

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STATEMENT (EAS) SHORT FORM**

FOR LINEISTED ACTIONS ONLY • Please fill out and submit to the appropriate agency (see instructions)

		ACTIONS ONET	lease Jill out and submit to	ine appropriate agene	y ( <u>see ilistructions</u> )
Part I: GENERAL INFORMATION					
1. Does the Action Exceed Any	<del>_'</del> ·		t 617.4 or 43 RCNY §6	-15(A) (Executive	Order 91 of
1977, as amended)?	YES	⊠ NO			
If "yes," STOP and complete the	FULL EAS FORM	<u>1</u> .			
2. Project Name 245 East 53 <sup>rd</sup> S	Street				
3. Reference Numbers					
CEQR REFERENCE NUMBER (to be assig	gned by lead agency)		BSA REFERENCE NUMBE	R (if applicable)	
77DCP448M					
ULURP REFERENCE NUMBER (if applica	ble)		OTHER REFERENCE NUM		
			(e.g., legislative intro, CA		
4a. Lead Agency Information			4b. Applicant Inform	mation	
NAME OF LEAD AGENCY	to Diametra		NAME OF APPLICANT	Daalta II C	
New York City Department of Ci	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		245 East 53 <sup>rd</sup> Street  NAME OF APPLICANT'S F		ONTACT DEDCOM
Robert Dobruskin, Director, EAR			Hiram A. Rothkrug, I		
ADDRESS 120 Broadway, 31st Flo			ADDRESS 55 Water N		ules corp.
CITY New York	STATE NY	ZIP 10271	CITY Great Neck	STATE NY	ZIP 11021
TELEPHONE 212-720-3423	EMAIL	ZIP 102/1	TELEPHONE 718-343-	EMAIL	ZIP 11021
TELEPHONE 212-720-3423	rdobrus@plani	ning nyc gov			environmental
	raobras@piam	illig.ilyc.gov	0026	studiescorp	
5. Project Description				3000 p	
The applicant, 245 East 53rd Rea	altv IIC seeks a	zoning man ame	endment to establish a	C2-5 commercial	overlay district
over an existing R8B zoning dist	•				
#6 along East 53rd Street between			ie rartie bay section o	i Walliattali Colli	manney District
The proposed zoning map amen			evelonment of a six-st	ory mived use dev	elonment
(residential-commercial retail) a	_	•	•	•	•
community facility/residential b		•	•		-
properties not under the Applica	_				
Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 31, 32, 3				•	
"Rezoning Area"). This would se					
the Rezoning Area into greater of	_		-	ununigs and bring	existing uses in
The Proposed Action is intended		•	_	tail use on Develo	nment Site and
the remainder of the proposed					
story mixed-use building contain					
3.8 FAR). The ground floor woul				•	
would contain five residential up				•	• •
parking would be required.	ilits. The bulluling	would lise to a	neight of approximate	ery oo reet and no	accessory
Project Location					
Project Location					
BOROUGH Manhattan	COMMUNITY DIST	RICT(S) 6	STREET ADDRESS 245 E	ast 53 <sup>rd</sup> Street	
TAX BLOCK(S) AND LOT(S) Block 132	7, Lots 11, 13, 14	1, 15, 16, 17,	ZIP CODE 10022		
18, 19, 20 and portions of Lot 5.	Block 1326, Lots	29, 30, 31, 32,			
33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 14	0, 41 and portion	ns of Lots 1, 7			
and 10					
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY BY BOUND	ING OR CROSS STRE	ETS East 53 <sup>rd</sup> Str	eet between 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3	rd Avenues	
EXISTING ZONING DISTRICT, INCLUDING	G SPECIAL ZONING D	ISTRICT DESIGNATI	ON, IF ANY R8B ZO	NING SECTIONAL MAI	NUMBER 8D
6. Required Actions or Approve	(check all that ap	ply)			
City Planning Commission:	YES NO		UNIFORM LAND US	E REVIEW PROCEDURI	(ULURP)

CITY MAP AMENDME	NT 701	NING CERTIFICATION	CONCES	SION				
ZONING MAP AMEND		NING AUTHORIZATION	UDAAP					
	ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT ACQUISITION—REAL PROPERTY REVOCABLE CONSENT							
	SITE SELECTION—PUBLIC FACILITY DISPOSITION—REAL PROPERTY FRANCHISE							
	HOUSING PLAN & PROJECT OTHER, explain:							
		modification; renewal;	other); EXPIRATION DA	rr.				
	propriate, specify type: r NS OF THE ZONING RESOLUTI	· <del>-</del>	Other), EXPIRATION DA	iE.				
Board of Standards as	<b>nd Appeals:</b> YES	⊠ NO						
VARIANCE (use)								
VARIANCE (bulk)								
	propriate, specify type: r	<del></del>	other); EXPIRATION DA	TE:				
	NS OF THE ZONING RESOLUTI							
Department of Enviro		YES NO	If "yes," specify:					
	<b>Subject to CEQR</b> (check al	ll that apply)						
LEGISLATION			FUNDING OF CONSTRUCTION	N, specify:				
RULEMAKING			POLICY OR PLAN, specify:					
CONSTRUCTION OF P	JBLIC FACILITIES		FUNDING OF PROGRAMS, s	pecify:				
384(b)(4) APPROVAL			PERMITS, specify:					
OTHER, explain:								
Other City Approvals	<b>Not Subject to CEQR</b> (ch	eck all that apply)						
PERMITS FROM DOT'S	OFFICE OF CONSTRUCTION	MITIGATION AND	LANDMARKS PRESERVATION	N COMMISSION APPROVAL				
COORDINATION (OCMC)			OTHER, explain:					
State or Federal Action	ns/Approvals/Funding:	YES NO	If "yes," specify:					
7. Site Description: Th	ne directly affected area consi	ists of the project site and the	area subject to any change i	n regulatory controls. Except				
where otherwise indicated,	provide the following inform	ation with regard to the direc	ctly affected area.					
				te. Each map must clearly depict				
				ies of the project site. Maps may				
	n size and, for paper filings, m							
SITE LOCATION MAP	∑ zon	NING MAP		N OR OTHER LAND USE MAP				
Х ТАХ МАР	TAX MAP FOR LARGE AREAS OR MULTIPLE SITES, A GIS SHAPE FILE THAT DEFINES THE PROJECT SITE(S)							
PHOTOGRAPHS OF TH	IE PROJECT SITE TAKEN WITH	IN 6 MONTHS OF EAS SUBMI	SSION AND KEYED TO THE SIT	TE LOCATION MAP				
<b>Physical Setting</b> (both	developed and undeveloped	areas)						
Total directly affected area	(sq. ft.): 9,740	Wat	erbody area (sq. ft) and type	:				
Roads, buildings, and othe	r paved surfaces (sq. ft.): 9,7	740 Oth	er, describe (sq. ft.):					
8. Physical Dimension	<b>s and Scale of Project</b> (i	f the project affects multiple	sites, provide the total devel	opment facilitated by the action)				
SIZE OF PROJECT TO BE DE	VELOPED (gross square feet):	9,290 gsf						
in parts of 5 buildings								
NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 3		GROSS FLOO	OR AREA OF EACH BUILDING (	sq. ft.): <b>12,056, 19,944,</b>				
		6,232, 2,7	20, and 1,900					
HEIGHT OF EACH BUILDING (ft.): 60 feet, unknown, unknown, NUMBER OF STORIES OF EACH BUILDING: 6, 6, 4, 4, 4								
unknown, unknown								
Does the proposed project involve changes in zoning on one or more sites? YES NO								
If "yes," specify: The total square feet owned or controlled by the applicant: 2,510								
The total square feet not owned or controlled by the applicant: 7,230								
Does the proposed project involve in-ground excavation or subsurface disturbance, including, but not limited to foundation work, pilings, utility								
lines, or grading? XES NO								
If "yes," indicate the estim	ated area and volume dimens	sions of subsurface permaner	nt and temporary disturbance	e (if known):				
AREA OF TEMPORARY DISTURBANCE: 2,510 sq. ft. (width x length) VOLUME OF DISTURBANCE: 20,080 cubic ft. (width x length x depth)								
AREA OF PERMANENT DISTURBANCE: 2,510 sq. ft. (width x length)								
Description of Proposed Uses (please complete the following information as appropriate)								
	Residential	Commercial	Community Facility	Industrial/Manufacturing				
Size (in gross sq. ft.)		9,290						

## **EAS SHORT FORM PAGE 3**

<b>Type</b> (e.g., retail, office,	units	Local retail					
school)							
Does the proposed project	increase the population of re	esidents and/or on-site worl	kers? 🔀 YES 🔃 N	0			
If "yes," please specify:	NUMBER	R OF ADDITIONAL RESIDENT	S: NUMBER OF	additional workers: 9			
Provide a brief explanation	of how these numbers were	determined: 1 employe	e per 1,000 gsf				
Does the proposed project	create new open space?	YES 🛛 NO If	"yes," specify size of project-o	created open space: sq. ft.			
Has a No-Action scenario b	een defined for this project t	hat differs from the existing	condition? XES	NO			
If "yes," see Chapter 2, "Es	tablishing the Analysis Frame	work" and describe briefly:	Ground floor communit	y facility use in place of			
proposed/projected g	round floor commercial	use. A DOB permit has	been issued for an as-of	f-right development on the			
site (BIS Job Number 1	L21190451).						
9. Analysis Year CEQR	9. Analysis Year CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 2						
ANTICIPATED BUILD YEAR (	date the project would be co	empleted and operational):	2020				
ANTICIPATED PERIOD OF C	ONSTRUCTION IN MONTHS:	18					
WOULD THE PROJECT BE IN	MPLEMENTED IN A SINGLE PH	HASE? X YES N	O IF MULTIPLE PHASE	S, HOW MANY?			
BRIEFLY DESCRIBE PHASES AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:							
10. Predominant Land Use in the Vicinity of the Project (check all that apply)							
RESIDENTIAL	MANUFACTURING 🔀	COMMERCIAL	PARK/FOREST/OPEN SPACE	OTHER, specify:			
				Community facility			

#### **Part II: TECHNICAL ANALYSIS**

**INSTRUCTIONS**: For each of the analysis categories listed in this section, assess the proposed project's impacts based on the thresholds and criteria presented in the CEQR Technical Manual. Check each box that applies.

- If the proposed project can be demonstrated not to meet or exceed the threshold, check the "no" box.
- If the proposed project will meet or exceed the threshold, or if this cannot be determined, check the "yes" box.
- For each "yes" response, provide additional analyses (and, if needed, attach supporting information) based on guidance in the CEQR Technical Manual to determine whether the potential for significant impacts exists. Please note that a "yes" answer does not mean that an EIS must be prepared—it means that more information may be required for the lead agency to make a determination of significance.
- The lead agency, upon reviewing Part II, may require an applicant to provide additional information to support the Short EAS Form. For example, if a question is answered "no," an agency may request a short explanation for this response.

	YES	NO
1. LAND USE, ZONING, AND PUBLIC POLICY: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 4		
(a) Would the proposed project result in a change in land use different from surrounding land uses?		$\boxtimes$
(b) Would the proposed project result in a change in zoning different from surrounding zoning?	$\boxtimes$	
(c) Is there the potential to affect an applicable public policy?		$\boxtimes$
(d) If "yes," to (a), (b), and/or (c), complete a preliminary assessment and attach.		
(e) Is the project a large, publicly sponsored project?		
o If "yes," complete a PlaNYC assessment and attach.		
(f) Is any part of the directly affected area within the City's Waterfront Revitalization Program boundaries?		$\boxtimes$
o If "yes," complete the Consistency Assessment Form.		
2. SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 5		
(a) Would the proposed project:		
Generate a net increase of 200 or more residential units?		
<ul> <li>Generate a net increase of 200,000 or more square feet of commercial space?</li> </ul>		
Directly displace more than 500 residents?		$\boxtimes$
Directly displace more than 100 employees?		
Affect conditions in a specific industry?		
3. COMMUNITY FACILITIES: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 6	l	
(a) Direct Effects		
Would the project directly eliminate, displace, or alter public or publicly funded community facilities such as educational		
facilities, libraries, hospitals and other health care facilities, day care centers, police stations, or fire stations?		
(b) Indirect Effects	П	1
<ul> <li>Child Care Centers: Would the project result in 20 or more eligible children under age 6, based on the number of low or low/moderate income residential units? (See Table 6-1 in Chapter 6)</li> </ul>		
o Libraries: Would the project result in a 5 percent or more increase in the ratio of residential units to library branches?		$\boxtimes$
(See Table 6-1 in <u>Chapter 6</u> )  • <b>Public Schools:</b> Would the project result in 50 or more elementary or middle school students, or 150 or more high school		
students based on number of residential units? (See Table 6-1 in <u>Chapter 6</u> )		
<ul> <li>Health Care Facilities and Fire/Police Protection: Would the project result in the introduction of a sizeable new neighborhood?</li> </ul>		
4. OPEN SPACE: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 7		
(a) Would the proposed project change or eliminate existing open space?		$\boxtimes$
(b) Is the project located within an under-served area in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, or Staten Island?		
o If "yes," would the proposed project generate more than 50 additional residents or 125 additional employees?		
(c) Is the project located within a well-served area in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, or Staten Island?		
o If "yes," would the proposed project generate more than 350 additional residents or 750 additional employees?		
(d) If the project in located an area that is neither under-served nor well-served, would it generate more than 200 additional residents or 500 additional employees?		$\boxtimes$

	YES	NO
5. SHADOWS: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 8		
(a) Would the proposed project result in a net height increase of any structure of 50 feet or more?		
(b) Would the proposed project result in any increase in structure height and be located adjacent to or across the street from a sunlight-sensitive resource?		
6. HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 9		
(a) Does the proposed project site or an adjacent site contain any architectural and/or archaeological resource that is eligible		
for or has been designated (or is calendared for consideration) as a New York City Landmark, Interior Landmark or Scenic		
Landmark; that is listed or eligible for listing on the New York State or National Register of Historic Places; or that is within a	$\boxtimes$	
designated or eligible New York City, New York State or National Register Historic District? (See the GIS System for Archaeology and National Register to confirm)		
(b) Would the proposed project involve construction resulting in in-ground disturbance to an area not previously excavated?		
(c) If "yes" to either of the above, list any identified architectural and/or archaeological resources and attach supporting information	on on	
whether the proposed project would potentially affect any architectural or archeological resources.		
7. URBAN DESIGN AND VISUAL RESOURCES: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 10		
(a) Would the proposed project introduce a new building, a new building height, or result in any substantial physical alteration to the streetscape or public space in the vicinity of the proposed project that is not currently allowed by existing zoning?		$\boxtimes$
(b) Would the proposed project result in obstruction of publicly accessible views to visual resources not currently allowed by		
existing zoning?	<u> </u>	
8. NATURAL RESOURCES: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 11		_
(a) Does the proposed project site or a site adjacent to the project contain natural resources as defined in Section 100 of <a href="Chapter 11">Chapter 11</a> ?		$\boxtimes$
o If "yes," list the resources and attach supporting information on whether the proposed project would affect any of these res	source	S.
(b) Is any part of the directly affected area within the <u>Jamaica Bay Watershed</u> ?		
<ul> <li>If "yes," complete the <u>Jamaica Bay Watershed Form</u>, and submit according to its <u>instructions</u>.</li> </ul>		•
9. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 12		
(a) Would the proposed project allow commercial or residential uses in an area that is currently, or was historically, a	$\overline{}$	
manufacturing area that involved hazardous materials?		
<b>(b)</b> Does the proposed project site have existing institutional controls ( <i>e.g.</i> , (E) designation or Restrictive Declaration) relating to		
hazardous materials that preclude the potential for significant adverse impacts?  (c) Would the project require soil disturbance in a manufacturing area or any development on or near a manufacturing area or		$+ \equiv -$
existing/historic facilities listed in Appendix 1 (including nonconforming uses)?		
(d) Would the project result in the development of a site where there is reason to suspect the presence of hazardous materials,		
contamination, illegal dumping or fill, or fill material of unknown origin?		
(e) Would the project result in development on or near a site that has or had underground and/or aboveground storage tanks (e.g., gas stations, oil storage facilities, heating oil storage)?		
(f) Would the project result in renovation of interior existing space on a site with the potential for compromised air quality;		
vapor intrusion from either on-site or off-site sources; or the presence of asbestos, PCBs, mercury or lead-based paint?  (g) Would the project result in development on or near a site with potential hazardous materials issues such as government-		
listed voluntary cleanup/brownfield site, current or former power generation/transmission facilities, coal gasification or gas		
storage sites, railroad tracks or rights-of-way, or municipal incinerators?		
(h) Has a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment been performed for the site?		
If "yes," were Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) identified? Briefly identify:		
10. WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 13		
(a) Would the project result in water demand of more than one million gallons per day?		
(b) If the proposed project located in a combined sewer area, would it result in at least 1,000 residential units or 250,000		
square feet or more of commercial space in Manhattan, or at least 400 residential units or 150,000 square feet or more of commercial space in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island, or Queens?		
(c) If the proposed project located in a <u>separately sewered area,</u> would it result in the same or greater development than the	$\overline{\Box}$	
amounts listed in Table 13-1 in <u>Chapter 13</u> ?		
(d) Would the proposed project involve development on a site that is 5 acres or larger where the amount of impervious surface would increase?		
(e) If the project is located within the <u>Jamaica Bay Watershed</u> or in certain <u>specific drainage areas</u> , including Bronx River, Coney		
Island Creek, Flushing Bay and Creek, Gowanus Canal, Hutchinson River, Newtown Creek, or Westchester Creek, would it involve development on a site that is 1 acre or larger where the amount of impervious surface would increase?	Ш	

(f) Would the proposed project be located in an area that is partially sewered or currently unsewered?		$\boxtimes$	
(g) Is the project proposing an industrial facility or activity that would contribute industrial discharges to a Wastewater Treatment Plant and/or generate contaminated stormwater in a separate storm sewer system?			
(h) Would the project involve construction of a new stormwater outfall that requires federal and/or state permits?			
11. SOLID WASTE AND SANITATION SERVICES: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 14			
(a) Using Table 14-1 in Chapter 14, the project's projected operational solid waste generation is estimated to be (pounds per week	 ≥k):		
o Would the proposed project have the potential to generate 100,000 pounds (50 tons) or more of solid waste per week?			
<b>(b)</b> Would the proposed project involve a reduction in capacity at a solid waste management facility used for refuse or recyclables generated within the City?			
12. ENERGY: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 15			
(a) Using energy modeling or Table 15-1 in Chapter 15, the project's projected energy use is estimated to be (annual BTUs):			
(b) Would the proposed project affect the transmission or generation of energy?			
13. TRANSPORTATION: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 16			
(a) Would the proposed project exceed any threshold identified in Table 16-1 in Chapter 16?			
(b) If "yes," conduct the screening analyses, attach appropriate back up data as needed for each stage and answer the following q	uestior		
<ul> <li>Would the proposed project result in 50 or more Passenger Car Equivalents (PCEs) per project peak hour?</li> </ul>		ТП	
If "yes," would the proposed project result in 50 or more vehicle trips per project peak hour at any given intersection?  **It should be noted that the lead agency may require further analysis of intersections of concern even when a project generates fewer than 50 vehicles in the peak hour. See Subsection 313 of Chapter 16 for more information.			
Would the proposed project result in more than 200 subway/rail or bus trips per project peak hour?			
If "yes," would the proposed project result, per project peak hour, in 50 or more bus trips on a single line (in one direction) or 200 subway trips per station or line?			
Would the proposed project result in more than 200 pedestrian trips per project peak hour?			
If "yes," would the proposed project result in more than 200 pedestrian trips per project peak hour to any given			
pedestrian or transit element, crosswalk, subway stair, or bus stop?  14. AIR QUALITY: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 17			
	$\overline{}$		
(a) Mobile Sources: Would the proposed project result in the conditions outlined in Section 210 in Chapter 17?			
(b) Stationary Sources: Would the proposed project result in the conditions outlined in Section 220 in <a href="Chapter 17">Chapter 17</a> ?  O If "yes," would the proposed project exceed the thresholds in Figure 17-3, Stationary Source Screen Graph in <a href="Chapter 17">Chapter 17</a> ?		<u> </u>	
(Attach graph as needed) Attached			
(c) Does the proposed project involve multiple buildings on the project site?			
(d) Does the proposed project require federal approvals, support, licensing, or permits subject to conformity requirements?			
(e) Does the proposed project site have existing institutional controls (e.g., (E) designation or Restrictive Declaration) relating to air quality that preclude the potential for significant adverse impacts?			
15. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 18			
(a) Is the proposed project a city capital project or a power generation plant?			
(b) Would the proposed project fundamentally change the City's solid waste management system?			
(c) If "yes" to any of the above, would the project require a GHG emissions assessment based on the guidance in Chapter 18?			
16. NOISE: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 19			
(a) Would the proposed project generate or reroute vehicular traffic?			
<b>(b)</b> Would the proposed project introduce new or additional receptors (see Section 124 in <u>Chapter 19</u> ) near heavily trafficked roadways, within one horizontal mile of an existing or proposed flight path, or within 1,500 feet of an existing or proposed rail line with a direct line of site to that rail line?			
(c) Would the proposed project cause a stationary noise source to operate within 1,500 feet of a receptor with a direct line of sight to that receptor or introduce receptors into an area with high ambient stationary noise?			
(d) Does the proposed project site have existing institutional controls (e.g., (E) designation or Restrictive Declaration) relating to noise that preclude the potential for significant adverse impacts?		$\boxtimes$	
17. PUBLIC HEALTH: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 20			
(a) Based upon the analyses conducted, do any of the following technical areas require a detailed analysis: Air Quality;		$\overline{\boxtimes}$	

	YES	NO		
Hazardous Materials; Noise?				
(b) If "yes," explain why an assessment of public health is or is not warranted based on the guidance in Chapter 20, "Public Health." Attach a				
preliminary analysis, if necessary.				
18. NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 21				
(a) Based upon the analyses conducted, do any of the following technical areas require a detailed analysis: Land Use, Zoning,				
and Public Policy; Socioeconomic Conditions; Open Space; Historic and Cultural Resources; Urban Design and Visual				
Resources; Shadows; Transportation; Noise?	Noighbor	hood		
(b) If "yes," explain why an assessment of neighborhood character is or is not warranted based on the guidance in Chapter 21, "I	veignbori	nooa		
Character." Attach a preliminary analysis, if necessary.				
19. CONSTRUCTION: CEQR Technical Manual Chapter 22				
(a) Would the project's construction activities involve:				
<ul> <li>Construction activities lasting longer than two years?</li> </ul>				
o Construction activities within a Central Business District or along an arterial highway or major thoroughfare?				
<ul> <li>Closing, narrowing, or otherwise impeding traffic, transit, or pedestrian elements (roadways, parking spaces, bicycle routes, sidewalks, crosswalks, corners, etc.)?</li> </ul>	$\boxtimes$			
<ul> <li>Construction of multiple buildings where there is a potential for on-site receptors on buildings completed before the final build-out?</li> </ul>				
The operation of several pieces of diesel equipment in a single location at peak construction?				
Closure of a community facility or disruption in its services?				
Activities within 400 feet of a historic or cultural resource?				
Disturbance of a site containing or adjacent to a site containing natural resources?				
Construction on multiple development sites in the same geographic area, such that there is the potential for several		$\boxtimes$		
construction timelines to overlap or last for more than two years overall?  (b) If any boxes are checked "yes," explain why a preliminary construction assessment is or is not warranted based on the guidan	co in Cha			
22, "Construction." It should be noted that the nature and extent of any commitment to use the Best Available Technology for				
equipment or Best Management Practices for construction activities should be considered when making this determination.				
20. APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION				
I swear or affirm under oath and subject to the penalties for perjury that the information provided in this Environmenta	l Assess	ment		
Statement (EAS) is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, based upon my personal knowledge and f				
with the information described herein and after examination of the pertinent books and records and/or after inquiry of	persons	who		
have personal knowledge of such information or who have examined pertinent books and records.				
Still under oath, I further swear or affirm that I make this statement in my capacity as the applicant or representative of	the ent	itv		
that seeks the permits, approvals, funding, or other governmental action(s) described in this EAS.		,		
APPLICANT/REPRESENTATIVE NAME DATE				
Dana Feingold, Environmental Studies Corp. 10/26/18				
SIGNATURE				
Jan 10 to				
PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICANTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO SUBSTANTIATE RESPONSES IN THIS FORM A	TTHE			

DISCRETION OF THE LEAD AGENCY SO THAT IT MAY SUPPORT ITS DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE.

Project Name: 245 East 53rd Street Rezoning CEQR #: 19DCP071M

SEQRA Classification: Unlisted

**EAS SHORT FORM PAGE 8** 

Pa	Part III: DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE (To Be Completed by Lead Agency)							
	INSTRUCTIONS: In completing Part III, the lead agency should consult 6 NYCRR 617.7 and 43 RCNY § 6-06 (Executive							
Oı	Order 91 or 1977, as amended), which contain the State and City criteria for determining significance.							
	1. For each of the impact categories listed below, consider whether the project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment, taking into account its (a) location; (b) probability of occurring; (c)  Significant							
	adverse effect on the environment, taking into account its (a) location; (b) probability of occurring; (c)							
Щ	duration; (d) irreversibility; (e) geographic scope; and (f) magnitude.							
	IMPACT CATEGORY		YES	NO				
	Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy			X				
	Socioeconomic Conditions							
	Community Facilities and Services			XXXX				
	Open Space							
	Shadows			X				
	Historic and Cultural Resources			X				
	Urban Design/Visual Resources							
	Natural Resources			X				
	Hazardous Materials	•						
	Water and Sewer Infrastructure							
	Solid Waste and Sanitation Services			X				
	Energy			X				
	Transportation							
	Air Quality			X				
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions							
	Noise			X				
	Public Health							
	Neighborhood Character			X				
	Construction			X				
	2. Are there any aspects of the project relevant to the determ	nination of whether the project may have a						
	significant impact on the environment, such as combined of	or cumulative impacts, that were not fully						
	covered by other responses and supporting materials?							
	If there are such impacts, attach an explanation stating wh	nether, as a result of them, the project may						
L	have a significant impact on the environment.							
	3. Check determination to be issued by the lead agency	a v						
$  \vdash$	Positive Declaration: If the lead agency has determined that	the project may have a significant impact on t	he environ	ment.				
_	and if a Conditional Negative Declaration is not appropriat							
	a draft Scope of Work for the Environmental Impact States							
┌╴	Conditional Negative Declaration: A Conditional Negative I	Declaration (CND) may be appropriate if there	ic a privato					
╽┞	applicant for an Unlisted action AND when conditions imp							
	no significant adverse environmental impacts would result							
	the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 617.			,,				
	_							
كا	Negative Declaration: If the lead agency has determined the		_					
environmental impacts, then the lead agency issues a Negative Declaration. The Negative Declaration may be prepared as a separate document (see template) or using the embedded Negative Declaration on the next page.								
-	4. LEAD AGENCY'S CERTIFICATION	THE OCCUPATION OF THE HEAT PAGE.						
TIT	TIE	LEAD AGENCY Department of City Planning act	ng on hohalf	of the City				
Acting Director, Environmental Assessment and Review Division  LEAD AGENCY  Department of City Planning, acting on behalf of the Ci								
N.A	AME Olga Abinader	DATE October 26, 2018						
SIC	SIGNATURE OLian Olian							

Project Name: 245 East 53rd Street Rezoning

**CEQR #: 19DCP071M** 

**SEQRA Classification: Unlisted** 

#### NEGATIVE DECLARATION (Use of this form is optional)

### Statement of No Significant Effect

Pursuant to Executive Order 91 of 1977, as amended, and the Rules of Procedure for City Environmental Quality Review, found at Title 62, Chapter 5 of the Rules of the City of New York and 6 NYCRR, Part 617, State Environmental Quality Review, the Department of City Planning, acting on behalf of the City Planning Commission assumed the role of lead agency for the environmental review of the proposed project. Based on a review of information about the project contained in this environmental assessment statement and any attachments hereto, which are incorporated by reference herein, the lead agency has determined that the proposed project would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

#### Reasons Supporting this Determination

The above determination is based on information contained in this EAS, which finds that the proposed project: and related actions sought before the City Planning Commission would have no significant effect on the quality of the environment. Reasons supporting this Determination are noted below.

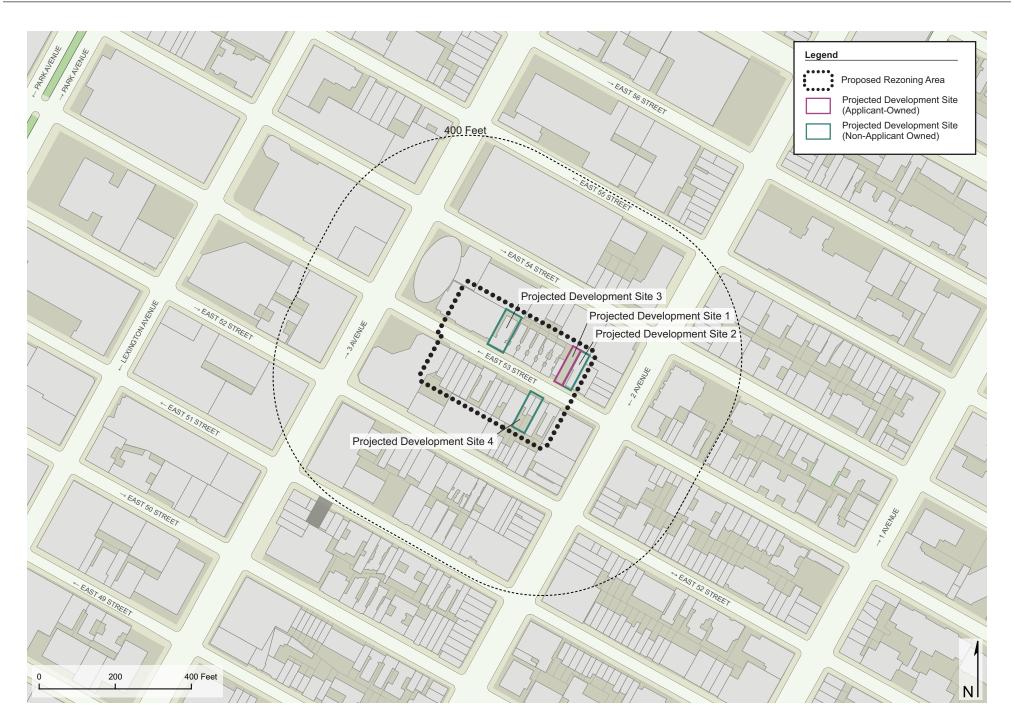
#### Air Quality

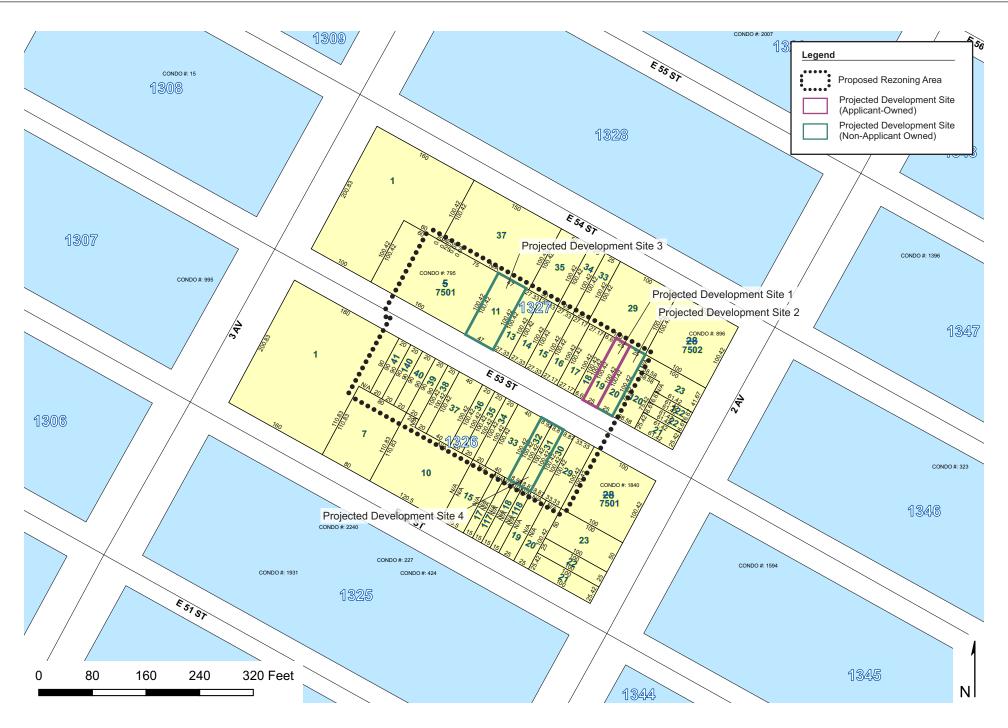
1. An (E) designation (E-511) for air quality has been incorporated into the proposed actions. Refer to "Determination of Significance Appendix: (E) Designation" for a list of sites affected by the (E) designation and applicable (E) designation requirements. The analyses conducted for air quality conclude that with the (E) Designation requirements in place, the proposed actions would not result in significant adverse impacts to air quality.

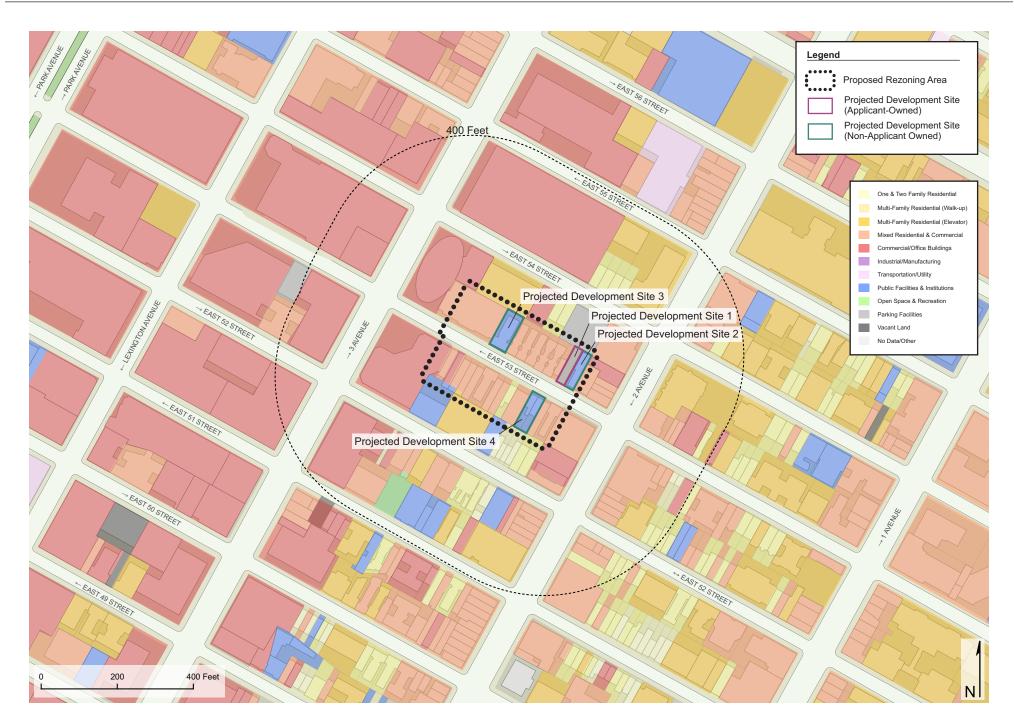
No other significant effects upon the environment that would require the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement are foreseeable. This Negative Declaration has been prepared in accordance with Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law (SEQRA).

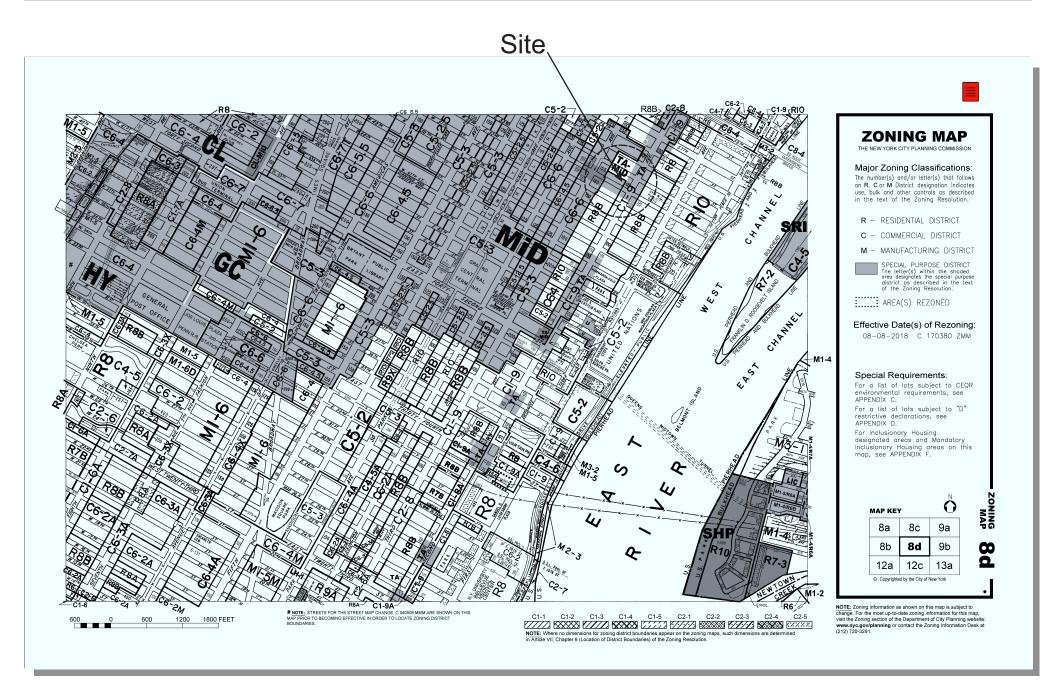
TITLE	LEAD AGENCY
Acting Director, Environmental Assessment and Review	Department of City Planning, acting on behalf of the City
Division	Planning Commission
NAME	DATE
Olga Abinader	10/26/2018
SIGNATURE	

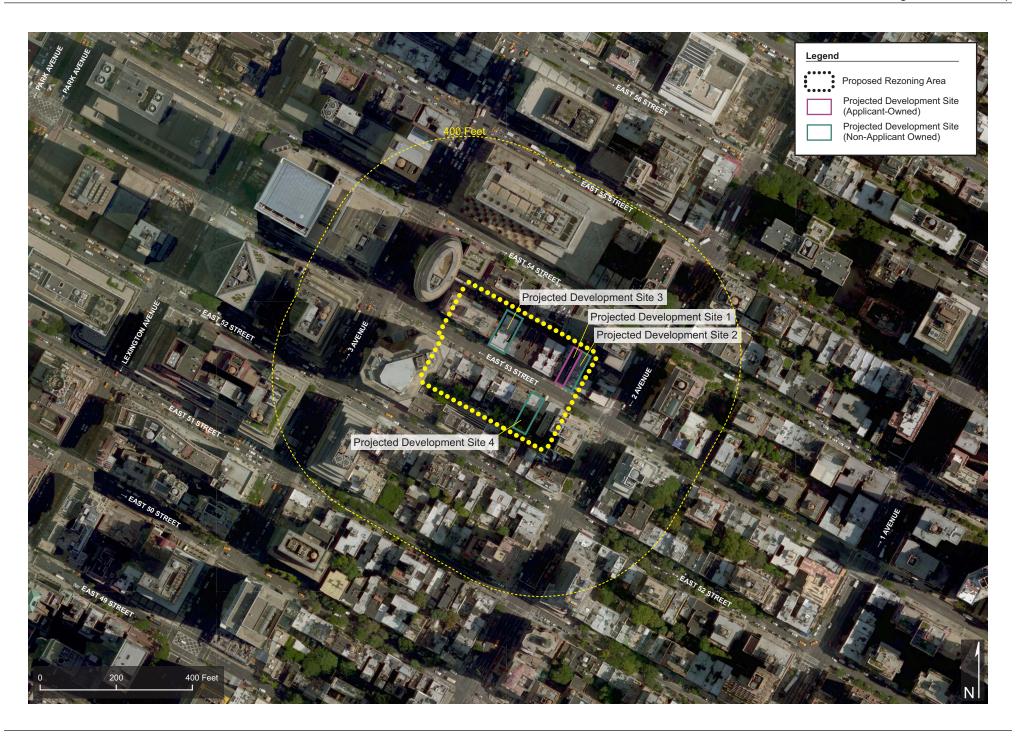
TITLE		
Chair, Department of City Planning		
NAME	DATE	
Marisa Lago	10/29/2018	120
SIGNATURE		













1. View of the Site facing north from East 53rd Street.



3. View of the Site facing northwest from East 53rd Street.



2. View of the Site facing northeast from East 53rd Street.





4. View of East 53rd Street facing east between Third Avenue and Second Avenue.



6. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing northwest between Second Avenue and Third Avenue.



5. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing southwest between Second Avenue and Third Avenue.





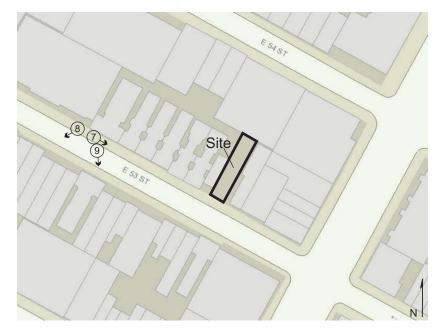
7. View of the sidewalk along the northern side of East 53rd Street facing east between Third Avenue and Second Avenue.



9. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing southeast between Third Avenue and Second Avenue.



8. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing southwest between Second Avenue and Third Avenue.





10. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing northeast between Third Avenue and Second Avenue.



12. View of the sidewalk along the northern side of East 53rd Street facing west (Site at right).



11. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing southeast between Third Avenue and Second Avenue.

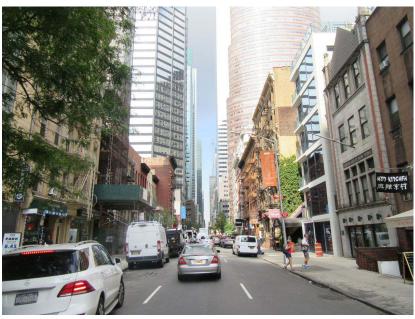




13. View of the side of East 53rd Street facing southwest between Second Avenue and Third Avenue.



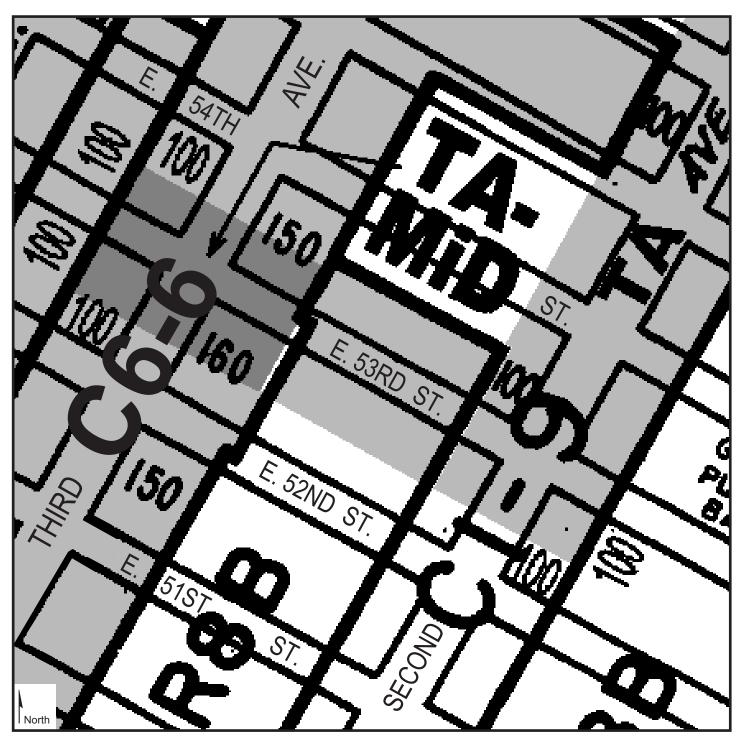
15. View of the sidewalk along the north side of East 53rd Street facing east (Site at left).



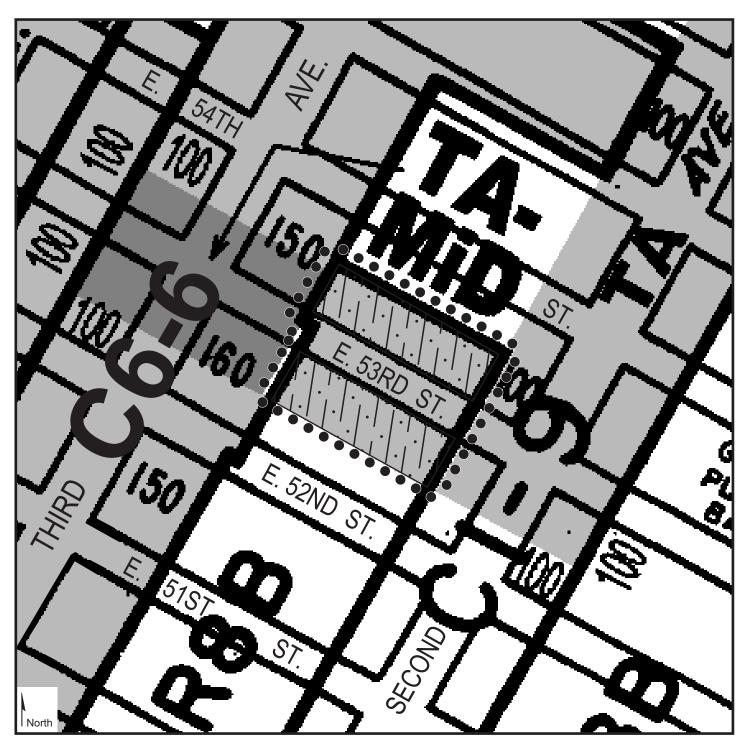
14. View of East 53rd Street facing west from Second Avenue (Site at right).



## **Zoning Change Map**



Current Zoning Map (8d)



Proposed Zoning Map (8d) - Area being rezoned is outlined with dotted lines Rezoning from R8B to R8B/C2-5

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION 245 EAST 53RD STREET REZONING, NEW YORK, NY

### **Introduction**

The applicant, 245 East 53rd Realty LLC, seeks a zoning map amendment to establish a C2-5 commercial overlay district over an existing R8B zoning district (the "Proposed Action") in the Turtle Bay section of Manhattan Community District #6 along East 53rd Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues.

The proposed zoning map amendment is sought to permit the development of a six-story mixed use development (residential-commercial retail) at Block 1327, Lot 19 ("Projected Development Site 1"), where an as-of-right residential/community facility building is under construction. The Proposed Action would also rezone additional properties not under the Applicant's control: Block 1327, Lots 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20 and portions of Lot 5); and Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, 41 and portions of Lots 1, 7 and 10, (hereafter the "Rezoning Area"). The proposed rezoning would serve to legalize additional non-conforming mixed-use buildings and bring existing uses the Rezoning Area into greater conformance and compliance with the zoning.

The Proposed Action is intended to facilitate the proposed ground floor commercial retail use on Projected Development Site 1; the remainder of the proposed six-story building would be permitted as-of-right. The proposed action would result in the development of a six-story mixed-use building at 3.8 FAR (9,546 zsf) with ground floor commercial retail space (1,591 gsf) and five residential units. The building would rise to 60 feet pursuant to Sliver Law regulations (ZR 23-692a). The Proposed Development would contain no accessory parking, as it is located in the Manhattan Core and waives out of accessory parking requirements. The Proposed Development is unable to achieve the maximum FAR of 4.0 due to Sliver Law regulations, which constrain the building's maximum height at 60 feet.

In addition to the Applicant's proposed development, properties in the Rezoning Area with non-commercial ground floors are anticipated to convert to commercial retail as a result of the proposed actions.

The property is located within the Special Transit Land Use District. This district requires that developments within proximity to the planned subway line on Second and Third Avenues reserve space or easements to access potential new stations along the line. This is determined by New York City Transit (NYCT). An approval was secured for the Development Site in October of 2003 (N 040069 ZCM) that indicated a transit easement is

not required on the property per correspondence with NYCT dated October 23, 2003 (2-CPC-262).

## **Description of Surrounding Area**

The Rezoning Area is located in the Turtle Bay section of Manhattan Community District 6. The subject block and surrounding area is vibrant in nature and predominantly contains mixed-use (commercial-residential), community facility and entirely commercial buildings. Second and Third Avenues are major north and south commercial thoroughfares while East 53rd Street runs one-way west and contains mixed-use (commercial-residential) and community facility buildings, typically ranging in height from 5 to 12-stories. Buildings along the avenues to the east and west are typically much taller, with commercial buildings rising up to 43-stories in height. A majority of the mixed-use buildings on the subject block are relatively narrow and contain between 18 and 40 feet of lot width and frontage.

The Rezoning Area is extremely well-served by New York City Transit (NYCT) with the E, M and 6 subway lines Lexington Avenue & 53rd Street Station just one block away—an entrance to that station is located at Third Avenue just west of the area proposed to be rezoned. In terms of NYCT bus service, the M15 runs north along First Avenue and south along Second Avenue and provides service from South Ferry to East Harlem/Washington Heights. Furthermore, the M101, M102 and M103 all run along Third Avenue (north) and Lexington Avenue (south) providing service between City Hall, the East Village and East Harlem/Washington Heights.

## **Existing Conditions**

The "Project Area" or the "Rezoning Area" encompasses 27 tax lots on two separate blocks (Block 1327, Lots 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and portions of Lot 5; Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, 41 and portions of Lots 1, 7 and 10) between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. 53rd Street is a narrow street with 60 feet in width.

The Rezoning Area (and Projected Development Site 1) are in an R8B district that covers the interior portions of blocks between 2nd and 3rd Avenue from 53rd Street to 48th Street. The corners of these blocks are zoned C6-6 and C1-9, which permit commercial uses as-of-right. The area is also within the Special Transit Land Use District (TA). The Rezoning Area follows the existing R8B boundary beyond 100 feet west of 2nd Avenue and beyond 150 feet east of 3rd Avenue on Block 1327 and beyond 160 feet east of 3rd Avenue on Block 1326. Block 1327 contains frontage along the north side of East 53rd Street, while Block 1326 contains frontage along the south side of the street. All lots contain approximately 90-100 feet of depth.

#### **Block 1372**

- Block 1327, Lot 19 (245 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, also known as **Projected Development Site 1**) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is being redeveloped as a residential/community facility building (BIS Job Number 121190451).
- Block 1327, Lot 11 (225 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 2**) is an interior lot with 4,720 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story community facility building (a shelter) with 19,944 (4.23 FAR). This property is legally noncomplying and was constructed in 1920.
- Block 1327, Lot 13 (229 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,745 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 11,160 square feet (4.07 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying) with continuous occupancy since approximately 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 14 (231-235 East 53rd Street) is an interior lot with 2,744 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 10,160 square feet (3.7 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since approximately 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 15 (235 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,744 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 10,160 square feet (3.7 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 16 (237 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,728 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,588 square feet (4.61 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 17 (239 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,728 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,588 square feet (4.61 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally

- nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 18 (243 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,674 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 2,999 square feet (1.79 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 20 (247 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 3**) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 6,232 square feet (2.48 FAR).
- Block 1327, Lot 5 (211 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 15,817 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a 12-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 146,549 square feet (9.27 FAR). This parcel is split between an R8B zoning district and the neighboring C6-6 zoning district.

#### **Block 1326**

- Block 1326, Lot 1 (875 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue) is a corner lot with 33,932 square feet of lot area.
  The parcel is developed with a 29-story commercial building. The building is
  developed to 634,175 square feet (18.69 FAR). This parcel is split between an R8B
  zoning district and the neighboring C6-6 zoning district. Only the R8B portion of
  this building would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 7 (213 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 8,866 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a two-story community facility use owned and operated by the Salvation Army. The building is developed to 9,600 square feet (1.08 FAR). This parcel is in the R8B zoning district and only a small portion of the rear of the tax lot would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 10 (223 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 12,305 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with an eight-story residential/community facility use owned and operated by the Hungarian government as its consulate. The building is developed to 81,250 square feet (6.6 FAR). This parcel is in the R8B zoning district and only a small portion of the rear of the tax lot would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 29 (246 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 3,347 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,915 square feet (3.86 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1917, according to an HPD i-card which shows that in 1917 the cellar and first floor were used for commercial use, with the remaining floors as residential.

- Block 1326, Lot 30 (244 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,895 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a three-story mixed-use building with a ground-floor eating and drinking establishment (Use Group 6) and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,350 square feet (1.77 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 31 (242 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **part of Projected Development Site 4**) is an interior lot with 1,892 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building owned and operated by the New York Theosophical Society and containing a library, offices, and lecture rooms. The building is developed to 2,720 square feet (1.44 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 32 (240 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **part of Projected Development Site 4**) is an interior lot with 1,900 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building owned and operated by the New York Theosophical Society and containing a library, offices, and lecture rooms. The building is developed to 2,940 square feet (1.55 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 33 (236 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 4,014 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a three-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 9,876 square feet (2.46 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1920, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 34 (234 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a vacant three-story residential building currently under renovations. According to filed plans with DOB, the cellar level is to contain an eating and drinking establishment. The building is developed to 3,822 square feet now (1.9 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 35 (232 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with an eating and drinking establishment on the first floor and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 4,460 square feet (2.22 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1926, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 36 (230 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with commercial spaces in the cellar and first floor. The building is developed to 3,680 square feet (1.83 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use

- is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1926, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 37 (226 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 4,017 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with commercial retail spaces in the basement and first floors and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 16,920 square feet (4.21 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 38 (224 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 4,210 square feet (2.1 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1917, according to an HPD i-card which shows that in 1917 the cellar and first floor were used for commercial use, with the remaining floors as residential.
- Block 1326, Lot 39 (222 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,280 square feet (1.82 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 40 (220 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,490 square feet (1.94 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 140 (218 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a two-story commercial building. The building is developed to 3,600 square feet (2.0 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 41 (216 East 53rd Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story commercial office building. The building is developed to 6,880 square feet (3.82 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1925, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.

### **Proposed Development**

The Proposed Action is intended to facilitate the proposed ground floor commercial retail use on Projected Development Site 1; the remainder of the proposed six-story building would be permitted as-of-right. The proposed action would result in the development of a six-story mixed-use building at 3.8 FAR (9,546 zsf) with ground floor commercial retail space (1,591 gsf) and five residential units. The building would rise to 60 feet pursuant to Sliver Law regulations (ZR 23-692a). The Proposed Development would contain no accessory parking, as it is located in the Manhattan Core and waives out of accessory parking requirements. It should be noted that the Proposed Development is unable to achieve the maximum FAR of 4.0 due to Sliver Law regulations, which constrain the building's maximum height at 60 feet.

Based on a 12-month approval process and an 18-month buildout period for the non-Applicant sites, the build year is assumed to be 2020.

## Purpose and Need

The proposed zoning map amendment is primarily sought to facilitate legal ground floor commercial use on Projected Development Site 1, which the Applicant believes to be the highest and best use for the ground floor of the Site. The subject block has long contained near uniform and continuous ground floor commercial use since the time of construction (approximately 1900-1920) on most of the remaining properties. While the application is primarily sought to facilitate the proposed ground floor use on Projected Development Site 1, it would also serve to legalize the nonconforming status of the remaining properties on the subject block, thereby legalizing the status of two-dozen properties and bringing the Project Area into greater conformance with the zoning. Additional properties in the Rezoning Area with complying ground floor uses under the existing zoning will have an opportunity to redevelop with ground floor commercial space as a result of the Proposed Actions. It should be noted that the proposed zoning map amendment is not sought to facilitate any additional density but would recognize the predominance of ground floor commercial use along a vibrant mixed-use street in Midtown Manhattan.

## **Required Approvals**

The proposed development requires a zoning map amendment. The granting of the zoning map amendment is a discretionary action that is subject to both the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) as well as the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR). ULURP is a process that allows public review of the proposed action at four levels: the Community Board; the Borough President; the City Planning Commission; and, if applicable, the City Council. CEQR is a process by which agencies review discretionary actions for the purpose of identifying the effects those actions may have on the environment.

## Reasonable Worst Case Development Scenario (RWCDS)

As discussed below, the only property intended for development is the Applicant's property (Projected Development Site 1). The Applicant intends to utilize commercial use on the ground floor of a proposed building. Since commercial use would be permitted on the first floor in the Rezoning Area, five additional properties are assumed for development in the Future With-Action Scenario as four development sites, with conversion occurring on the ground floor of these properties.

Projected Development Site No.	Block	Lot(s)
Projected Development Site 1	1327	19
Projected Development Site 2	1327	11
Projected Development Site 3	1327	20
Projected Development Site 4	1326	31 and 32

### No-Action Scenario

*The Projected Development Site 1 (Block 1327, Lot 19)* 

An as-of-right building with ground floor community facility use (1,591 gsf) and five residential units above is under construction on Projected Development Site 1. This building represents the No-Action scenario on this site. The building will rise to a height of 60 feet where a maximum height of 60 feet is permitted per ZR 23-692 (the Sliver Law). Aside from the ground floor community facility use, which is occupied by a commercial use in the with-action scenario, the building would be identical to the With-Action building, containing 12,056 gsf of floor area (9,546 zsf, FAR 3.8). Plans for this as-of-right development have been filed and approved by the Department of Buildings (DOB)<sup>1</sup> and construction is underway.

## Non-Applicant-Controlled Properties

Absent the proposed zoning map amendment, all affected properties in the Rezoning Area are anticipated to remain in their existing condition, as a majority of the properties in the Rezoning Area are either built to excess of the underlying permitted FAR (4.0 FAR) or contain legally nonconforming commercial uses that predate the Zoning Resolution. Therefore, the properties in the Rezoning Area would remain in their existing condition absent the proposed action, as described above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BIS Job Number 121190451

## Future With-Action Scenario

The general intent of the proposed zoning map amendment is to legalize longstanding basement and first floor commercial uses within the Rezoning Area, as well as facilitate the proposed commercial use on Projected Development Site 1. As such, no new construction is anticipated as a result of the proposed action. Rather, properties that do not contain commercial uses on the basement and ground floor levels of any of the affected properties along East 53rd Street in the Rezoning Area would be anticipated for conversion in the future with the proposed action (Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32; and Block 1327, Lots 11 and 20). Therefore, three additional Projected Development Sites are identified (Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32, are under common ownership and are considered as a single projected development site). The Future With-Action Scenario is summarized below.

The Proposed Development Site: Projected Development Site 1 (Block 1327, Lot 19)

In the future with the proposed action, commercial uses (Use Groups 5-9 & 14) would be permitted in the Rezoning Area at a maximum of 2.0 FAR. The Proposed Action is intended to facilitate the proposed ground floor commercial retail use on Projected Development Site 1; the rest of the proposed six-story building would be permitted as-of-right. The proposed action would result in the development of a 6-story, 60' tall building with 9,546 zsf mixed-use building (3.8 FAR, 12,056 gsf). The building would also contain a 2,510 square foot cellar. The development would contain five residential units comprising 7,955 gsf, which would be located on floors two through six with one residential unit per floor. The project would also contain 1,591 zsf of commercial floor area on the ground floor. The cellar would be used as accessory space to the proposed ground floor commercial use, as well as accessory space for the proposed residential units above.

Illustrative plans and building elevations are appended to this document.

Therefore, in the Future With-Action Scenario, **Projected Development Site 1** would consist of approximately 1,591 gsf of Use Group 6 commercial space and 5 dwelling units in a building with an FAR of 3.8.

Non-applicant owned properties

In the future with-action scenario, the legally nonconforming commercial uses in the Rezoning Area would become legally conforming. Specifically, the ground floor commercial uses located at Block 1327, Lots 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and part of lot 5; and Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, and 41 would be conforming uses under the Proposed Actions and thus are not anticipated to change in the future with-action scenario. Block 1326, Lot 1, is fully-developed and not anticipated to change. Block 1326, Lot 7, contains an active community facility use that is not expected to change, and

Block 1326, Lot 10 is occupied by the Hungarian Consulate and is also expected to remain in the future with-action condition.

Thus, the only non-applicant owned properties that would change in the future with the Proposed Actions are Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32; and Block 1327, Lots 11 and 20, as described below.

- Block 1327, Lot 11 (225 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 2**) is an interior lot with 4,720 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story community facility building (a shelter) with 19,944 (4.23 FAR). This property is legally noncomplying and was constructed in 1920. Since this property contains a building that exceeds the maximum permitted FAR of the underlying R8B zoning district (4.0 FAR), the property is anticipated to remain in the future with the proposed action. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 4,986 square feet of space.
- Block 1327, Lot 20 (247 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 3**) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 6,232 square feet (2.48 FAR). While this property is not developed to its maximum FAR (4.0 FAR), the property is anticipated to remain in the future the proposed action, due to a majority of the floor area being utilized on the zoning lot. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 1,558 square feet of space.
- Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32 constitute 240-242 East 53rd Street, **Projected Development Site 4**. Lot 31 is an interior lot with 1,892 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,720 square feet (1.44 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted. As noted above, the projected development sites are not anticipated for redevelopment, but rather a landuse change on the ground floor is projected. Lot 32 is an interior lot with 1,900 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,940 square feet (1.55 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right. These adjacent buildings are under shared ownership. In the future with the proposed action, it is anticipated that the buildings would combine their small ground floor spaces (680 and 475 gsf, respectively) for a floor area of 1,155 gsf of commercial retail space.

The difference between the No-Action and With-Action development scenarios is available in the table below.

## DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS (RWCDS) ON PROJECTED DEVELOPMENT SITES

	EXISTING CONDITION		NO-ACTION CONDITION		WITH-ACTION CONDITION		INCREMENT
LAND USE							
Residential	YES	NO NO	X YES	NO	X YES	NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
Describe type of residential structures							
No. of dwelling units			5		5		0
No. of low- to moderate-income units							
Gross floor area (sq. ft.)			10,465		10,465 gsf	•	0
Commercial	☐ YES	⊠ NO	YES	⊠ NO	XES YES	☐ NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
Describe type (retail, office, other)					Retail/Eatin	g & Drinking	
Gross floor area (sq. ft.)					9,290 gs		+9,290 gsf
Manufacturing/Industrial	YES	$\boxtimes$ NO	YES YES	$\boxtimes$ NO	YES	$\boxtimes$ NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
Type of use							
Gross floor area (sq. ft.)							
Open storage area (sq. ft.)							
If any unenclosed activities, specify:							
Community Facility	☐ YES	NO NO	XES YES	☐ NO	YES	⊠ NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
Туре							
Gross floor area (sq. ft.)			33,407	gsf	24,117	gsf	-9,290 gsf
Vacant Land	X YES	Пио	YES	NO NO	YES	NO NO	, 2
If "yes," describe:		<u>—</u>		<u> </u>			
Other Land Uses	YES	⊠ NO	YES	NO NO	YES	NO NO	
If "yes," describe:							
Garages	YES	⊠ NO	YES	NO NO	YES	NO NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
No. of public spaces							
No. of accessory spaces							
Lots	YES	NO NO	YES	NO NO	YES	NO NO	
If "yes," specify the following:							
No. of public spaces							
No. of accessory spaces							
ZONING							
Zoning classification	R8B		R8B		R8B/C2	2-5	
Maximum amount of floor area that can be	4.0 Res	idential	4.0 Reside	ential	2.0 Commo		+2.0 Commercial
developed	4.0 Community Facility		4.0 Comm	nunity Facility	4.0 Residential		
-					4.0 Community Facility		
Predominant land use and zoning	Reside		Resident		Residential		
classifications within land use study area(s)	Comm		Commer		Commerc		
or a 400 ft. radius of proposed project	Comm	nunity Facility	Commur	nity Facility	Communi	ity Facility	

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT 245 EAST 53RD STREET REZONING, NEW YORK, NY

#### INTRODUCTION

Based on the analysis and the screens contained in the Environmental Assessment Statement Short Form, the analysis areas that require further explanation include land use, zoning, and public policy; historic and cultural resources; urban design; air quality; and construction, as further detailed below. The subject heading numbers correlate with the relevant chapters of the 2014 CEQR Technical Manual.

#### PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Proposed Action is intended to facilitate the proposed ground floor commercial retail use on Project Development Site 1 and the remainder of the proposed six-story building would be permitted as-of-right. The proposed action would result in the development of a six-story mixed-use building at 3.8 FAR (12,056 gsf) with ground floor commercial retail space (1,591 gsf) and the remaining five floors containing residential units (5 dwelling units total in 10,465 gsf). The building would rise to 60 feet pursuant to Sliver Law regulations (ZR 23-692a). The Proposed Development would contain no accessory parking, as it is located in the Manhattan Core and waives out of accessory parking requirements.

## 4. LAND USE, ZONING AND PUBLIC POLICY

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The analysis of land use, zoning and public policy characterizes the existing conditions of the project site and the surrounding study area; anticipates and evaluates those changes in land use, zoning and public policy that are expected to occur independently of the proposed project; and identifies and addresses any potential impacts related to land use, zoning and public policy resulting from the project.

In order to assess the potential for project related impacts, the land use study area has been defined as the area located within a 400-foot radius of the directly affected area, which is an area within which the proposed project has the potential to affect land use or land use trends. The 400-foot study area is bounded by East 55th Street to the north, Second Avenue to the east, East 51st Street to the south, and Third Avenue to the west.

#### II. Land Use

## Applicant-Controlled Site

Block 1327, Lot 19 (245 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, also known as Projected Development Site
 1) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is being developed with an as-of-right residential/community facility building.

## Non-Applicant-Controlled Sites

#### Block 1327:

- Block 1327, Lot 11 (225 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 2**) is an interior lot with 4,720 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story community facility building (a shelter) with 19,944 (4.23 FAR). This property is legally noncomplying and was constructed in 1920.
- Block 1327, Lot 20 (247 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 3**) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 6,232 square feet (2.48 FAR).
- Block 1327, Lot 13 (229 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,745 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 11,160 square feet (4.07 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally

- nonconforming and noncomplying) with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 14 (231-235 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,744 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 10,160 square feet (3.7 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 15 (235 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,744 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a five-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 10,160 square feet (3.7 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 16 (237 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,728 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,588 square feet (4.61 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1904, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 17 (239 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,728 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,588 square feet (4.61 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 18 (243 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,674 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 2,999 square feet (1.79 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1327, Lot 7501 (211 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 15,817 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a 12-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 146,549 square feet (9.27 FAR). This parcel is split between an R8B zoning district and the neighboring C6-6 zoning district.

#### **Block 1326**

- Block 1326, Lot 1 (875 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue) is a corner lot with 33,932 square feet of lot area.
  The parcel is developed with a 29-story commercial building. The building is
  developed to 634,175 square feet (18.69 FAR). This parcel is split between an R8B
  zoning district and the neighboring C6-6 zoning district. Only the R8B portion of
  this building would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 7 (213 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 8,866 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a two-story community facility use owned and operated by the Salvation Army. The building is developed to 9,600 square feet (1.08 FAR). This parcel is in the R8B zoning district and only a small portion of the rear of the tax lot would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 10 (223 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 12,305 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with an eight-story residential/community facility use owned and operated by the Hungarian government as its consulate. The building is developed to 81,250 square feet (6.6 FAR). This parcel is in the R8B zoning district and only a small portion of the rear of the tax lot would be affected.
- Block 1326, Lot 29 (246 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 3,347 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 12,915 square feet (3.86 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1917, according to an HPD i-card which shows that in 1917 the cellar and first floor were used for commercial use, with the remaining floors as residential.
- Block 1326, Lot 30 (244 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,895 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a three-story mixed-use building with a ground-floor eating and drinking establishment (Use Group 6) and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,350 square feet (1.77 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 31 (242 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **p/o Projected Development Site 4**) is an interior lot with 1,892 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,720 square feet (1.44 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 32 (240 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **p/o Projected Development Site 4**) is an interior lot with 1,900 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,940 square feet (1.55 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 33 (236 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 4,014 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a three-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to

- 9,876 square feet (2.46 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1920, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 34 (234 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a vacant three-story residential building currently under renovations. According to filed plans with DOB, the cellar level is to contain an eating and drinking establishment. The building is developed to 3,822 square feet now (1.9 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right.
- Block 1326, Lot 35 (232 East 53rd Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with an eating and drinking establishment on the first floor and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 4,460 square feet (2.22 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1926, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 36 (230 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with commercial spaces in the cellar and first floor. The building is developed to 3,680 square feet (1.83 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1926, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 37 (226 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 4,017 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story mixed-use building with commercial retail spaces in the basement and first floors and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 16,920 square feet (4.21 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming and noncomplying with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 38 (224 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 2,008 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 4,210 square feet (2.1 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1917, according to an HPD i-card which shows that in 1917 the cellar and first floor were used for commercial use, with the remaining floors as residential.
- Block 1326, Lot 39 (222 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,280 square feet (1.82 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.

- Block 1326, Lot 40 (220 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story mixed-use building with ground-floor retail and residential units contained above. The building is developed to 3,490 square feet (1.94 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 140 (218 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a two-story commercial building. The building is developed to 3,600 square feet (2.0 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1900, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.
- Block 1326, Lot 41 (216 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street) is an interior lot with 1,800 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story commercial office building. The building is developed to 6,880 square feet (3.82 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right and commercial use is not permitted. The existing development on this lot is legally nonconforming with continuous occupancy since 1925, according to a Certificate of Occupancy.

## Surrounding Area

The surrounding area is defined by a 400-foot radius around the project site, which is generally bounded by East 55<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, Second Avenue to the east, East 51<sup>st</sup> Street to the south, and Third Avenue to the west. The study area is predominantly mixeduse with a majority of the buildings in the affected area containing ground-floor commercial retail uses.

#### *Future No-Action Condition*

Absent the proposed action, it is assumed a six-story as-of-right building with ground floor community facility use (1,591 gsf) and five residential units above would be constructed on Projected Development Site 1. The proposed building would rise to a height of 60 feet where a maximum height of 60 feet is permitted per ZR 23-692 (the Sliver Law). Aside from the ground floor community facility use, the building would be nearly identical to the With-Action building, containing 12,056 gsf of floor area (9,546 zsf, FAR 3.8). Plans for this as-of-right development have been filed and approved by the Department of Buildings (DOB)<sup>2</sup> and construction is underway.

No changes are anticipated to any of the other sites within the directly affected area, including **Projected Development Sites 2, 3, and 4**. No significant changes are anticipated in the surrounding land uses by the project build year of 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> BIS Job Number 121190451

## Future With-Action Condition

The general intent of the proposed zoning map amendment is to legalize longstanding basement and first floor commercial uses within the Rezoning Area, as well as facilitate the proposed commercial use on Projected Development Site 1. As such, no new construction is anticipated as a result of the proposed action. Rather, properties that do not contain commercial uses on the basement and ground floor levels of any of the affected properties along East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street in the Rezoning Area would be anticipated for conversion in the future with the proposed action (Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32; and Block 1327, Lots 11 and 20). Therefore, four Projected Development Sites are identified. The Future With-Action Scenario is summarized below.

The analysis year for the proposed actions is 2020.

*The Proposed Development: Projected Development Site 1 (Block 1327, Lot 19)* 

In the future with the proposed action, commercial uses (5-9 & 14) would be permitted in the Rezoning Area at a maximum of 2.0 FAR. The proposed action would result in the development of a six-story mixed-use building at 3.8 FAR (9,546 gsf) with ground floor commercial retail space (1,591 gsf) and the remaining five floors containing residential units (5 dwelling units total in 7,599 gsf). The building would also contain a 2,510 square foot cellar. The building would rise to 60 feet pursuant to Sliver Law regulations (ZR 23-692a). The Proposed Development would contain no accessory parking, as it is located in the Manhattan Core and waives out of accessory parking requirements. It should be noted that the Proposed Development is unable to achieve the maximum FAR of 4.0 due to Sliver Law regulations, which constrain the building's maximum height.

Therefore, in the Future With-Action Scenario, Projected Development Site 1 would consist of approximately 1,591 gsf of Use Group 6 commercial space and 10,465 gsf of residential space (5 dwelling units) for a total FAR of 3.8.

In the future with-action scenario, existing legally nonconforming commercial uses in the Rezoning Area would become legally conforming. Specifically, the ground floor commercial uses located at Block 1327, Lots 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and part of Lot 5; and Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, and 41 would be conforming uses under the Proposed Actions and thus are not anticipated to change in the future with-action scenario. Block 1326, Lot 1, is fully-developed and not anticipated to change. Block 1326, Lot 7, contains an active community facility use that is not expected to change, and Block 1326, Lot 10 is occupied by the Hungarian Consulate and is also expected to remain in the future with-action condition.

Thus, the only non-applicant owned properties that would change in the future with the Proposed Actions are Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32; and Block 1327, Lots 11 and 20, as described below.

#### Block 1372

- Block 1327, Lot 11 (225 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 2**) is an interior lot with 4,720 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a six-story community facility building (a shelter) with 19,944 (4.23 FAR). This property is legally noncomplying and was constructed in 1920. Since this property contains a building that exceeds the maximum permitted FAR of the underlying R8B zoning district (4.0 FAR), the property is anticipated to remain in the future with the proposed action. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 4,986 square feet of space.
- Block 1327, Lot 20 (247 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, **Projected Development Site 3**) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 6,232 square feet (2.48 FAR). While this property is not developed to its maximum FAR (4.0 FAR), the property is anticipated to remain in the future the proposed action, due to a majority of the floor area being utilized on the zoning lot. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 1,558 square feet of space.
- Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32 constitute 240-242 East 53rd Street, **Projected Development Site 4**. Lot 31 is an interior lot with 1,892 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,720 square feet (1.44 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted. As noted above, the projected development sites are not anticipated for redevelopment, but rather a land-use change on the ground floor is projected. Lot 32 is an interior lot with 1,900 square feet of lot area. The parcel is developed with a four-story community facility building. The building is developed to 2,940 square feet (1.55 FAR) where 4.0 FAR is permitted as-of-right. These adjacent buildings are under shared ownership. In the future with the proposed action, it is anticipated that the buildings would combine their small ground floor spaces (680 and 475 gsf, respectively) for a floor area of 1,155 gsf of commercial retail space.

#### Conclusion

The general intent of the proposed zoning map amendment is to legalize longstanding basement and first floor commercial uses within the Rezoning Area, as well as facilitate the proposed commercial use on Projected Development Site 1. The proposed zoning map amendment compliments the commercial and mixed-use nature of the Rezoning Area and the surrounding neighborhood. No significant adverse impacts related to land use are expected to occur as a result of the proposed action and no further analysis of land use is required.

## III. Zoning

## **Existing Conditions**

The Rezoning Area (and Development Site) are in an R8B district that covers the interior portions of blocks between 2nd and 3rd Avenue from 53rd Street to 48th Street. The corners of these blocks are zoned C6-6 and C1-9, which permit commercial uses as-of-right. The area is also within the Special Transit Land Use District (TA). The Rezoning Area follows the existing R8B boundary beyond 100 feet west of 2nd Avenue and beyond 150 feet east of 3rd Avenue on Block 1327 and beyond 160 feet east of 3rd Avenue on Block 1326.

The R8B district primarily produces contextual 5- to 7-story apartment buildings at a maximum FAR of 4.0 and permits Use Groups 1-4. Within R8B districts, Quality Housing regulations are mandatory. The maximum height for buildings in R8B districts is 75 feet with a base height of 55-65 feet. However, the "Sliver Law" (ZR 23-692) requires that the height of buildings are limited to the width of the street or the height of the neighboring building, whichever is the tallest, limiting the height of most buildings on the affected block to approximately 60 feet.

Setbacks of 10 or 15 feet are required depending on street width. The affected area is in the Manhattan Core with parking requirements waived and are limited to up to 20% of dwelling units. The Special Transit Land Use District requires that developments within proximity to the planned subway line on Second and Third Avenues reserve space or easements to access potential new stations along the line.

The study area also includes properties zoned C1-9 and C6-6.

C1-6 through C1-9 are commercial districts that are predominantly residential in character. They are mapped along major thoroughfares in medium- and higher-density areas of the city. In mixed buildings, commercial uses are limited to one or two floors and must always be below the residential use. A maximum commercial FAR of 2.0 is permitted, and the residential district equivalent of C1-9 is R10.

C6 zoning districts permit a wide range of high-bulk commercial uses requiring a central location. C6-6 districts permit a commercial FAR of 15.0 (with an FAR ratio of up to 20% for a public plaza) and a residential FAR of 10.0 (with an FAR bonus available through the Inclusionary Housing Program). The residential district equivalent is R10.

## *Future No-Action Condition*

In the future without the proposed action, the Rezoning Area would continue to be governed by the provisions of the existing R8B zoning district. No changes are anticipated in the Rezoning Area.

No changes are anticipated to the zoning districts and zoning regulations relating to the

Rezoning Area or the surrounding study area by the project build year of 2020.

## Future With-Action Condition

In the future with the proposed actions, a C2-5 commercial overlay would be mapped over 27 tax lots on two separate blocks: Block 1327, Lots 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and portions of Lot 5; Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, 41 and portions of Lots 1, 7 and 10. 53rd Street is a narrow street, 60 feet in width.

The proposed zoning would more accurately reflect existing development within the Rezoning Area, which is currently developed with commercial, residential, and community facility uses

The proposed zoning map amendment is primarily sought to facilitate legal ground floor commercial use on Projected Development Site 1, which is believed to be the highest and best use for the ground floor of Projected Development Site 1. The subject block has long contained near uniform and continuous ground floor commercial use since the time of construction (approximately 1900-1920) on most of the remaining properties. While the application is primarily sought to facilitate the proposed ground floor use on the Site, it would also serve to legalize the nonconforming status of the remaining properties on the subject block, thereby legalizing the status of two-dozen properties and bringing the Project Area into greater conformance with the zoning. It should be noted that the proposed zoning map amendment is not sought to facilitate any additional density but would recognize the predominance of ground floor commercial use along a vibrant mixed-use street in Midtown Manhattan.

#### Conclusion

No significant impacts to zoning patterns in the area would be expected as a result of the proposed action. The proposed action would not have a significant impact on the extent of conformity with the current zoning within the surrounding area and would not adversely affect the viability of conforming uses on nearby properties.

No significant impacts related to zoning are anticipated as a result of the proposed action, and no further analysis is required.

# IV. Public Policy

## **Existing Conditions**

The Premises is located in the Turtle Bay neighborhood of Manhattan Community District 6. The subject block and surrounding area is vibrant in nature and predominantly contains mixed-use (commercial-residential), community facility and entirely commercial buildings. Second and Third Avenues are major north and south commercial

thoroughfares while East 53rd Street runs one-way west and contains mixed-use (commercial-residential) and community facility buildings, typically ranging in height from 5 to 12-stories. Buildings along the avenues to the east and west are typically much taller, with commercial buildings rising up to 43-stories in height. A majority of the mixed-use buildings on the subject block are relatively narrow and contain between 18 and 40 feet of lot width and frontage.

The Rezoning Area is within the Special Midtown District (indicated as MiD on the attached zoning map), which was stablished to guide development within the Midtown central business district. The Special District aims to guide and stabilize growth in the area while preserving the historic character of the area.

Other than the Zoning Resolution discussed above, no public policies apply to the Project Site or the surrounding 400-foot study area. The Premises is not located within the NYC Coastal Zone Boundary, a critical environmental area, a significant coastal fish and wildlife habitat, a wildlife refuge, or a special natural waterfront area.

#### **Future No-Action Condition**

No new public policy initiatives or changes to existing initiatives are anticipated to pertain to the Rezoning Area or to the 400-foot study area around the property by the project build year of 2020.

## Future With-Action Condition

No impact to public policies would occur as a result of the proposed action. The proposed mixed-use development on Projected Development Site 1 would be in accordance with the proposed zoning district and the proposed zoning district would be consistent with zoning and bulk regulations in the study area.

#### Conclusion

No potentially significant adverse impacts related to public policy are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed action, and further assessment of public policy is not warranted.

#### Conclusion

No significant adverse impacts related to land use, zoning, and public policy are anticipated to occur as a result of the action. The action is not expected to result in any of the conditions that warrant the need for further assessment of land use, zoning, or public policy.

# 9. HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Introduction

The 2014 City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual identifies historic resources as districts, buildings, structures, sites, and objects of historical, aesthetic, cultural, and archaeological importance. This includes designated New York City Landmarks (NYCL); properties calendared for consideration as landmarks by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC); properties listed in the State/National Registers of Historic Places (S/NR) or contained within a district listed in or formally determined eligible for S/NR listing; properties recommended by the New York State Board for listing on the S/NR; National Historic Landmarks (NHL); and properties not identified by one of the programs listed above, but that meet their eligibility requirements. An assessment of historic/archaeological resources is usually needed for projects that are located adjacent to historic or landmark structures or within historic districts, or projects that require in-ground disturbance, unless such disturbance occurs in an area that has already been excavated.

## **Archaeological Resources**

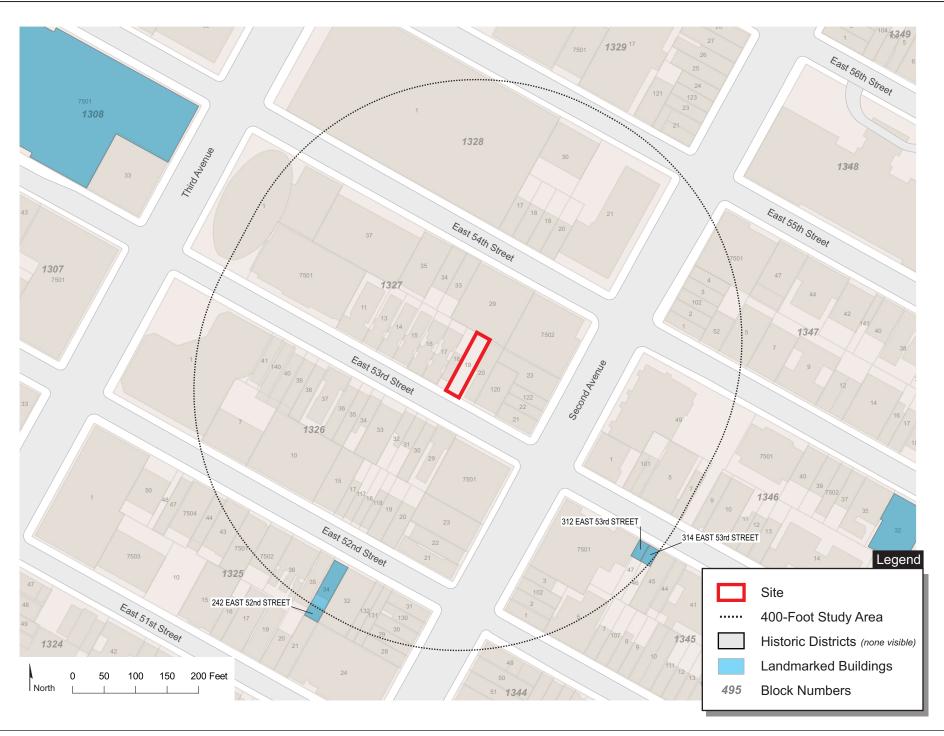
The development proposed by the applicant would involve construction resulting in ground disturbance. In a letter dated March 6, 2018, and appended to this document, the LPC stated that the Rezoning Area contains no potential archaeological resources. No further analysis is necessary.

#### **Architectural Resources**

The proposed actions are not anticipated to result in the demolition of any existing buildings nor the construction of any new buildings. In a letter dated March 6, 2018, and appended to this document, the LPC noted that the Rockefeller Guesthouse (242 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street) and the houses at 312 and 314 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street are LPC designated and S/NR eligible. (See attached map) No impacts to these resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed actions. No further analysis is necessary.

#### Conclusion

No archaeological or architectural resources would experience significant adverse impacts as a result of the proposed actions.



# 10. URBAN DESIGN AND VISUAL RESOURCES

#### Introduction

An assessment of urban design is needed when a project may have effects on any of the elements that contribute to the pedestrian experience of public space. A preliminary assessment is appropriate when there is the potential for a pedestrian to observe, from the street level, a physical alteration beyond that allowed by existing zoning. An assessment would be appropriate for the following:

- 1. Projects that permit the modification of yard, height, and setback requirements; and
- 2. Projects that result in an increase in built floor area beyond what would be allowed 'as-of-right'.

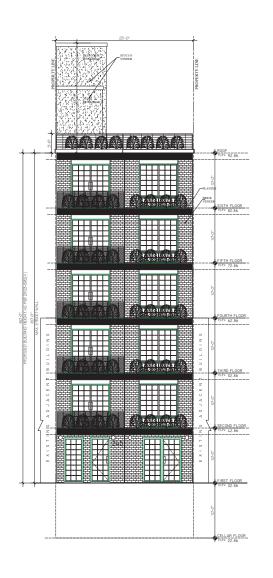
The Proposed Action is intended to facilitate the proposed ground floor commercial retail use on Project Development Site 1 and the remainder of the proposed six-story building would be permitted as-of-right. The proposed action would result in the development of a six-story mixed-use building at 3.8 FAR (12,056 gsf) with ground floor commercial retail space (1,591 gsf) and the remaining five floors containing residential units (5 dwelling units total in 10,465 gsf). The building would rise to 60 feet pursuant to Sliver Law regulations (ZR 23-692a). The Proposed Development would contain no accessory parking, as it is located in the Manhattan Core and waives out of accessory parking requirements.

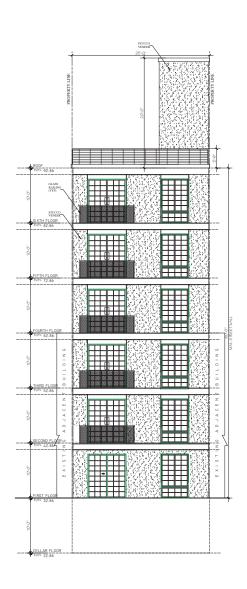
As noted in the Project Description, a six-story mixed-use building will be constructed on Projected Development Site 1 with or without the proposed actions; the only change between the with-action and no-action scenario is the use of the building ground floor. Additionally, four properties are anticipated to convert their existing ground floor community facility use to commercial use. This is not anticipated to significantly change the pedestrian experience along the 53<sup>rd</sup> Street corridor, which is already heavily commercial.

There will be no bulk change or increased ground disturbance in the future with-action condition, and the facades of the with-action and no-action buildings on the Applicant-controlled site are nearly identical (see attached plans). Ground floor commercial use, such as that permitted under the proposed actions, is already common throughout the Rezoning Area. There are no visual resources, open spaces, or natural features in the project area that could be affected by the proposed commercial overlay. The proposed zoning will not change the permitted bulk regulations and the permissible use will be consistent with the surrounding area. There will be no significant adverse effects relating to urban design or visual character.

FRONT & REAR ELEVATION

# NO ACTION BUILDING ELEVATION







#### DESIGN CONSULTANTS



No:	Description:	Date:

Versatile Engineering P.C. 240-02 66TH AVE. DOUGLASTON, NY 11362-1925 Tel.(917) 873-0662 Fax.(718) 247-5943 E mail. versatile.po@gmail.com

245 East 53 Street NY, N.Y 10022

#### Elevations

SEAL & SIGNATURE

DATE:	03.05.16	
PROJECT No:	16-101	
DRAWING BY:	E.A.N.	
CHK BY:	R.S.	
A20	0.00	)
OAD FUEL		



# 17. AIR QUALITY

#### Introduction

Ambient air quality describes pollutant levels in the surrounding environment to which the public has access. To assess potential health hazards due to ambient air quality, the impact of air pollutants emitted by motor vehicles (mobile source) and by fixed facilities (stationary source) are analyzed, where the effects of both the proposed project on ambient air quality and the ambient air quality effect on the proposed project are considered. The analysis frame work, as mandated by the State Environmental Review Act, follows the *New York City Environmental Quality Review 2014 Technical Manual*. Per the *CEQR Technical Manual*, the potential for significant adverse air quality impacts are predicted for the following emission sources:

- Vehicular emission resulting from increased vehicular traffic and/or changes to traffic pattern.
- Vehicular emission associated with off-street parking facilities.
- Vehicular emission generated at an atypical (e.g., not at-grade) roadway.
- Emission from the burning of fossil fuels in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems of the proposed developments.
- Air toxics emission released from industrial or manufacturing facilities.
- Stationary source emission of facilities that require Prevention of Significant Deterioration permits (Title V), and facilities which require a state facility permit.
- Facilities' malodorous emissions to unreasonably interfere with the proposed project's occupant's comfortable enjoyment of life or their property.

## **Project Description**

### The Rezoning Area

The Rezoning Area is located in the Turtle Bay section of Manhattan Community District 6. The Rezoning Area encompasses 27 tax lots on two separate blocks (Block 1327, Lots 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and portions of Lot 5; Block 1326, Lots 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 140, 41 and portions of Lots 1, 7 and 10) between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues.

The proposed zoning map amendment is sought to permit the development of a six-story mixed use development (residential-commercial retail) at Block 1327, Lot 19 ("Projected Development Site 1"). The proposed rezoning would serve to legalize additional non-conforming mixed-use buildings and bring existing uses in the Rezoning Area into greater conformance and compliance with the zoning.

## **Existing Conditions**

The subject block and surrounding area predominantly contain mixed-use (commercial-residential), community facility and entire commercial buildings. The Applicant's property (Block 1327, Lot 19) is an interior lot with 2,510 square feet of lot area. The parcel is being redeveloped as a residential/community facility building, containing 1,591 gross square feet (gsf) of community facility and five residential units.

#### Future No-Action and With-Action Conditions

Per the CEQR Technical Manual, a project's effects on air quality are determined by comparing predictions made for the future no-action and the future with-action conditions. The existing condition does not serve as a baseline for determining if a proposed project would have a significant impact but is typically included in the analysis for informational purposes.

Absent the proposed action, the as-of-right Projected Development Site 1, which is currently under construction, would be developed. The building would contain 12,056 gsf of floor area, of which 1,591 gsf is a community facility space, and would rise to a height of 60 feet. No changes are anticipated to any of the other sites within the directly affected area, including Projected Development Site 2, 3, and 4. No significant changes are anticipated in the surrounding land uses by the project build year of 2020. All other affected properties in the Rezoning Area are anticipated to remain in their existing condition.

The general intent of the proposed zoning map amendment is to legalize longstanding basement and first floor commercial uses within the Rezoning Area, as well as facilitate the proposed commercial use on Projected Development Site 1. As such, no new construction is anticipated as a result of the proposed action. Rather, properties that do not contain commercial uses on the basement and ground floor levels of any of the affected properties along East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street in the Rezoning Area would be anticipated for conversion in the future with the proposed action (Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32; and Block 1327, Lots 11 and 20). Therefore, four additional Projected Development Sites are identified. The Future With-Action Scenario for the Projected Development Sites is summarized below:

<u>Projected Development Site 1 (Block 1327, Lot 19)</u>: Projected Development Site 1, the Applicant owned property, would facilitate a mixed-use, predominantly residential, 6-story building. The building would rise to a height of 60 feet and contain 12,056 gsf of floor area, of which 1,591 gsf are commercial floor area and 10,465 gsf are residential floor area.

<u>Projected Development Site 2 (Block 1327, Lot 11)</u>: Projected Development Site 2 is an existing 6-story community facility building. The property is anticipated to remain in the future with the proposed action. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 4,986 gsf of space.

<u>Projected Development Site 3 (Block 1327, Lot 20)</u>: Projected Development Site 3 is an existing 4-story community facility building. The property is anticipated to remain in the future with the proposed action. However, the ground floor is anticipated for conversion to commercial retail use in 1,558 gsf of space.

<u>Projected Development Site 4 (Block 1326, Lots 31 and 32)</u>: Projected Development Site 4 is an existing 4-story community facility buildings. Lots 31 and 32 are interior adjacent lots. The properties on Lots 31 and 32 are anticipated to remain in the future with the proposed action. However, the ground floors of the buildings on these lots are anticipated to be merged and conversed to commercial retail use in 1,155 gsf of space.

#### Air Pollutants and Applicable Standards and Guidelines

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified six pollutants, known as criteria pollutants which are being of concern nationwide, and established threshold concentration based upon adverse effect on human health. As required by the Clean Air Act, National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have been established for the criteria pollutants by EPA, and New York State has adopted the NAAQS as the State ambient air quality standards. The NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards, the pollutants for which a detailed analysis was conducted, together with their health-related averaging periods are presented in Table 17-1.

In addition to the NAAQS, the *CEQR Technical Manual* requires that projects subject to CEQR apply a CO and PM<sub>2.5</sub> significant impact criterions (based on concentration increments). These criteria are called *de minimis* and they are more stringent than the NAAQS and the state standards, as the criteria set a maximum increase of pollutant concentration that is below the national standard. If the estimated impacts of a proposed project are less than the *de minimis* criteria, the impacts are not considered to be significant. The *CEQR Technical Manual* PM<sub>2.5</sub> significant impacts for stationary sources are evaluated as follows:

- Predicted 24-hour maximum PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration increase of more than half the difference between the 24-hour background concentration and the 24-hour standard; or
- Predicted annual average  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration increments greater than  $0.3~\mu g/m^3$  at any receptor location for stationary sources.

As mentioned, New York State has adopted the national standard, NAAQS. In addition, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has established guidelines for maximum allowable concentration of "noncriteria pollutants," which are potentially toxic or carcinogenic pollutants. The maximum allowable guidelines set a maximum 1-hour and annual averaging time concentrations and are published in the DAR-1 AGC/SGC Table, where AGC/SGC refers to Annual and Short-term Guideline Concentrations. The most recent DAR-1 guidelines were created on August 10, 2016.

NYSDEC also regulates pollutants that produce discomfort due to odors, where significant discomfort is evaluated on quantity, characteristic or duration.

#### **Background Concentrations**

Background concentrations of  $NO_2$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ —the criteria pollutants for which detailed analyses were conducted—were obtained from the NYSDEC's annual report for 2017 at the nearest monitoring stations. Table 17-1 shows the background concentrations and the NAAQS.

Table 17-1: National And New York States Ambient Air Quality

Pollutant	NAAQS Averaging Period	National and State Standards	Background Concentration	Monitoring Station	
$NO_2$	Average of 98th percentile for last 3 years	188 μg/m³	117.3 μg/m <sup>3</sup>	IS 52	
1102	Annual arithmetic mean	100 μg/m³	$35.03 \ \mu g/m^3$	13 32	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	24-Hour average of 98th percentile of last 3 years	35 μg/m³	$20.9 \ \mu g/m^3$	PS 19	
I 1V12.5	Average of last 3 years annual means	12 μg/m <sup>3</sup>	$9.7 \ \mu g/m^{3}$	1319	

The *de minimis* criteria for PM<sub>2.5</sub> was evaluated as described in the NYC Guidelines. The concentration increments are presented below:

- 24-hour  $PM_{2.5}$  7.05 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Annual  $PM_{2.5} 0.3 \mu g/m^3$

## NO2 NAAQS

Nitrogen oxide ( $NO_x$ ) emissions from gas combustion consist predominantly of nitric oxide (NO) at the source. The  $NO_x$  in these emissions are then gradually converted to  $NO_2$ , which is the pollutant of concern, in the atmosphere (in the presence of ozone and sunlight as these emissions travel downwind of a source).

The 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS standard of 0.100 ppm (188 ug/m³) is the 3-year average of the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile of daily maximum 1-hour average concentrations in a year. For determining compliance with this standard, the EPA has developed a modeling approach for estimating 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations that is comprised of 3 tiers: Tier 1, the most conservative approach, assumes a full (100%) conversion of NO<sub>x</sub> to NO<sub>2</sub>; Tier 2 applies a conservative ambient NOx/NO<sub>2</sub> ratio of 80% to the NO<sub>x</sub> estimated concentrations; and Tier 3, which is the most precise approach, employs AERMOD's PVMRM module. The PVMRM accounts for the chemical transformation of NO emitted from the stack to NO<sub>2</sub> within the source plume using hourly ozone background concentrations. When Tier 3 is utilized, AERMOD generates 8<sup>th</sup> highest daily maximum 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations or total 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations if hourly NO<sub>2</sub> background concentrations are added within the model.

Per the CEQR Technical Manual, a Tier 1 approach is initially applied, followed by a Tier 2 application of NOx/NO<sub>2</sub> ratio of 80% to the NOx modeled concentration to determine whether violation of the NAAQS is likely to occur. A less conservative Tier 3 approach is then applied if exceedances of the 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS were estimated.

#### **Mobile Source**

Projects may result in significant mobile source impacts when they create mobile sources of pollutants, change traffic pattern, or add new uses near mobile sources of pollutants. Per CEQR guidelines, a detailed analysis is conducted to predict whether the Proposed Actions could potentially result in significant adverse air quality impacts if certain threshold criterions are exceeded, while proposed projects that do not exceed the threshold criterions (screen out) are not expected to result in mobile source impacts. Projects that require a detailed analysis, model the ambient air CO and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations—the mobile source pollutants of concern—and compare the modeled concentrations with the applicable air quality standard.

Based on CEQR guidelines, if the vehicular trip generation associated with the Proposed Actions do not meet or exceed the threshold criterion cited in the CEQR Technical Manual Table 16-1, Minimum Development Densities Potentially Requiring Transportation Analysis, no significant adverse air quality associated with mobile sources are expected. As the proposed project do not exceed any of the development thresholds cited in the CEQR Technical Manual Table 16-1, mobile source assessment is not required, and no significant adverse air quality impacts are expected as a result of the Proposed Actions. In addition, the project is not located near an existing mobile source, such as within 200 feet of an atypical roadway. Therefore, no analysis was required.

#### **Project HVAC Systems Analysis**

#### Introduction

Per the CEQR Technical Manual, the HVAC analysis considers the potential for emissions from the

HVAC system of the proposed project to significantly impact existing land uses (project-on-existing), and the potential of the proposed project to significantly impact each other (project-on-project).

As outlined in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, the analysis of buildings' HVAC systems follows stationary sources methodology, and based on CEQR guidelines, a preliminary screening analysis is to be conducted as a first step to predict whether the potential impacts of the heat and hot water system boiler emissions can be significant. This CEQR screening procedure is applicable to buildings that are not less than 30 feet from the nearest building of similar or greater height. Otherwise, a detailed dispersion analysis is required.

As previously mentioned, the Proposed Actions comprises of four developments. However, Projected Development Sites 2, 3, and 4 are existing buildings. No new construction is anticipated for these Projected Development Sites as a result of the proposed action. Rather, the community facility spaces of these buildings are anticipated for conversion to commercial retail spaces in the future with the proposed action. Therefore, these buildings are treated as existing buildings for the purpose of the HVAC analysis, where the applicable rule for existing buildings, for the purpose of the air quality analysis, is the New York City Construction Code. The New York City Mechanical Code regulates HVAC systems burning fuels other than fuel gas. The New York City Fuel Gas Code regulates gas fired appliances. As such, no analysis was required.

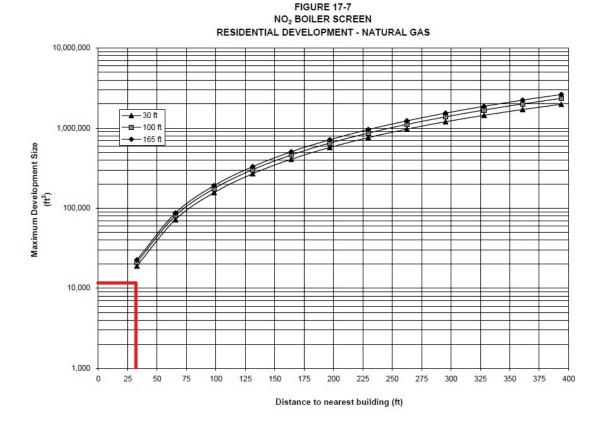
The Projected Development Site 1 would facilitate a 6-story, 60 feet tall building (plus 9-foot stair bulkhead), containing 12,056 gsf of floor area. Natural gas would be the type of fuel used in the HVAC equipment of the Projected Development Site 1 building.

#### Screening Analysis

As outlined in the CEQR Technical Manual, the potential for stationary source emissions from heat and hot water systems to have a significant adverse impact on nearby receptors depends on the type of fuel that would be used, the height of the stack venting the emissions, the distance to the nearest building, the building residential or non-residential use, and the square footage of the development that would be served by the system. The CEQR Technical Manual provides a screening analysis based on these factors, which was utilized to determine the potential for significant impacts from the proposed buildings' HVAC systems.

Per the CEQR Technical Manual, the total square footage of the Projected Development Site 1 was used in the analysis and the CEQR nomograph depicted on Figure 17-7 of the CEQR Technical Manual Appendix for a 30-foot stack height was applied (as the 30 feet curve height is closest to but not higher than the proposed stack height, as the CEQR screening procedure requires). This nomograph depicts the size of the development versus distance below which the potential impact can occur and provides a conservative estimate of the threshold distance. Figure 17-1 depicts the screening analysis of the Projected Development Site 1 on existing land uses.

Figure 17-1: The Projected Development Site 1 - HVAC Screen Natural Gas Nomograph



The screening analysis nomograph shows that a detailed analysis would be required for any existing land uses that is 60 feet or higher and at a distance of less than 30 feet from the Projected Development Site 1.

The only building of similar or greater height within 30 feet of Projected Development Site 1 is the 6-story residential building located at 239 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (Block 1327, Lot 17). This residential building is 16.67 feet west of the Projected Development Site (the lot frontage of Block 1327, Lot 18), and the building rises to a height of 70.79 feet<sup>3</sup>. Therefore, the screening analysis fails, and a detailed analysis was conducted.

#### Detailed AERMOD Analysis

### Methodology

AERMOD dispersion analysis was run to determine whether exhaust from the Projected Development Site 1's HVAC system might have a significant adverse impact on the residential building at 239 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (Block 1327, Lot 17). In accordance with CEQR guidance, this analysis was conducted assuming stack tip downwash, the default urban dispersion surface roughness length of 1.0-meter, elimination of calms, population of 2,000,000. Building Profile Input Program (BPIP) was run with the downwash effect enabled and flat terrain was specified.

 $<sup>^3\</sup> https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Housing-Development/Building-Footprints/nqwf-w8eh$ 

The development would be heated by natural gas. Per the CEQR Technical Manual, the pollutants of concern for natural gas fueled boilers are NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The boiler heat capacity was calculated from the annual fuel usage, the development gross floor area, and the assumption that the fuel use would resemble that of a residential building. Pertinent values were obtained from the CEQR Technical Manual Appendix for residential buildings, and the assumption that all fuel would be consumed during the 100-day (or 2,400 hour) heating season. Table 17-2 shows the short-term and annual emission rates of the HVAC system of the development.

Table 17-2: Projected Development Site 1 Short-term and Annual Emission Rates

Fuel Type / CEQR Fuel Factor	Fuel Annual Consumption	Pollutant	AP-42 Emission Factor	Short term Emission Rate (lb/hr)	Annual Emission Rate (lb/yr)
Natural Gas/	712,510 (ft <sup>3</sup> /yr)	$NO_2$	$100  (lb/10^6  ft^3)$	0.030	71
59.1 (ft <sup>3</sup> /ft <sup>2</sup> -yr)	, ( , , , ,	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	7.6 (lb/10 <sup>6</sup> ft <sup>3</sup> )	0.002	5

The diameter of the stack was estimated based on values obtained from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) "CA Permit" database for the corresponding boiler size (i.e., rated heat input or million Btu per hour). The stack exit temperature was assumed to be 300°F (423°K), which is appropriate for boilers. The HVAC stack of the building was located 3 feet above the 69 feet high stair bulkhead of the building and 10 feet from the edge of the roof closest to the receiving building. The stack exit velocity was calculated according to the EPA Method 19 and adjusted to exit temperature of 423 K.

Receptors on the 6-story residential building, located at 239 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (Block 1327, Lot 17), were placed at a height of 6 feet above grade and every 11 feet rise in elevation from 11-66 feet above grade. The 6 feet high receptors represent a person at grade elevation; the 11-66 feet high receptors are the 2<sup>nd</sup> to top floor levels windows. Receptors at each level were placed all around the receiving building envelope in 10-foot increments.

All analyses were conducted using the latest five consecutive years of meteorological data (2013-2017). Surface data was obtained from La Guardia Airport and upper air data was obtained from Brookhaven station, New York. These meteorological data provide hour-by-hour wind speeds and directions, stability states, and temperature inversion elevations over the 5-year period. Meteorological data were combined to develop a 5-year set of meteorological conditions, which was used for the AERMOD modeling runs and Anemometer height of 9.4 meters was specified per Lakes Environmental Software Inc.

In addition, and per the NYC Department of City Planning guidance, the buildings at 250 E 54 Street (Block 1327 Lot 7502), which is 423 feet high, was included in the BPIP run as it imposes building downwash effect on the stack on Projected Development Site 1.

#### Results of the Dispersion Analysis

As outlined in the Methodology section, the predicted concentrations are the highest concentrations of the building wake effect options. The results are compared with the 24-hour/annual  $PM_{2.5}$  de minimis, and the 1-hour/annual  $NO_2$  NAAQS. Results of the HVAC dispersion analysis are shown in Table 17-4.

Table 17-4: Detailed HVAC Analysis Results

			1-hr NO <sub>2</sub>		Annual NO <sub>2</sub>	
Source Building	24-hr PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Modeled Conc.	With Background Conc.	Modeled Conc.	With Background Conc.
	μg/m³	μg/m³	μg/m³	μg/m³	μg/m³	μg/m³
Projected	0.79	0.03	21.9	139	0.43	35.5
Development Site 1						
Threshold	7.05	0.3		188		100

As seen in Table 17-4, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are less than the NYC Guidelines, and the NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are less than the NAAQS. Therefore, the emission of the of the Projected Development Site 1 HVAC equipment would not significantly impact any existing or planned land uses with E-Designation in place.

## (E) Designation Language (E-511)

Projected Development Site 1 (Block 1327, Lot 19): Any new development or enlargement on the above-referenced property must ensure that the HVAC stack is located at the highest tier or at least 72 feet above the grade to avoid any potential significant adverse air quality impacts.

## Stationary Source - Industrial and Major Sources

There are no manufacturing facilities, such as auto body repair shops and woodworking facilities, within 400 feet of the Projected Development Site 1 (the other projected Development Site are existing buildings for the purpose of the air quality analysis). There are no Title V facilities, nor facilities which require a State facility permits, within 1,000 feet of the Projected Development Site 1. As such, no analysis was required, and no potential for significant adverse air quality impacts are expected from these types of sources.

#### Conclusion

Conditions associated with the project development would not result in any violations of the ambient air quality standards (with an E-Designation, E-511, on the Projected Development Site 1). Therefore, the action would not result in any potentially significant adverse stationary or mobile source air quality impacts, and further assessment is not warranted.

# 22. CONSTRUCTION

Construction impacts, although temporary, can sometimes result in significant adverse impacts. Determination of significance is generally based on the duration and magnitude of the effects. Construction impacts are generally important when construction activity would affect traffic conditions, archaeological resources, the integrity of historic resources, community noise patterns, or air quality conditions.

Construction impact assessments are not necessarily required for all actions that would involve or induce construction, and different assessments may be appropriate for different projects. The *CEQR Technical Manual* provides criteria for determining whether construction impact analyses are required.

A construction transportation analysis is generally required if construction would (1) occur within a central business district or along an arterial or major roadway, (2) impede movement along a roadway or sidewalk, or (3) occur simultaneously at multiple sites within the same geographic area. Construction-related impediments to traffic and/or pedestrians due to construction would be temporary in nature and would be in accordance with all applicable NYC regulations.

According to the CEQR Technical Manual, construction air quality and noise analyses are generally not required if a transportation analysis is not needed.

A hazardous materials analysis is generally required if new construction would occur at a site with soil or groundwater contamination. The proposed actions are not anticipated to result in any new construction or new soil disturbance.

A natural resources analysis is required if construction would occur on or near a site containing natural resources. The proposed rezoning area does not satisfy this criterion.

Open space, socioeconomic conditions, community facilities, land use and public policy, neighborhood character, and infrastructure analyses are needed only if construction activities would be long-term (lasting more than two years) or if construction would directly affect a technical area, such as by impeding access to a community facility. Neither is true in the case of the proposed action.

A cultural and historic resources analysis is required if in-ground disturbances or vibrations associated with project construction could undermine the foundation or structural integrity of nearby structures of cultural or historic significance. The Landmarks Preservation Commission submitted a letter (appended to this document) stating there will be no significant adverse impacts relating to historic or cultural resources in the study area.

It is therefore not anticipated that the proposed project would result in any significant adverse construction impacts.

# AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE



# **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

# Final Sign-Off (Multiple Sites)

Project number: DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING / LA-CEQR-M

**Project:** 245 EAST 53 STREET

Date received: 3/6/2018

#### Properties with no Architectural or Archaeological significance:

1) ADDRESS: 225 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270011

- 2) ADDRESS: 231 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270014
- 3) ADDRESS: 235 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270015
- 4) ADDRESS: 237 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270016
- 5) ADDRESS: 239 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270017
- 6) ADDRESS: 243 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270018
- 7) ADDRESS: East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270019
- 8) ADDRESS: 247 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013270020
- 9) ADDRESS: 249 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260029
- 10) ADDRESS: 244 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260030
- 11) ADDRESS: 242 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260031
- 12) ADDRESS: 240 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260032
- 13) ADDRESS: 236 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260033
- 14) ADDRESS: 234 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260034
- 15) ADDRESS: 232 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260035
- 16) ADDRESS: 230 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260036
- 17) ADDRESS: 226 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260037
- 18) ADDRESS: 224 East 53 Street, BBL: 101326003819) ADDRESS: 222 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260039
- 20) ADDRESS: 220 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260040
- 21) ADDRESS: 216 East 53 Street, BBL: 1013260041
- 22) ADDRESS: 875 3 Avenue, BBL: 1013260001
- 23) ADDRESS: 213 East 52 Street, BBL: 1013260007
- 24) ADDRESS: 223 East 52 Street, BBL: 1013260010

#### **Properties with Architectural significance:**

In the radius: Rockefeller guest house, 242 E. 52 St., and 312 E. 53 St. house, both LPC designated and S/NR eligible.

Gina Santucci

3/19/2018

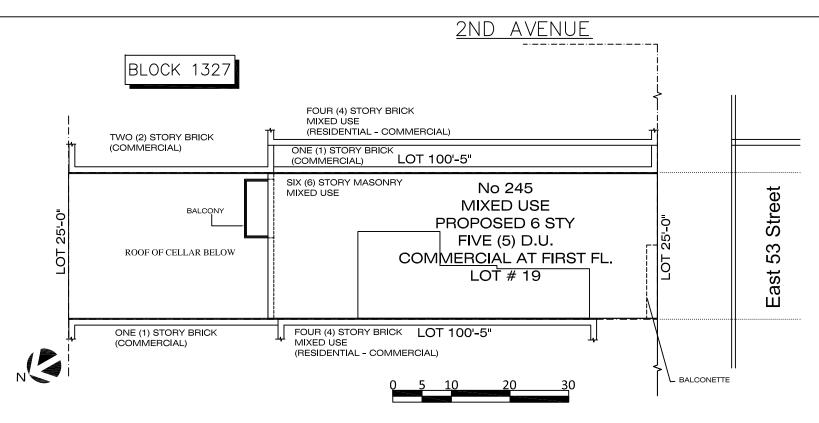
DATE

SIGNATURE

Gina Santucci, Environmental Review Coordinator

File Name: 33164\_FSO\_GS\_03142018.doc

# ILLUSTRATIVE PLANS (APPLICANT SITE, PROJECTED DEVELOPMENT SITE 1)

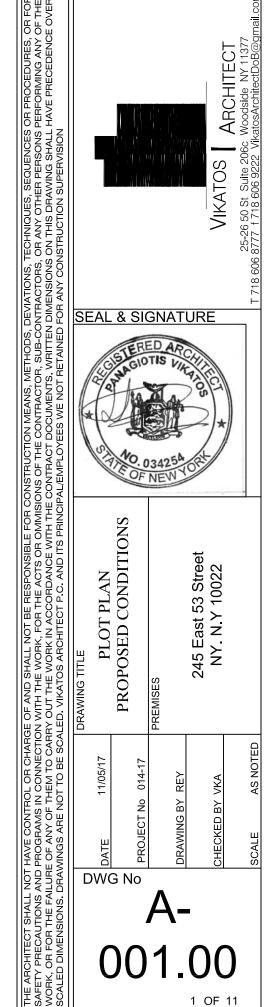


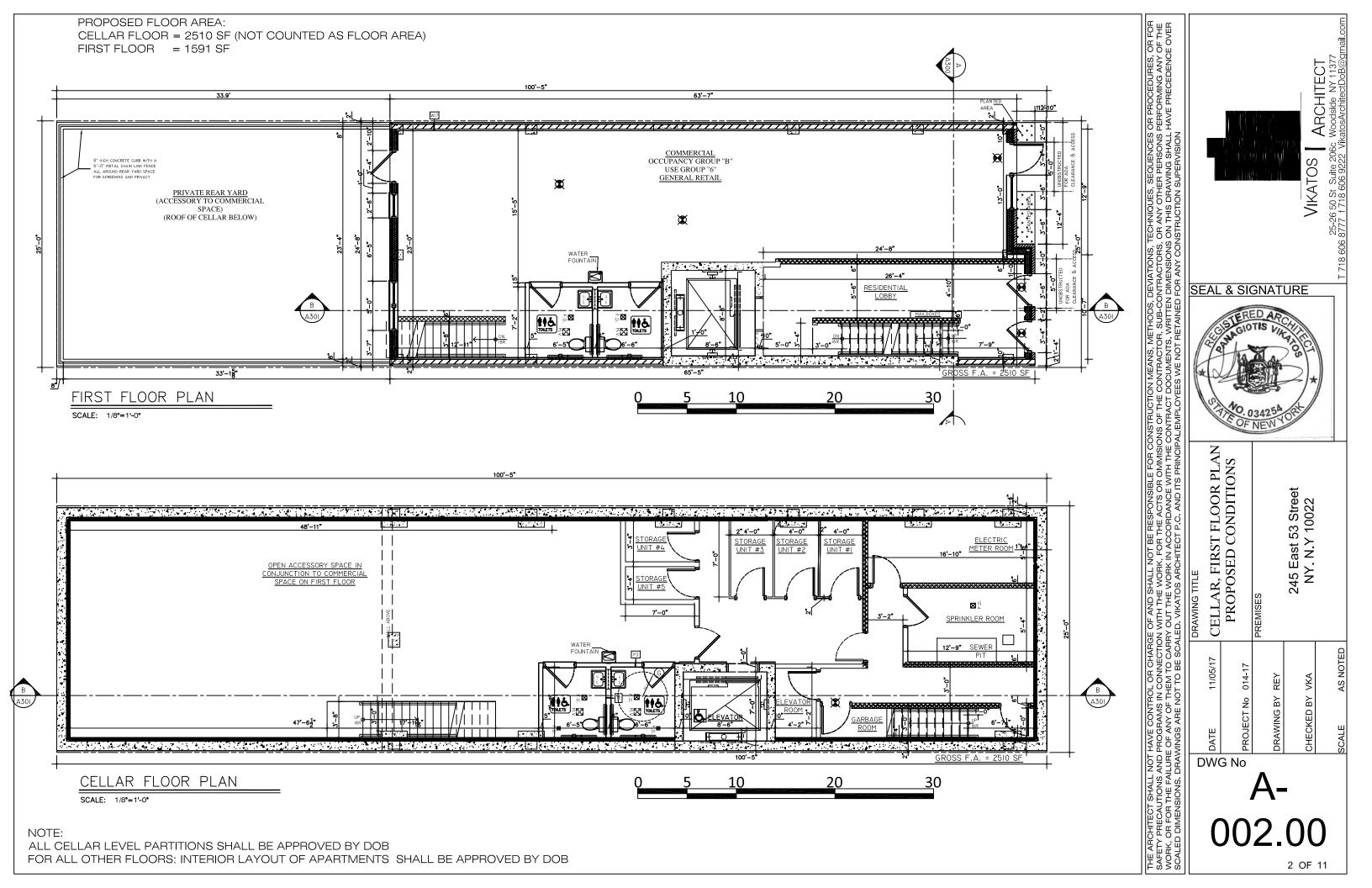
PLOT PLAN

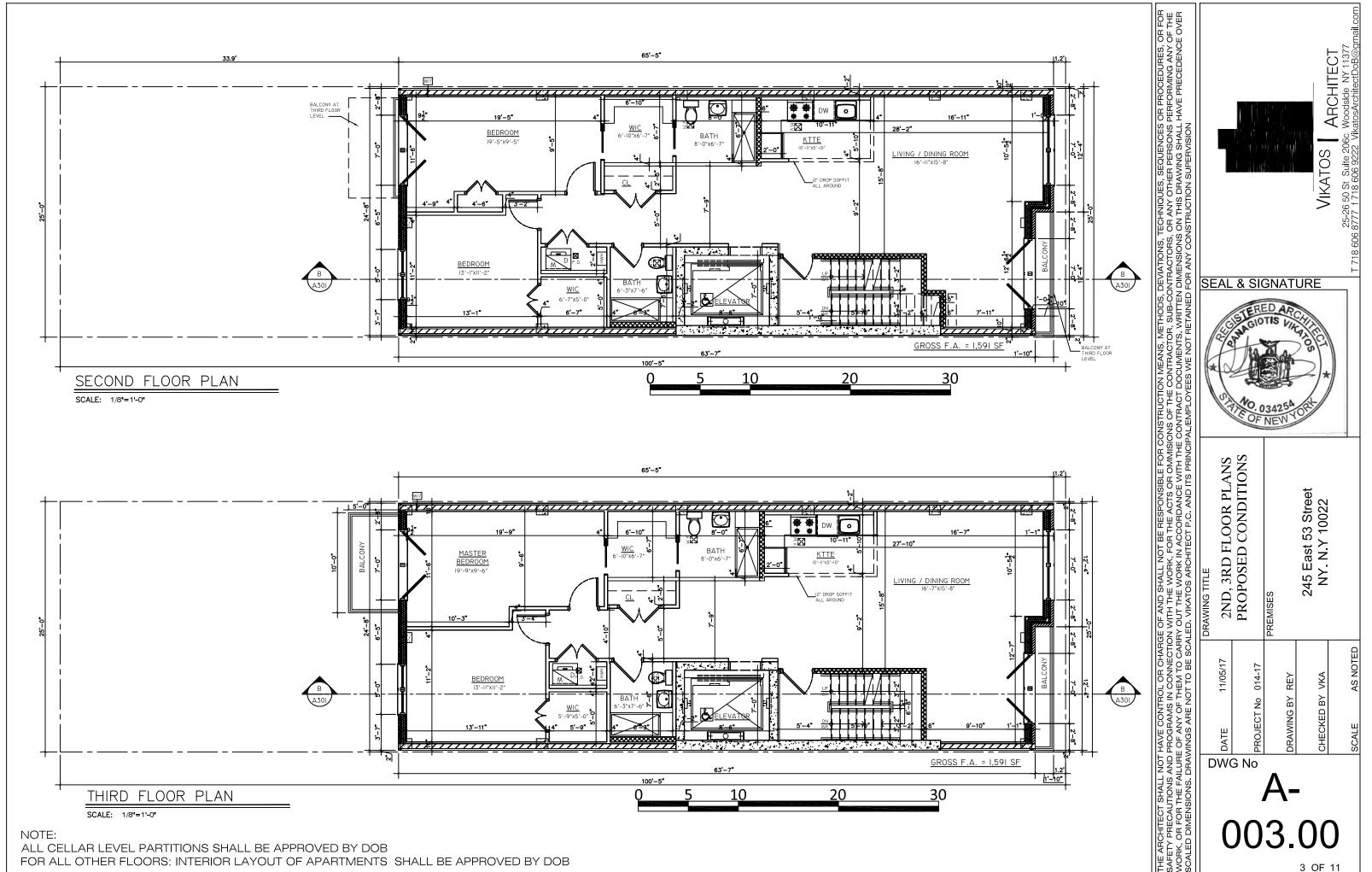
SCALE: 1/16"=1'-0"

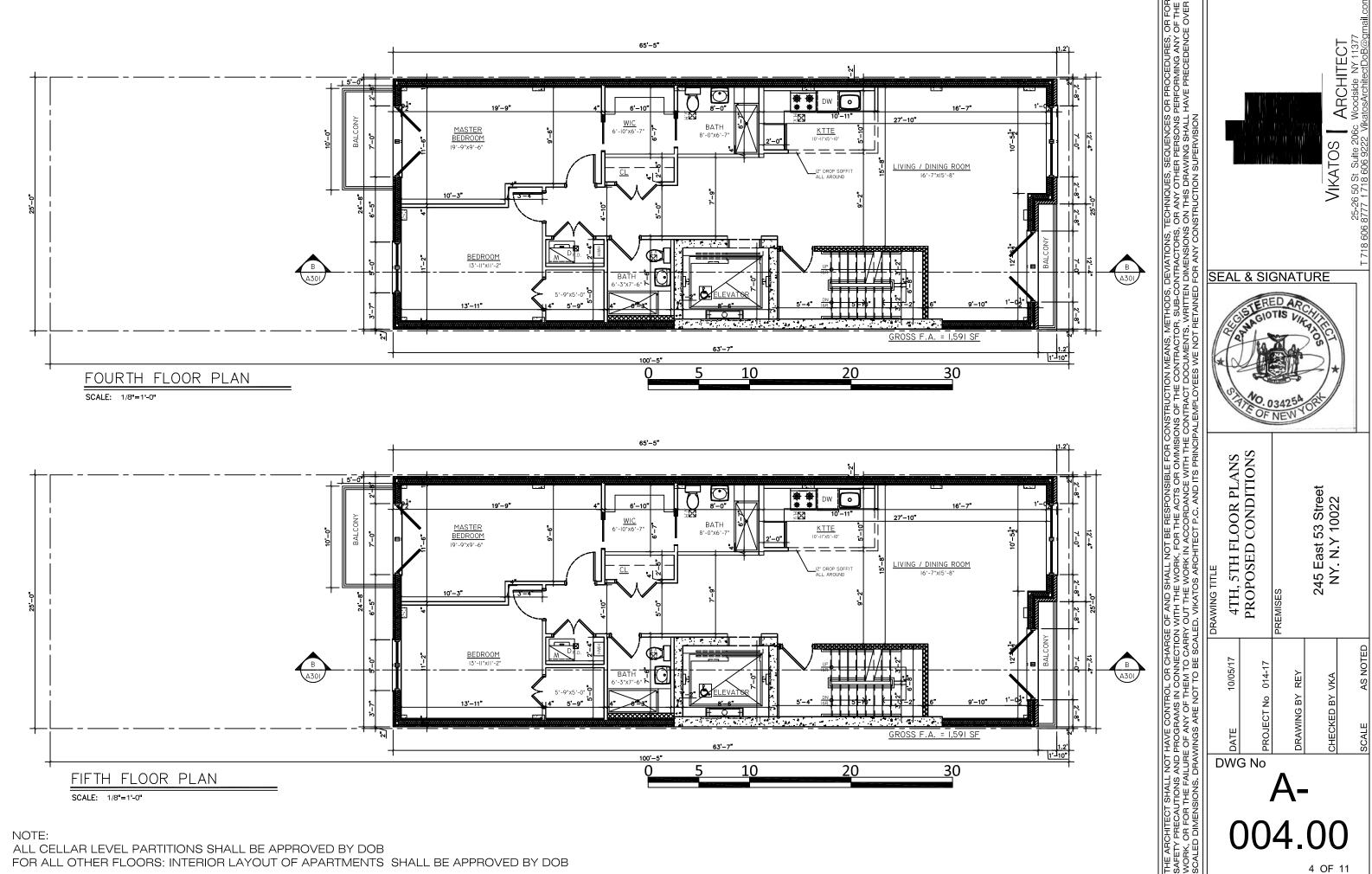
A. LOCAT	ION: 2	245 EAST 53 STREET N.Y., N.Y.	. 10022		
BLOCK:	1327	7			
LOT:	19				
ZONING N					
ZONING E					
LOT AREA	A: 25'-0	"x100'-5"= 2,510 SF			
ZONING	RESOLUTION	ZONING REQUIREMENTS		PROPOSED	COMPLIANCE
ZR -	MAX FAR FOR PERMITTED USES	4.0 2,510 × 4 = 10,040		3.33 (RES) 0.63(COM)	COMPLIES
ZR 24-35	MIN REQUIRED SIDE YARDS	0'-0"		0'-0"	COMPLIES
ZR 24-36	MIN REQUIRED REAR YARD	30'-0"		30'-0"	COMPLIES
ZR	BASE HEIGHT (MIN./MAX) & REQUIRED SETBACKS	55 FT - 60 FT 15'-0" SETBACK		60'-0" 36'-11" SETBACK	COMPLIES
ZR 44-21	PARKING REQUIREMENTS	REQUIRED PARKING MIN. 50% OF DWELLING UNITS NO PARKING REQUIRED	NONE	NONE	COMPLIES

FLOOR AREA SCHEDULE FLOOR AREA ALLOWED = 9,546.0 SF					
FLOOR	GROSS	NET(ZONING)			
CELLAR 1 2 3 4 5	2,510.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF	.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF 1,591.0 SF			
TOTAL	12,056 SF	9,546.0 SF			

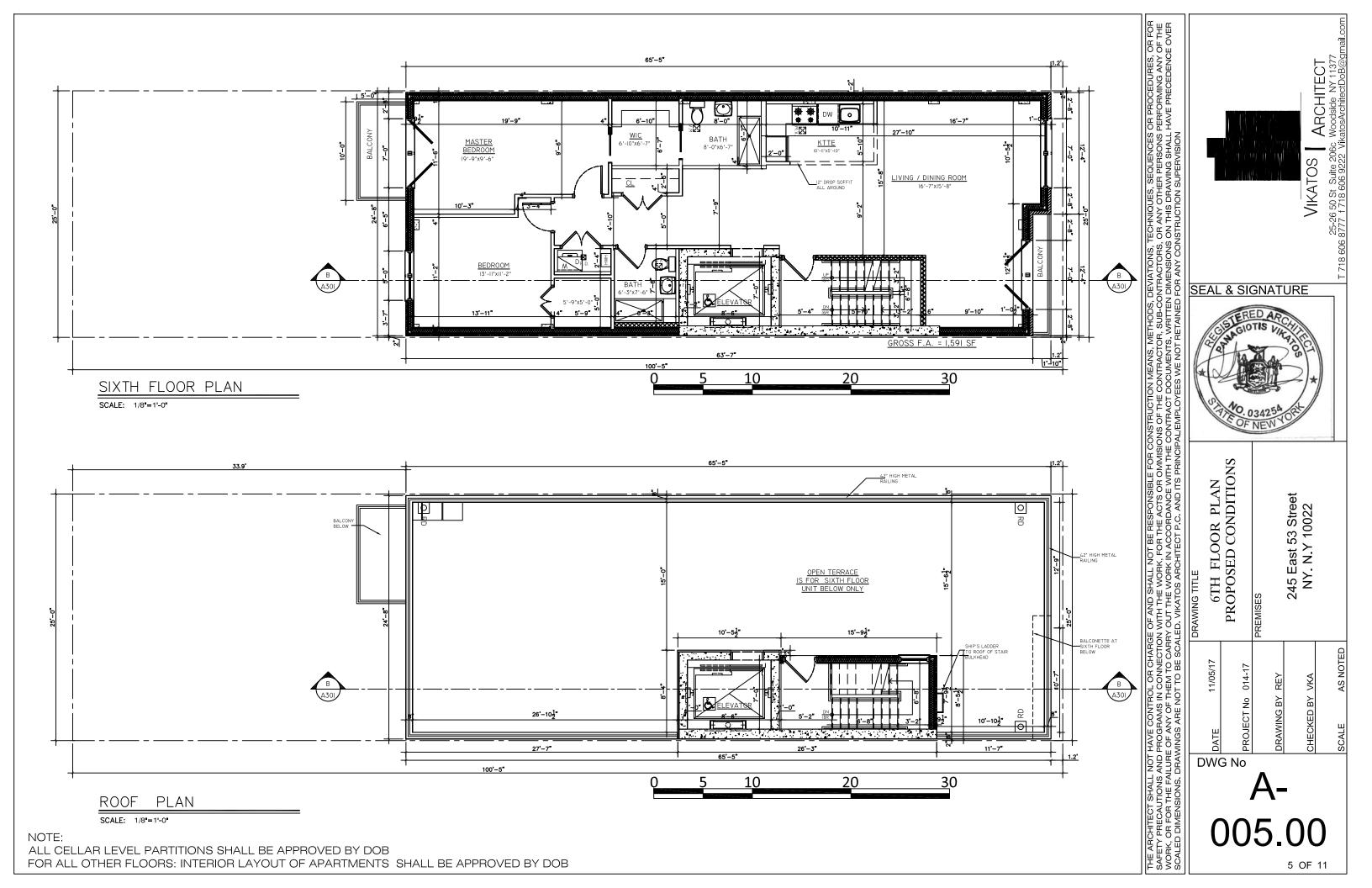


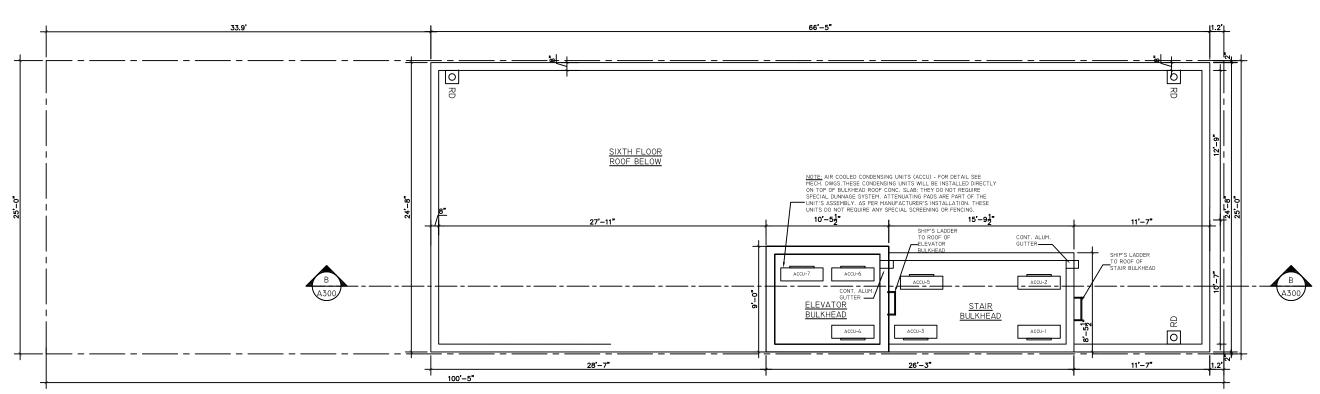






ALL CELLAR LEVEL PARTITIONS SHALL BE APPROVED BY DOB FOR ALL OTHER FLOORS: INTERIOR LAYOUT OF APARTMENTS SHALL BE APPROVED BY DOB





THE ARCHITECT SHALL NOT HAVE CONTROL OR CHARGE OF AND SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSTRUCTION MEANS, METHODS, DEVIATIONS, TECHNIQUES, SEQUENCES OR PROCEDURES, OR FOR SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND PROGRAMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WORK, FOR THE ACTS OR OMMISIONS OF THE CONTRACTOR, SUB-CONTRACTORS, OR ANY OTHER PERSONS PERFORMING ANY OF THE WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. WRITTEN DIMENSIONS ON THIS DRAWING SHALL HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER SCALED DIMENSIONS. DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE SCALED. VIKATOS ARCHITECT P.C. AND ITS PRINCIPAL/EMPLOYEES WE NOT RETAINED FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION VIKATOS | ARCHITECT 25-26 50 St Suite 206c Woodside NY 11377 1718 606 8777 1718 606 9222 VikatosArchitectDob@g **SEAL & SIGNATURE** ROOF BULKHEAD PLAN PROPOSED CONDITIONS DRAWING TITLE 014-17 DWG No **A-**006.00

6 OF 11

ROOF BULKHEAD PLAN SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



