

## Foreword

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This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) project (proposed project). The Notice of Availability and Notice of Completion for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed project was issued by The New York Mayor’s Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYC Parks) on April 5, 2019. The comment period remained open for receiving written comments until August 30, 2019. OMB and NYC Parks held a duly noticed public hearing on the DEIS on July 31, 2019, at 10:00 AM in the New York City Planning Commission Hearing Room at 120 Broadway, Lower Level, New York, NY 10271.

This FEIS addresses all substantive comments made on the DEIS during the public hearing and subsequent comment period. Those comments are summarized and responded to in Chapter 10, “Responses to Comments on the DEIS.” Changes to the text and graphics from the DEIS have been made in this FEIS, as necessary, in response to those comments. Additionally, prior to publication of this FEIS, subsequent consultation was conducted as necessary with involved and interested agencies for review and comment. Comments received are included in a new Appendix, **Appendix M**. Changes to the text and graphics have been made in this FEIS, as necessary, in response to those comments.

In addition to Chapter 10, the principal changes between the DEIS and FEIS include the following:

- Since the issuance of the DEIS, the City has been evaluating and refining the design for the proposed project. Where appropriate, the FEIS has been updated to reflect the design and programmatic changes to the proposed project, including advanced design of relocated embayments and the bulkhead;
- Project Area One boundary has been extended to include the East River Park Compost Yard. All relevant figures included in the FEIS have been updated to reflect this change;
- Chapter 3.0, “Process, Coordination, and Public Participation” has been revised to include community engagement meetings held since the publication of the DEIS;
- Chapter 5.5, “Urban Design and Visual Resources,” has been revised to include updated renderings of the proposed project;
- Chapter 5.6, “Natural Resources,” has been revised to include a description of the additional ecological benefits related to embayment relocation and updates to terrestrial resources based on advanced design;
- Chapter 5.7, “Hazardous Materials,” has been revised to summarize the additional supplemental investigations performed for the Preferred Alternative;
- Chapter 6.0, “Construction Overview,” has been revised to include language on soil sources and the potential for the FDR Drive near Houston Street as a second access/egress point to East River Park during construction;

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- Chapter 6.2, “Construction—Open Space,” has been revised to account for further commitments made by NYC Parks regarding mitigation measures;
- Chapter 6.9, “Construction—Transportation,” has been revised to include additional details on the preliminary bicyclist/pedestrian rerouting plan during construction;
- Chapter 6.11, “Construction – Greenhouse Gas,” has been revised to include details about the ENVISION process and an expanded discussion on construction waste;
- Chapter 6.12, “Construction—Noise and Vibration,” has been revised to incorporate mitigation measures developed after publication of the DEIS;
- Chapter 6.13, “Construction – Public Health,” has been revised to include an expanded discussion on Executive Order 13045 (Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks);
- Appendix C has been updated to replace the conceptual design drawings with preliminary design drawings;
- Appendix E has been updated to include a draft Programmatic Agreement under the Section 106 process;
- Appendix G has been updated to include additional National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) consultation;
- Appendix I has been updated to include additional tree inventory gathered due to minor changes in the project boundaries;
- Appendix M has been created to include the comments received during the public comment period for the DEIS;
- Appendix N has been created to include the consultation letter from New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

Substantive text changes or additions to the FEIS are indicated by double-underlining. However, underlining is not used for chapters presented for the first time in this FEIS, such as this Foreword and Chapter 10, “Response to Comments on the DEIS.” For clarity, double-underlining is also not used in tables with extensive changes; such tables are identified using footnotes.

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