

# Chapter 23 : MITIGATION

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## A. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the *City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual*, where significant adverse impacts are identified, mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate the impacts to the fullest extent practicable are developed and evaluated. As described in Chapter 7 - Shadows, Chapter 8 - Historic Resources, Chapter 11 - Hazardous Materials, and Chapter 18 - Noise, the Proposed Action would result in potential significant adverse impacts with respect to shadows, historic and cultural resources, hazardous materials, and noise. However, no feasible mitigation measures have been identified as discussed below.

## B. PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS

### Shadows

The Proposed Action would potentially result in significant adverse shadow impacts. As described in Chapter 7, Shadows, based on the prototypical analysis, the duration and coverage of incremental shadows would be limited. The analysis showed that none of the prototypes would result in significant adverse shadows impacts; however, there is potential for significant adverse shadows impacts under certain circumstances where sunlight sensitive features of public open spaces and/or historic resources with sunlight sensitive features are directly located adjacent to potential development. Therefore, the Proposed Action would potentially result in incremental shadows being cast on sunlight sensitive features of historic resources and public open spaces based on prototypical analysis. Since there are no known development sites at this time, no practical mitigation measures could be identified. Therefore, the Proposed Action would result in unavoidable adverse shadows impacts.

### Historic and Cultural Resources

#### Architectural Resources

The Proposed Action would not result in any physical (direct) impacts on architectural resources.

#### Archaeological Resources

The Proposed Action would potentially result in significant adverse impacts to archaeological resources. The archaeological resources assessment concluded that the Proposed Action could result in additional in-ground disturbance that could occur on sites where archaeological remains exist. If such in-ground disturbance were to occur on sites that have the potential to yield archaeological remains, depending on the location of the resources on the site, the depth and location of building foundations, and the extent and location of grading activities, significant adverse impacts could occur. However, the extent of the potential impact is expected to be limited, because the Proposed Action itself is not expected to induce development on sites where development would not have otherwise been possible (with the exception of one component allowing as-of-right development over certain existing parking lots for affordable senior housing which is discussed below) which would limit the potential for additional in-ground disturbance. Even though, more development is expected to occur citywide; only certain provisions of the Proposed Action have the potential to result in increased in-ground disturbance as described in Chapter 11, Historic and Cultural Resources. While the potential impacts of the provisions are expected to be limited, it is not possible to predict where and to what extent additional in-ground disturbance might occur and if any of the development sites with potential in-ground disturbance would contain any archaeological resources. Since there are no known development sites at this time, no practical mitigation measures could be identified. Therefore, the Proposed Action would result in unavoidable adverse impacts to archaeological resources.

## **Hazardous Material**

The Proposed Action would potentially result in significant adverse hazardous materials impacts. In accordance with the methodology outlined in the *CEQR Technical Manual*, hazardous materials assessment was conducted. The assessment concluded that the Proposed Action could result in additional in-ground disturbance that could occur on sites where hazardous materials exist. However, the extent of the potential impact is expected to be limited, because the Proposed Action itself is not expected to induce development on sites where development would not have otherwise been possible (with the exception of one component allowing as-of-right development over certain existing parking lots for affordable senior housing which is discussed below) which would limit the potential for additional in-ground disturbance. Even though, more development is expected to occur citywide; only certain provisions of the Proposed Action have the potential to result in increased in-ground disturbance as described in Chapter 11, Hazardous Materials. While the potential impacts of the provisions are expected to be limited, it is not possible to predict where and to what extent additional in-ground disturbance might occur and if any of the development sites with potential in-ground disturbance would contain any hazardous materials. Since there are no known development sites at this time, no practical mitigation measures could be identified. Therefore, the Proposed Action would result in unavoidable hazardous materials impacts.

## **Noise**

The Proposed Action would not result in significant adverse noise impacts due to operations of any potential development. The Proposed Action has the potential to introduce new sensitive receptors closer to existing train operations on elevated train tracks, therefore, the Proposed Action would potentially result in significant adverse noise impacts.

In accordance with the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual, screening analysis was conducted. The screening analysis concluded, based on prototypical development sites that two of the 27 prototypes have the potential to result in significant adverse noise impacts.

Prototypes 8 and 20 each model two No-Action scenarios that assume Long term care facilities or Affordable Independent Residents for Senior developments that utilize the existing height factor envelope, and the existing non-contextual envelope, and compares them to the With-Action envelope. This analysis identifies a noise impact associated with the shifting of bulk closer to the elevated rail line in the With Action scenario over the No Action height factor scenario. Although the height factor envelope provides a less desirable building model for the Affordable Independent Residences for Seniors, making development pursuant to height factor less likely than one with a Quality Housing envelope, there is the potential for a significant adverse noise impact. There are no practical mitigation measures identified and therefore, the Proposed Action would result in unavoidable noise impacts due to train operations on elevated train tracks.