODES) Data: Total employment at the Census block level. Data can be tabulated at the 2-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) levels, broad age and income ranges, by race or ethnicity, educational attainment, and sex. Recent data are available by year. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, <https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/>
- Economic Census Data: Census of Manufacturing, Census of Wholesale Trade, and Census of Retail Trade. The data are for New York City, each borough, and the United States, and include number of establishments, employment, annual payroll, average annual (and hourly for manufacturing) pay per employee, and a measure of value of output (sales, receipts, value added). **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/year.html>
- Monthly current employment survey employment estimates for New York City, 1987 to the present. Data are for total employment, private, government, and selected 2-digit industries. **Source:** U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics,  

Division of Current Employment Statistics  
 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE  
 Washington, DC 20212-0001  
<http://www.bls.gov/ces/>
- *NYC Housing and Vacancy Survey* conducted by U.S. Census Bureau for New York City every three years. Contains information on housing units, building and neighborhood conditions, and household and population characteristics.  

**Source:** New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development  
 100 Gold Street  
 New York, NY 10038  
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/about/research.page>
- Information on relocation assistance.  

**Source:** New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR)  
 Hampton Plaza  
 38-40 State Street  
 Albany, NY 12207  
<https://hcr.ny.gov/>

**Source:** New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC)  
 One Liberty Plaza, 165 Broadway  
 New York, NY 10006  
<https://edc.nyc/>

### **733. Information on Publicly Subsidized Housing**

- New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD)  

100 Gold Street  
 New York, NY 10038  
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/hpd/index.page>
- New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR)  

Hampton Plaza  
 38-40 State Street  
 Albany, NY 12207



<https://hcr.ny.gov/>

- New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC)  
One Liberty Plaza, 165 Broadway  
New York, NY 10006  
<https://edc.nyc/>
- New York State Urban Development Corporation d/b/a Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC)  
633 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
<https://esd.ny.gov/>
- New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)  
250 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007  
[www.nyc.gov/nycha](http://www.nyc.gov/nycha)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)  
Region II, Regional Office  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, NY 10278  
<http://www.hud.gov/>
- Human Resources Administration (HRA)  
250 Church Street  
New York, NY 10013  
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/hra/index.page>