

RIVER RING

Foreword¹

This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the River Ring EIS. On August 16, 2021, acting on behalf of the City Planning Commission (CPC), the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) lead agency, the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) determined the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Actions to be complete, and issued a Notice of Completion for the DEIS. Public Notice for a public hearing on the DEIS was published in the in the *New York Post* on September 20, 2021 and in the City Record and the Environmental Notice Bulletin on September 22, 2021. CPC held a public hearing on the DEIS on October 6, 2021 at 10 AM. In support of the City’s continued efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, the public hearing on the DEIS was held remotely and was accessible through the NYC Engage platform. Comments were accepted at that hearing and throughout the public comment period, which remained open through 5:00 pm on October 18, 2021.

This FEIS addresses all substantive comments made on the DEIS during the DEIS public hearing and subsequent DEIS comment period. Those comments are summarized and responded to in Chapter 24, “Response to Comments on the DEIS.” Written comments on the DEIS are included as a new Appendix H, along with a written transcript of the public hearing. In addition, this FEIS also reflects all substantive changes to technical analyses resulting from agency reviews, and material changes in conditions since the issuance of the DEIS.

Principal changes between the DEIS and this FEIS include:

- Revisions to Chapter 1, “Project Description,” to clarify that the Applicant’s Proposed Development Site has recently become occupied by some temporary uses. This update was also reflected in all other chapters where applicable.
- Revisions to the pedestrian analysis in Chapter 12, “Transportation,” based on new signal timing for one intersection near the Project Area provided by the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT).
- Revisions to Chapter 19, “Mitigation,” to reflect that a new signal and pedestrian crossing at River Street and North 1st Street would be implemented by the Applicant in coordination with DOT, which has conditionally approved the installation. Text revisions and clarifications to the construction noise section of the chapter were also made.
- Revisions to several chapters to remove any remaining references to freshwater wetlands, as the Proposed Development does not include any freshwater wetlands. Edited chapters include Chapter 2, “Land Use, Zoning, and Public policy” Chapter 5, “Open Space,” Chapter 8, “Urban Design and Visual Resources,” Chapter 9, “Natural Resources,” and Chapter 11, “Water and Sewer Infrastructure.”
- A new alternative in Chapter 20, “Alternatives.” This new Potential City Planning Commission (CPC) Modification Alternative considers a modification to the Proposed Actions that would remove the ability to generate floor area from newly constructed piers seaward of the bulkhead line on the Applicant’s Proposed Development Site.
- Chapter 24, “Response to Comments on the DEIS,” which is entirely new to the document.
- Updates to various appendices for consistency with revisions to analyses.

¹ This Foreword is new to the FEIS.

- Appendix H, “Comments Received on the DEIS,” which is entirely new to the document.

Except where indicated, all text changes since publication of the DEIS are marked by double underlining and ~~strikeroughs~~ in this FEIS. No underlining is used for the Foreword or Chapter 24, “Response to Comments on the DEIS,” both of which are entirely new.