# Appendix 2 – Agency Correspondence

# **ARCHAEOLOGY**

Project number: DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING / 13DCP011M

Project: EAST MIDTOWN REZONING

**Date received:** 8/23/2012

This document only contains Archaeological review findings. If your request also requires Architecture review, the findings from that review will come in a separate document.

# Properties with no Archaeological significance:

- 1) ADDRESS: 266 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1008690016
- 2) ADDRESS: 274 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1008690058
- 3) ADDRESS: 278 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1008690061
- 4) ADDRESS: 16 EAST 40 STREET, BBL: 1008690064
- 5) ADDRESS: 33 EAST 42 STREET, BBL: 1012770020
- 6) ADDRESS: 48 EAST 43 STREET, BBL: 1012770046
- 7) ADDRESS: 327 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012770052
- 8) ADDRESS: 51 EAST 42 STREET, BBL: 1012770027
- 9) ADDRESS: 333 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012780020
- 10) ADDRESS: 3 EAST 43 STREET, BBL: 1012780008
- 11) ADDRESS: 334 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012780014
- 12) ADDRESS: 336 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012780015
- 13) ADDRESS: 340 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012780017
- 14) ADDRESS: 14 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012780062
- 15) ADDRESS: 12 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012780063
- 16) ADDRESS: 10 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012780064
- 17) ADDRESS: 6 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012780065
- 18) ADDRESS: 7 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012790009
- 19) ADDRESS: 346 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012790017
- 20) ADDRESS: 352 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012790057
- 21) ADDRESS: 10 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1012790063
- 22) ADDRESS: 6 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1012790065
- 23) ADDRESS: 343 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012790023
- 24) ADDRESS: 341 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012790024
- 25) ADDRESS: 47 EAST 44 STREET, BBL: 1012790025
- 26) ADDRESS: 347 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012790048
- 27) ADDRESS: 50 VANDERBILT AVENUE, BBL: 1012790028
- 28) ADDRESS: 52 VANDERBILT AVENUE, BBL: 1012790045
- 29) ADDRESS: 361 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012810021
- 30) ADDRESS: 9 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1012810009
- 31) ADDRESS: 366 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012810056
- 32) ADDRESS: 18 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1012810059
- 33) ADDRESS: 360 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012817501
- 34) ADDRESS: 250 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1012820034
- 35) ADDRESS: 378 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012820017
- 36) ADDRESS: 10 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012820064
- 37) ADDRESS: 300 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1012850036
- 38) ADDRESS: 111 EAST 48 STREET, BBL: 1013030014
- 39) ADDRESS: 523 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013030053

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40)
      ADDRESS: 541 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013040020
41)
     ADDRESS: 143 EAST 49 STREET, BBL: 1013040025
42)
     ADDRESS: 145 EAST 49 STREET, BBL: 1013040026
      ADDRESS: 151 EAST 49 STREET, BBL: 1013040028
43)
44)
     ADDRESS: 138 EAST 50 STREET, BBL: 1013040045
45)
      ADDRESS: 154 EAST 50 STREET, BBL: 1013040041
46)
     ADDRESS: 425 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1013100001
     ADDRESS: 205 EAST 42 STREET, BBL: 1013160005
47)
      ADDRESS: 219 EAST 42 STREET, BBL: 1013160012
48)
49)
      ADDRESS: 23 EAST 39 STREET, BBL: 1008690025
50)
      ADDRESS: 25 EAST 39 STREET, BBL: 1008690026
51)
      ADDRESS: 27 EAST 39 STREET, BBL: 1008690027
     ADDRESS: 12 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1012810062
52)
      ADDRESS: 10 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1012810064
53)
54)
      ADDRESS: 6 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1012810065
55)
      ADDRESS: 7 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830008
      ADDRESS: 9 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830009
56)
      ADDRESS: 11 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830010
57)
58)
      ADDRESS: 13 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830011
59)
     ADDRESS: 15 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830012
60)
      ADDRESS: 17 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1012830013
61)
      ADDRESS: 158 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1013000042
62)
      ADDRESS: 154 EAST 46 STREET, BBL: 1013000044
63)
      ADDRESS: 730 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013000033
64)
      ADDRESS: 485 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013010023
65)
      ADDRESS: 750 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013010033
      ADDRESS: 131 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020025
66)
67)
      ADDRESS: 137 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020027
      ADDRESS: 139 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020127
68)
69)
      ADDRESS: 141 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020028
70)
      ADDRESS: 143 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020029
71)
      ADDRESS: 127 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020123
72)
      ADDRESS: 509 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013020051
      ADDRESS: 501 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013020021
73)
74)
      ADDRESS: 123 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020022
75)
      ADDRESS: 125 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020023
76)
      ADDRESS: 129 EAST 47 STREET, BBL: 1013020024
77)
      ADDRESS: 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1013060023
78)
      ADDRESS: 850 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013060033
      ADDRESS: 213 EAST 43 STREET, BBL: 1013170009
79)
80)
      ADDRESS: 217 EAST 43 STREET, BBL: 1013170011
81)
      ADDRESS: 685 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013170001
82)
      ADDRESS: 214 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1013180043
83)
      ADDRESS: 711 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013180001
84)
      ADDRESS: 210 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1013180044
85)
      ADDRESS: 212 EAST 45 STREET, BBL: 1013180143
      ADDRESS: 733 3 AVENUE, BBL: 1013190047
86)
87)
      ADDRESS: 279 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012750023
88)
      ADDRESS: 571 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012920052
89)
      ADDRESS: 99 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1008950001
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ADDRESS: 7 EAST 40 STREET, BBL: 1012750008

ADDRESS: 13 EAST 40 STREET, BBL: 1012750011

ADDRESS: 15 EAST 40 STREET, BBL: 1012750012

90)

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92)

93) ADDRESS: 284 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012750014 94) ADDRESS: 290 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012750016 95) ADDRESS: 292 MADISON AVENUE, BBL: 1012750059 ADDRESS: 22 EAST 41 STREET, BBL: 1012750060 96) 97) ADDRESS: 18 EAST 41 STREET, BBL: 1012750061 98) ADDRESS: 16 EAST 41 STREET, BBL: 1012750063 99) ADDRESS: 10 EAST 41 STREET, BBL: 1012750064 100) ADDRESS: 350 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1012870033 ADDRESS: 410 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1012900037 101) ADDRESS: 400 PARK AVENUE, BBL: 1012900036 102) 103) ADDRESS: 65 EAST 54 STREET, BBL: 1012900031 ADDRESS: 354 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1012950017 104) ADDRESS: 364 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BBL: 1012950058 105) ADDRESS: 100 EAST 42 STREET, BBL: 1012960001 106)

#### Comments:

Arrente Sitph

SIGNATURE DATE

Amanda Sutphin, Director of Archaeology

File Name: 28079\_FSO\_DNP\_09072012.doc

DIANE MCCARTHY From:

"nrasheed@dot.nyc.gov"; "Haase, David"

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; MEHDI AMJADI; GLEN PRICE; SAMUEL HORNICK; JAKE RUBINSKY; "sahmed2@dot.nyc.gov"; "Colon, Henry"; Carlin, Chrissie"; FRANK RUCHALA; ADAM WOLFF; DAVID KARNOVSKY; "John E. Kennard (JKennard@mnr.org)"; "Pamela Mitchell

Burford (pburfor@lirr.org)"

Subject: RE: East Midtown - mode split adjustment --> final adjustment plus prelim trip gen

Date: Monday, September 17, 2012 10:46:14 AM Attachments: Draft TPA and Trip Gen 091312.pdf

In response to additional feedback from NYCDOT, the office use Build Year mode split for auto, taxi, and walk shares have been adjusted as shown in the table below. The various transit shares remain unchanged from what was previous agreed upon with NYCT (see original email message below).

#### Build Year (2033) - Revised and Acceptable to DCP, DOT, and NYC Transit Per Naim

Auto	Bus	Subway	Railroad	Ferry	Taxi	Bike	Walk	Other	Total
6.0%	14.6%	47.9%	19.0%	0.2%	3.0%	0.6%	8.4%	0.3%	100.0%

Based on the above mode split, initial Build Year values for total person and vehicle trips for each peak hour have been calculated (see attached).

Preliminary network figures illustrating assignments for the primary modes are being generated and will be forwarded to the respective agencies once they have been and checked by DCP. The first of these – for vehicle assignments – have been provided to NYCDOT as of Sept 14.

#### Diane M

From: DIANE MCCARTHY

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 4:11 PM To: 'nrasheed@dot.nyc.gov'; 'Haase, David'

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUŠKIŇ; MEHDI AMJADI; GLEN PRICE; SAMUEL HORNICK; JAKE RUBINSKY; 'sahmed2@dot.nyc.gov';

'Colon, Henry'; 'Carlin, Chrissie'; FRANK RUCHALA; ADAM WOLFF; DAVID KARNOVSKY

Subject: East Midtown - mode split adjustment --> final

Naim and David,

After consulting with each of your respective agencies in the last several weeks, agreement has been reached on a final adjustment to the transportation mode splits that would utilized for the East Midtown Rezoning EIS as follows:

# Base Year (2010/2012)

Auto	Bus	Subway	Railroad	Ferry	Taxi	Bike	Walk	Other	Total
8.0%	15.2%	51.9%	14.5%	0.2%	2.2%	0.4%	7.4%	0.3%	100.0%

# Build Year (2033) - Revised and Acceptable to DCP, DOT, and NYC Transit

Auto	Bus	Subway	Railroad	Ferry	Taxi	Bike	Walk	Other	Total
5.0%	14.6%	47.9%	19.0%	0.2%	5.2%	0.6%	7.3%	0.3%	100.0%

In summary for the Base Year (2010/2012) mode split adjustment:

- Although available by county, the reverse journey-to-work (RJTW) data by census tract for 2010 would not be available in sufficient time for the use in the East Midtown Rezoning EIS.
- The 2010 county numbers and other sources such as the 2006-2010 American Community Survey data, support the contention that there has been a reduction since 2000 in workers using auto and an increase in workers using public transportation.
- Therefore, an adjustment was derived by:
  - o A comparison of 2000 and 2010 Census RJTW to adjust mode splits (24-hour) based on county-based values.

- Utilizing the 24-hour modal split data and applied a shift in modal split from auto to subway for the
  census tracts applicable to the East Midtown project, calculated the ratio of the 24-hour auto modal
  splits and applied this same ratio to the peak period modal split data, and then conducted normalization
  for number of workers.
- Adjustments for Egress Mode (i.e, LIRR-to-Subway, Port Authority Bus-to-Subway); based on on-board surveys of LIRR, MNRR and New Jersey Transit riders. Assume 2/3 of ferry riders transfer to subway to reach East Midtown (i.e, SI Ferry to 4/5 via Bowling Green)

## And for the Build Year (2033):

- Adjustment given the anticipated completion of the East Side Access project based on 1999 East Side Access
   EIS, with adjustments to account for less robust service plan into LIRR and deeper terminal.
- Additional adjustments assume continued 50% growth in bike shares.
- Adjusted auto and taxi shares based on DCP & DOT professional judgment given the nature and location of the proposed East Midtown rezoning action and the resultant RWCDS being predominantly high-end commercial office space.

Thanks for all your assistance in this endeavor.

Diane M

Diane M. McCarthy, AICP NYCDCP-EARD 212-720-3417 D\_Mccart@planning.nyc.gov



Carter H. Strickland, Jr. Commissioner

Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner
of Sustainability
alicata@dep.nyc.gov

59-17 Junction Boulevard Flushing, NY 11373 T: (718) 595-4398 F: (718) 595-4479 February 6, 2013

Mr. Robert Dobruskin
Director, Environmental Assessment and Review Division
New York City Department of City Planning
22 Reade Street, Room 4E
New York, New York 10007-1216

Re: East Midtown Rezoning and Related Actions

Block 869, Lots 16, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 49, 54, 58, 61, 64, 66, p/o 74, and p/o 7501; Block 895, Lots p/o 1 and 7501; Block 1275, Lots p/o 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 23, 27, 44, 50, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, p/o 66, and 143; Block 1276, Lots p/o 1, 22, 23, 24, 33, 42, 51, 58, 65, 66, and 999; Block 1277, Lots p/o 6, 8, 14, 20, 27, 46, 52, and p/o 67; Block 1278, Lots p/o 1, 8, 14, 15, 17, 20, 62, 63, 64, and 65; Block 1279, Lots p/o 6, 9, 17, 23, 24, 25, 28, 45, 48, 57, 63, 65, and 7501; Block 1280, all Lots; Block 1281, Lots p/o 1, 9, 21, 30, 56, 59, 61, 62, 64, 65, p/o 66, and 7501; Block 1282; Lots p/o 1, 17, 21, 30, 34, 64, and p/o 7501; Block 1283; Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 58, 61, 62, 63, and 64; Block 1284; Lots p/o 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 17, 21, 26, 33, 52, 55, 56, 59, 60, 152, and p/o 7501; Block 1285, Lots; 13, 15, 21, 36, 46, 59, and p/o 7501; Block 1286, Lots p/o 1, 21, 30, 35, 43, and 53; Block 1287, Lots 8, 9, 10, 14, 21, 27, 28, 33, 52, 58, 61, 62, 63, and p/o 7501; Block 1288, Lots p/o 6, p/o 7, 10, 11, 21, 24, 27, 33, 51, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, and 63; Block 1289, Lots p/o 6, 8, 14, 21, 23, 24, 28, 36, 45, 52, 59, 65, p/o 67, 107, and 149; Block 1290, Lots p/o 6, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 27, 28, 31, 36, 37, 44, 50, 52, 56, 61, 62, 115, 127, 7501, and p/o 7502; Block 1291, Lots p/o 1(p), 10, 21, 28, 38, 45, 47, 51, 127, and p/o 7501; Block 1292, Lots 8, 15, 33, 37, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 64, p/o 66, and p/o 7501; Block 1295, all Lots; Block 1296, all Lots; Block 1297, all Lots; Block 1298, all Lots; Block 1299, all Lots; Block 1300, all Lots; Block 1301, all Lots; Block 1302, all Lots; Block 1303, all Lots; Block 1304, all Lots; Block 1305, all Lots; Block 1306, all Lots; Block 1307, all Lots; Block 1308, all Lots; Block 1309, Lots 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 23, p/o 32, p/o 50, p/o 66, 69, 72, 107, and 7502; Block 1310, Lot p/o 1; Block 1311, Lots 1, p/o 5, and p/o 65; Block 1316, Lots 1, 5, 12, and p/o 23; Block 1317, Lots 1, 7, 9, 11, 15, 19, p/o 20, and 30; Block 1318, Lots 1, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 31, 33, 38, 43, 44, and 143; Block 1319, Lots 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16, p/o 47, 103, and 104; Block 1320, Lots 46, 7503, and p/o 7506; Block 1321, Lots p/o 1, p/o 42, and 47

DEP # 13DEPTECH038M / CEQR # 13DCP011M New York, New York

#### Dear Mr. Dobruskin:

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis (DEP) has reviewed the January 2013 Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The New York City Department of City Planning (DCP/applicant) proposes zoning map and zoning text amendments, and a City Map amendment (the Proposed Action) for an approximately 70 block area in the East Midtown neighborhood of Manhattan Community Districts 5 and 6. The affected area is generally bounded by East 39th Street to the south, East 57th Street to the north, Second and Third avenues to the east and Fifth Avenue to the west. The proposed zoning text amendment would establish an East Midtown Subdistrict (the "Subdistrict") within the Special Midtown District. This new Subdistrict would supersede and subsume the existing Grand Central Subdistrict. The amendment would focus new commercial development with the greatest as-of-right densities on large sites with full block frontage on avenues around Grand Central Terminal, with slightly lower densities allowed along the Park Avenue corridor and elsewhere. It is intended to encourage limited and targeted as-of-right commercial development in appropriate locations. The amendment would also streamline the system for landmark transfers within Grand Central and generate funding for area-wide pedestrian network improvements. The rezoning area is currently zoned predominantly as high density commercial (zoning districts C5 and C6) within the Special Midtown District. The midblock areas between East 42nd and East 46th Streets, and Second and Third Avenues, are predominantly commercial in character, with a number of existing office buildings and parking structures, as well as hotels under construction. The Special Midtown District generally follows the boundary of Midtown's commercial areas and thus this area would more appropriately be located in the Midtown District, and additionally as part of the East Midtown Subdistrict. By incorporating the area into Midtown, the Special District regulations, including height and setback and streetscape requirements, would become applicable. These are more tailored to the needs of the area than the generic 1961 high-density commercial zoning provisions that now apply. In order to do this, the rezoning would replace the existing C5-2 and C6-4 designations in portions of the midblock areas between East 42nd and East 46th Streets, and Second and Third Avenues with C5-3, C5-2.5, C5-2, and C1-9 districts. The C5-3 and C5-2.5 districts will be mapped within the Special Midtown District. The C5-3 designation would be mapped along the 42nd Street frontage, which is a wide street and reflects the typical wide street zoning pattern in Midtown. Midblock areas along East 43rd, 44th and the south side of 45th Streets would be mapped to C5-2.5, reflecting the typical midblock Midtown zoning pattern. The north side of East 45th Street would maintain its 10.0 FAR designation and remain out of the Special Midtown District, but be amended to C5-2 to reflect its existing built character. Finally, a portion of the midblock along East 44th Street closer to Second Avenue would be rezoned to C1-9, remaining outside the special district, to reflect its existing residential character. Subject to further analysis and public consultation, the City may amend the City map to reflect a 'Public Place' designation over portions of Vanderbilt Avenue. Such action would allow for the permanent development of a partially-pedestrianized Vanderbilt Avenue. These portions could include the non-intersection portions of the street between East 42nd and 43rd Streets, East 44th and East 45th Streets, East 45th and 46th Streets, and East 46th and 47th Streets and any such designation would be structured to allow for phased development of improvements as funding is made available from the District Improvement Fund and as surrounding conditions permit.

The PDEIS revealed that historical on-site and surrounding area land uses consisted of a variety of commercial and industrial uses including hazardous waste generators, petroleum spills, fuel oil storage, a railroad depot, railroad tracks, a silk dress factory, horse stables, a power station, an electric substation, parking garages, and a milk depot.

Based upon our review of the submitted documentation, we have the following comments and recommendations to DCP:

# Projected and potential development sites

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Projected Site 1: Block 869, Lots 16, 58, 61, and 64
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Projected Site 2: Block 869, Lots 25, 26, and 27

Projected Site 3: Block 1275, Lot 23

Projected Site 4: Block 1277, Lots 20, 27, 46, and 52

Projected Site 5: Block 1278, Lots 8, 14, 15, 17, 62, 63, 64, and 65

Projected Site 6: Block 1279, Lots 9, 17, 57, 63, and 65

Projected Site 7: Block 1279, Lots 23, 24, 25, 48, 28, and 45

Projected Site 8: Block 1281, Lots 62, 64, and 65

Projected Site 9: Block 1281, Lot 21

Projected Site 10: Block 1282, Lots 17 and 64

Projected Site 11: Block 1283, Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13

Projected Site 12: Block 1285, Lot 36

Projected Site 13: Block 1292, Lot 52

Projected Site 14: Block 1300, Lots 42 and 44

Projected Site 15: Block 1302, Lots 25, 27, 127, 28, and 29

Projected Site 16: Block 1303, Lot 14

Projected Site 17: Block 1304, Lots 20, 25, 26, 28, 45, and 41

Projected Site 18: Block 1310, Lot 1

Projected Site 19: Block 1316, Lots 12, 23, and 30

Potential Site 1: Block 895, Lot 1

Potential Site 2: Block 1275, Lots 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 59, 60, 61, 63, and 64

Potential Site 3: Block 1278, Lot 20

Potential Site 4: Block 1281, Lots 9, 56, 59, and 7501

Potential Site 5: Block 1282, Lot 34

Potential Site 6: Block 1287, Lot 33

Potential Site 7: Block 1290, Lots 37, 36, and 31

Potential Site 8: Block 1295, Lots 17 and 58

Potential Site 9: Block 1296, Lot 1

Potential Site 10: Block 1300, Lot 33

Potential Site 11: Block 1301, Lots 23 and 33

Potential Site 12: Block 1302, Lots 123, 51, 21, 22, 23, and 24

Potential Site 13: Block 1303, Lot 53

Potential Site 14: Block 1306, Lot 23

Potential Site 15: Block 1306, Lot 33

Potential Site 16: Block 1317, Lot 1

Potential Site 17: Block 1318, Lots 43, 1, 44, and 143

Potential Site 18: Block 1319, Lot 47

Potential Site 19: Block 1305, Lots 33, 40, and 32 Potential Site 20: Block 1307, Lots 43 and 7501

Based on prior on-site and surrounding area land uses which could result in environmental
contamination, DEP concurs with DCP's recommendation that an "E" designation for
hazardous materials should be placed on the zoning map pursuant to Section 11-15 of the
New York City Zoning Resolution for the subject properties. The "E" designation will ensure
that testing and mitigation will be provided as necessary before any future development
and/or soil disturbance.

The applicant should be directed to coordinate further hazardous materials assessments through the Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation. Future correspondence related to this project should include the following tracking number 13DEPTECH038M. If you have any questions, you may contact Mr. Wei Yu at (718) 595-4358.

Sincerely,

Maurice S. Winter

Deputy Director, Site Assessment

c: E. Mahoney

M. Winter

W. Yu

T. Estesen

M. Wimbish

C. Evans - DCP

D. McCarthy - DCP

D. Cole - OER

File



Carter H. Strickland, Jr. Commissioner

Angela Licata
Deputy Commissioner
of Sustainability
alicata@dep.nyc.gov

59-17 Junction Boulevard Flushing, NY 11373 T: (718) 595-4398 F: (718) 595-4479 February 6, 2013

Mr. Robert Dobruskin
Director, Environmental Assessment and Review Division
New York City Department of City Planning
22 Reade Street, Room 4E
New York, New York 10007-1216

Re: East Midtown Rezoning and Related Actions

Block 869, Lots 16, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 49, 54, 58, 61, 64, 66, p/o 74, and p/o 7501; Block 895, Lots p/o 1 and 7501; Block 1275, Lots p/o 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 23, 27, 44, 50, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, p/o 66, and 143; Block 1276, Lots p/o 1, 22, 23, 24, 33, 42, 51, 58, 65, 66, and 999; Block 1277, Lots p/o 6, 8, 14, 20, 27, 46, 52, and p/o 67; Block 1278, Lots p/o 1, 8, 14, 15, 17, 20, 62, 63, 64, and 65; Block 1279, Lots p/o 6, 9, 17, 23, 24, 25, 28, 45, 48, 57, 63, 65, and 7501; Block 1280, all Lots; Block 1281, Lots p/o 1, 9, 21, 30, 56, 59, 61, 62, 64, 65, p/o 66, and 7501; Block 1282; Lots p/o 1, 17, 21, 30, 34, 64, and p/o 7501; Block 1283; Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 58, 61, 62, 63, and 64; Block 1284; Lots p/o 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 17, 21, 26, 33, 52, 55, 56, 59, 60, 152, and p/o 7501; Block 1285, Lots; 13, 15, 21, 36, 46, 59, and p/o 7501; Block 1286, Lots p/o 1, 21, 30, 35, 43, and 53; Block 1287, Lots 8, 9, 10, 14, 21, 27, 28, 33, 52, 58, 61, 62, 63, and p/o 7501; Block 1288, Lots p/o 6, p/o 7, 10, 11, 21, 24, 27, 33, 51, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, and 63; Block 1289, Lots p/o 6, 8, 14, 21, 23, 24, 28, 36, 45, 52, 59, 65, p/o 67, 107, and 149; Block 1290, Lots p/o 6, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 27, 28, 31, 36, 37, 44, 50, 52, 56, 61, 62, 115, 127, 7501, and p/o 7502; Block 1291, Lots p/o 1(p), 10, 21, 28, 38, 45, 47, 51, 127, and p/o 7501; Block 1292, Lots 8, 15, 33, 37, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 64, p/o 66, and p/o 7501; Block 1295, all Lots; Block 1296, all Lots; Block 1297, all Lots; Block 1298, all Lots; Block 1299, all Lots; Block 1300, all Lots; Block 1301, all Lots; Block 1302, all Lots; Block 1303, all Lots; Block 1304, all Lots; Block 1305, all Lots; Block 1306, all Lots; Block 1307, all Lots; Block 1308, all Lots; Block 1309, Lots 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 23, p/o 32, p/o 50, p/o 66, 69, 72, 107, and 7502; Block 1310, Lot p/o 1; Block 1311, Lots 1, p/o 5, and p/o 65; Block 1316, Lots 1, 5, 12, and p/o 23; Block 1317, Lots 1, 7, 9, 11, 15, 19, p/o 20, and 30; Block 1318, Lots 1, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 31, 33, 38, 43, 44, and 143; Block 1319, Lots 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16, p/o 47, 103, and 104; Block 1320, Lots 46, 7503, and p/o 7506; Block 1321, Lots p/o 1, p/o 42, and 47

DEP # 13DEPTECH038M / CEQR # 13DCP011M New York, New York

#### Dear Mr. Dobruskin:

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis (DEP) has reviewed the January 2013 Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The New York City Department of City Planning (DCP/applicant) proposes zoning map and zoning text amendments, and a City Map amendment (the Proposed Action) for an approximately 70 block area in the East Midtown neighborhood of Manhattan Community Districts 5 and 6. The affected area is generally bounded by East 39th Street to the south, East 57th Street to the north, Second and Third avenues to the east and Fifth Avenue to the west. The proposed zoning text amendment would establish an East Midtown Subdistrict (the "Subdistrict") within the Special Midtown District. This new Subdistrict would supersede and subsume the existing Grand Central Subdistrict. The amendment would focus new commercial development with the greatest as-of-right densities on large sites with full block frontage on avenues around Grand Central Terminal, with slightly lower densities allowed along the Park Avenue corridor and elsewhere. It is intended to encourage limited and targeted as-of-right commercial development in appropriate locations. The amendment would also streamline the system for landmark transfers within Grand Central and generate funding for area-wide pedestrian network improvements. The rezoning area is currently zoned predominantly as high density commercial (zoning districts C5 and C6) within the Special Midtown District. The midblock areas between East 42nd and East 46th Streets, and Second and Third Avenues, are predominantly commercial in character, with a number of existing office buildings and parking structures, as well as hotels under construction. The Special Midtown District generally follows the boundary of Midtown's commercial areas and thus this area would more appropriately be located in the Midtown District, and additionally as part of the East Midtown Subdistrict. By incorporating the area into Midtown, the Special District regulations, including height and setback and streetscape requirements, would become applicable. These are more tailored to the needs of the area than the generic 1961 high-density commercial zoning provisions that now apply. In order to do this, the rezoning would replace the existing C5-2 and C6-4 designations in portions of the midblock areas between East 42nd and East 46th Streets, and Second and Third Avenues with C5-3, C5-2.5, C5-2, and C1-9 districts. The C5-3 and C5-2.5 districts will be mapped within the Special Midtown District. The C5-3 designation would be mapped along the 42nd Street frontage, which is a wide street and reflects the typical wide street zoning pattern in Midtown. Midblock areas along East 43rd, 44th and the south side of 45th Streets would be mapped to C5-2.5, reflecting the typical midblock Midtown zoning pattern. The north side of East 45th Street would maintain its 10.0 FAR designation and remain out of the Special Midtown District, but be amended to C5-2 to reflect its existing built character. Finally, a portion of the midblock along East 44th Street closer to Second Avenue would be rezoned to C1-9, remaining outside the special district, to reflect its existing residential character. Subject to further analysis and public consultation, the City may amend the City map to reflect a 'Public Place' designation over portions of Vanderbilt Avenue. Such action would allow for the permanent development of a partially-pedestrianized Vanderbilt Avenue. These portions could include the non-intersection portions of the street between East 42nd and 43rd Streets, East 44th and East 45th Streets, East 45th and 46th Streets, and East 46th and 47th Streets and any such designation would be structured to allow for phased development of improvements as funding is made available from the District Improvement Fund and as surrounding conditions permit.

The PDEIS revealed that historical on-site and surrounding area land uses consisted of a variety of commercial and industrial uses including hazardous waste generators, petroleum spills, fuel oil storage, a railroad depot, railroad tracks, a silk dress factory, horse stables, a power station, an electric substation, parking garages, and a milk depot.

Based upon our review of the submitted documentation, we have the following comments and recommendations to DCP:

# Projected and potential development sites

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Projected Site 1: Block 869, Lots 16, 58, 61, and 64
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Projected Site 2: Block 869, Lots 25, 26, and 27

Projected Site 3: Block 1275, Lot 23

Projected Site 4: Block 1277, Lots 20, 27, 46, and 52

Projected Site 5: Block 1278, Lots 8, 14, 15, 17, 62, 63, 64, and 65

Projected Site 6: Block 1279, Lots 9, 17, 57, 63, and 65

Projected Site 7: Block 1279, Lots 23, 24, 25, 48, 28, and 45

Projected Site 8: Block 1281, Lots 62, 64, and 65

Projected Site 9: Block 1281, Lot 21

Projected Site 10: Block 1282, Lots 17 and 64

Projected Site 11: Block 1283, Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13

Projected Site 12: Block 1285, Lot 36

Projected Site 13: Block 1292, Lot 52

Projected Site 14: Block 1300, Lots 42 and 44

Projected Site 15: Block 1302, Lots 25, 27, 127, 28, and 29

Projected Site 16: Block 1303, Lot 14

Projected Site 17: Block 1304, Lots 20, 25, 26, 28, 45, and 41

Projected Site 18: Block 1310, Lot 1

Projected Site 19: Block 1316, Lots 12, 23, and 30

Potential Site 1: Block 895, Lot 1

Potential Site 2: Block 1275, Lots 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 59, 60, 61, 63, and 64

Potential Site 3: Block 1278, Lot 20

Potential Site 4: Block 1281, Lots 9, 56, 59, and 7501

Potential Site 5: Block 1282, Lot 34

Potential Site 6: Block 1287, Lot 33

Potential Site 7: Block 1290, Lots 37, 36, and 31

Potential Site 8: Block 1295, Lots 17 and 58

Potential Site 9: Block 1296, Lot 1

Potential Site 10: Block 1300, Lot 33

Potential Site 11: Block 1301, Lots 23 and 33

Potential Site 12: Block 1302, Lots 123, 51, 21, 22, 23, and 24

Potential Site 13: Block 1303, Lot 53

Potential Site 14: Block 1306, Lot 23

Potential Site 15: Block 1306, Lot 33

Potential Site 16: Block 1317, Lot 1

Potential Site 17: Block 1318, Lots 43, 1, 44, and 143

Potential Site 18: Block 1319, Lot 47

Potential Site 19: Block 1305, Lots 33, 40, and 32 Potential Site 20: Block 1307, Lots 43 and 7501

Based on prior on-site and surrounding area land uses which could result in environmental
contamination, DEP concurs with DCP's recommendation that an "E" designation for
hazardous materials should be placed on the zoning map pursuant to Section 11-15 of the
New York City Zoning Resolution for the subject properties. The "E" designation will ensure
that testing and mitigation will be provided as necessary before any future development
and/or soil disturbance.

The applicant should be directed to coordinate further hazardous materials assessments through the Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation. Future correspondence related to this project should include the following tracking number 13DEPTECH038M. If you have any questions, you may contact Mr. Wei Yu at (718) 595-4358.

Sincerely,

Maurice S. Winter

Deputy Director, Site Assessment

c: E. Mahoney

M. Winter

W. Yu

T. Estesen

M. Wimbish

C. Evans - DCP

D. McCarthy - DCP

D. Cole - OER

File

From: <u>Mitterman, Gregory</u>
To: <u>DIANE MCCARTHY</u>

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas; GLEN PRICE; Alderson, Colleen

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

**Date:** Monday, January 14, 2013 1:34:05 PM

Attachments: <u>East Midtown Rezoning.jpg</u>

East Midtown Rezoning Open Space Comparison.xls

#### Hello Diane,

I am very sorry for the delay in getting our (DPR) comments to you. For the most part everything looks ok, with just a few minor discrepancies in acreages for a few of the properties. I am attaching a spreadsheet that shows a comparison of the acreages for our properties within the study area from our records and the acreages given in the pDEIS. The discrepancies are as follows:

- Central Park and Grand Army Plaza are one property, all part of Central Park. The total for those two
  combined areas in the pDEIS is 9.7 acres, but our analysis has the acreage as 9.83 acres, with a minor
  difference of .13 acre
- The Tudor City Greens (1 of 2, # 84 on pDEIS map) parcel is listed as being co-managed by DPR and TPL. DPR only has ownership of the Mary O'Connor Playground (part of the total area identified as #84 on the pDEIS map), which has an acreage of .25 acres. I do not have information as to the total acreage of the TPL part of the green space at the moment.
- The Tudor City Greens (2 of 2, #89 on pDEIS map) parcel has the same issue as above. DPR owns only the Tudor Grove Playground area of the parcel identified as #89 on the pDEIS map, which is .2 acres. Tudor City Greens, Inc., manages the other part of the area identified, and I currently do not have the exact acreage on the green space that they manage.
- Ralph Bunche Park (#85 on pDEIS map) is .42 acres, but is listed as only being .23 acres in the pDEIS. .42 acres is the correct number.
- Although it was identified as an area not included in the quantitative analysis in the pDEIS, one of the Park Avenue Malls listed (labeled A1 on pDEIS map) has an acreage given as .44 acres, while our records have an acreage of .35, which is a minor difference of .09 acre.

Those were the only issues that I identified in the pDEIS. If you have any questions for me, please get in touch.

# Thank you,

#### Greg

From: DIANE MCCARTHY

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 10:41 AM

To: Alderson, Colleen

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas; Mitterman, Gregory; GLEN PRICE

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

#### Colleen,

Following up on the information you had provided for East Midtown last fall . . .

Is there any additional details available about the open space improvements listed in your email below? Although many of the improvements are located outside the open space study area, it would be instructive to know additional details for the qualitative section of the analysis.

Thanks, Diane M

From: Alderson, Colleen

Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 5:04 PM

To: DIANE MCCARTHY

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas; Mitterman, Gregory

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

Tramway can be removed – it is apparently RIOC plans for elevator work.

From: Alderson, Colleen

Sent: Thursday, September 20, 2012 4:31 PM

To: DIANE MCCARTHY

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas; Mitterman, Gregory

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

Diane,

The following information is for DPR open space improvements – we are trying to obtain further details for you (dates for completion and more details on the actual improvements)

- Reconstruction of Waterside Pier 38<sup>th</sup>-41<sup>st</sup> Street (open for open space use with minimal public amenities) start late 2013, complete mid-2015 (outside study area)
- Robert Moses Playground alienation (.662 acres not entire park west side of park– late 2013 projected closure)
- Paving/striping of St. Vartan Park playing field surface to accommodate roller hockey affected by Robert Moses Playground alienation—complete late 2013 (just outside of study area)
- Outer Detour Roadway Esplanade\* 51st-60th start 2016 complete 2018 (outside study area)
- Andrew Haswell Green Park Phase 2A start 2013, completion 2014 (outside study area) & AHG Phase 2B (projected) – start 2015, complete 2017
- Central Park South Beautification (from FY13 Exec. Plan, doesn't specify what area of Central Park we are trying to pinpoint area for improvements)
- Central Park East Side, Lake Landscapes & Facilities (from FY13 Exec. Plan, doesn't specify what area of Central Park we are trying to pinpoint area for improvements)
- 54<sup>th</sup> St. Recreation Center Roofdeck Resurface
- Trygve LIE Plaza redesign and renovation/reconstruction of the Plaza
- Tramway Plaza Reconstruction E. 59<sup>th</sup> thru E. 60<sup>th</sup> Streets
- One Sutton Place Park development construction to begin next year (outside study area)
- Heliport Park Phase Two

#### Colleen

From: DIANE MCCARTHY

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 12:12 PM

To: Alderson, Colleen

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

Here you go plus a list of the census tracts in play for open space.

BTW, we may tweak the project area boundary just a bit, but it would be very unlikely that it would bring any other census tracts into play for open space. I should be able to confirm that one way or another by late today.

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- 102
- 104
- 108
- 112.01
- 112.02
- 112.03
- 114.01
- 114.02

From: Alderson, Colleen

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 11:47 AM

To: DIANE MCCARTHY

Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA; Molinari, Nicholas

Subject: RE: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

#### Diane,

Do you have a map showing the ¼-mile open space study area boundary? This will help us determine which existing resources to provide feedback on.

# Colleen

From: DIANE MCCARTHY

Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 3:26 PM To: Alderson, Colleen; Molinari, Nicholas Cc: ROBERT DOBRUSKIN; FRANK RUCHALA

Subject: request for CEQR # 13DCP011M [East Midtown] Reference # 13DCP011M-01-06092012150926

Importance: High

## Hello,

Please log into CEQR-View to view the details of this request and provide an acknowledgement that you have recorded it.

Thank you

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## Additional Notes:

Requesting information regarding planned new open spaces or improvements to existing open spaces as part of the future no-action condition for East Midtown action by the analysis year of 2033.

Attached is a figure illustrating the extents of the proposed action plus a table of all affected blocks and lots. If needed for reference, the DSOW and EAS issued for the project are posted to CEQR-View.

Thanks, Diane M

Diane M. McCarthy, AICP NYCDCP-EARD 212-720-3417 D\_Mccart@planning.nyc.gov

# **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

**Project number:** DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING / 13DCP011M

**Project:** EAST MIDTOWN REZONING

**Date received:** 4/18/2013

**Comments:** The LPC is in receipt of the revised Historic and Cultural Resource Chapter and revised language for the St. Patrick's Cathedral Lady Chapel, both dated 4/18/13. The chapter and the revised language appear acceptable.

LPC also notes that DCP has stated that the language in the Shadows Chapter detailing the distinction between Projected and Potential sites in the impacts analysis will be removed.

Cana Santucci

4/18/2013

**SIGNATURE** 

DATE

Gina Santucci, Environmental Review Coordinator

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