Chapter 6: Shadows

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter relies on the analysis from the Fresh Kills Park Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS) and summarizes the conclusions drawn from that analysis. No additional analysis was warranted for this SEIS as it pertains to Chapter 6, “Shadows.”

The guidelines of the CEQR Technical Manual require the preparation of a shadows assessment if a proposed action includes new structures tall enough to cast shadows on a publicly accessible open space or historic resource with sun-sensitive features. Under CEQR Technical Manual guidelines, the uses and vegetation in an open space determine its sensitivity to shadows. Uses that rely on sunlight include passive uses, such as sitting or sunbathing, and activities such as gardening or wading in fountains or pools. Vegetation requiring sunlight includes the tree canopy and flowering plants. In open spaces where lawns are actively used, the grass also requires extensive sunlight. Four to six hours a day of sunlight is generally a minimum requirement, particularly in the growing season. Sun-sensitive features of historic resources may include large windows admitting light into interior spaces, stained glass windows in churches, deeply sculpted façade ornamentation, and historic landscapes.

B. CONCLUSIONS

With respect to sun-sensitive publicly accessible open space, the FGEIS concluded that there is currently no such open space on the project site and none of the surrounding open spaces would be adversely impacted by shadows from the proposed project.

The proposed park roads would not cast any shadows. Thus, a detailed shadow modeling analysis is not necessary for the proposed project and the proposed East Park Roads project would not have any shadow impacts.