East Park Roads
Public Hearing on Draft Scope of Work
Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

March 25, 2009

City of New York
Parks & Recreation
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Adrian Benepe, Commissioner
The purpose of this presentation was to outline the various road alternatives that are proposed to be evaluated in the SEIS - the “Draft Scope of Work to prepare a Draft SEIS”.

The purpose of the SEIS is to disclose the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project so that City and State decision-makers can weigh the benefits provided versus the impacts caused.

The SEIS is a disclosure document, not an approval.

The Scope of Work for the SEIS outlines the analysis that will be conducted in order to evaluate the potential impacts.

As required by City and State environmental regulations, the SEIS must consider alternatives to the original proposal. The SEIS does not favor one alternative over the others but simply presents the impacts caused by each alternative and their ability to meet the project objectives.
The Fresh Kills Park Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), completed in March 2009, examined the build out of the entire 2,200 acre park including a general analysis of the construction of the entire roadway system.

The Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) will review, in detail, the roads through East Park, a portion of the site with many constraints.
East Park

Sanitation name:  
Landfill Section 6/7

Approximately 482 Acres

Bounded by:  
Main Creek  
Richmond Creek  
Richmond Avenue

Currently undergoing final landfill closure.

No roads can be opened until after closure is completed (approximately 2011)
Based on comments received on the Draft GEIS, it was determined that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) would be necessary for the proposed roads through East Park because:

• modification of the final cover plan would be required on Landfill Section 6/7 for construction of public roads;

• a number of new alternatives are being considered, including the reuse of the service road alignment;

• a finer level of detail was needed to fully understand the potential environmental impacts at East Park of the proposed roads and the alternatives.
FRESH KILLS PARK
MASTER PLAN
AND GEIS
Proposed connections between West Shore Expressway and Richmond Avenue.

Roads are a critical component of Master Plan.

Provides connections for through-traffic and access to park facilities.
Challenges for any alignment:

- cross over Section 6/7 of the landfill
- cross wetlands

(pictured: 2006 Draft Master Plan possible alignments)
DGEIS alternative road alignments

- **on- mound**
- **off-mound**
- **on-service road alignments**

Assumptions:

- 4-lane road, two lanes in each direction;
- 35 miles per hour design speed
FGEIS Alternative road alignments

• Reuse of the general alignment of the existing DSNY service roads as one-way loop.

• crosses wetlands

• may impact landfill infrastructure

Assumptions:

• 2-lane loop road, one-way loop

• 4-lane Yukon Crossing, two lanes each direction.

• 35 miles per hour design speed
FRESH KILLS PARK
EAST PARK ROADS SEIS
PROPOSED PROJECT
Modifications of already-approved Closure Plan are needed to accommodate future roads through East Park.

This modification alters the grading of landfill section 6/7 to accommodate the roadbed. The road itself would be constructed thereafter.

Modifications allow for significant time and cost savings of road construction.

Modifications are needed for proposed alignment as well as alternatives. Keeps all options open.
PROPOSED PROJECT

Road design assumptions

- 35 mile per hour design speed
- 4-lane road
PROPOSED PROJECT

2016: Connection to Yukon Avenue

Public road to connect Richmond Avenue at Yukon Avenue to center of the site and connections to West Shore Expressway.

Yukon Avenue connection likely the easiest and cheapest connection to build, given little potential impacts on wetlands and nature of landfill crossing.
PROPOSED PROJECT

2036: Full build-out

Public roads opened with connections to:
  • Richmond Hill Road
  • Yukon Avenue
  • Forest Hill Road

• Provides for full circulation and greatest options.
SEIS ROADS
ALTERNATIVES
SEIS Alternatives

PROPOSED (4-LANE) PROJECT

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

TWO-LANE ALTERNATIVE

SERVICE ROAD ALIGNMENT

YUKON AVE CONNECTION ONLY

ALTERNATIVE PHASING OF PROPOSED PROJECT
PROPOSED PROJECT

Public roads opened with connections to:
- Richmond Hill Road
- Yukon Avenue
- Forest Hill Road

Provides for full circulation and options.
NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Assumes no roads were to be constructed.

This alternative is necessary to demonstrate the benefit of the roads project.

This alternative is required under City and State Environmental Quality Review regulations.
TWO-LANE ALTERNATIVE

This alternative follows the same alignment as the proposed project.

Smaller footprint of the roadway.

This alternative is necessary to demonstrate trade-offs of road capacity versus potential environmental impact.
SERVICE ROAD ALIGNMENT

Allows for reuse of existing DSNY service road alignment as one-way, two lane loop around the base of the landfill mound.

Provides four-lane, two way connection across Yukon Avenue.
YUKON AVENUE CONNECTION ONLY

Assumes the only connection to Richmond Avenue is via Yukon Avenue.

Necessary to understand tradeoffs of the benefits provided by the connections to Richmond Hill Road and Forest Hill Road versus the potential environmental impacts.
ALTERNATIVE PHASING

Assumes that landfill Section 6/7 closure plan occurs as currently planned without modifications to accommodate proposed roadbed.

This alternative is necessary to disclose the extent of regrading required if landfill Section 6/7 were to be completed as currently planned and road construction were not to begin until after final closure was completed.
SEIS Alternatives

PROPOSED (4-LANE) PROJECT

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

TWO-LANE ALTERNATIVE

SERVICE ROAD ALIGNMENT

YUKON AVE CONNECTION ONLY

ALTERNATIVE PHASING OF PROPOSED PROJECT
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Traffic and Parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Socioeconomic Conditions</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Transit and Pedestrians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Community Facilities and Services</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Air Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Noise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shadows</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Construction Impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Historic Resources</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Urban Design and Visual Resources</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Neighborhood Character</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Mitigation and Impact Avoidance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Unavoidable Adverse Impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Growth-Inducing Aspects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Waterfront Revitalization Program</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Solid Waste and Sanitation Services</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Environmental Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fresh Kills Park – East Park Roads SEIS Chapters

1. **Project Description**
2. Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy
3. Socioeconomic Conditions
4. Community Facilities and Services
5. Open Space
6. Shadows
7. Historic Resources
8. Urban Design and Visual Resources
9. Neighborhood Character
10. **Natural Resources**
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26. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources
27. Environmental Justice
Intended schedule for SEIS

• Scoping Hearing on March 25
• Written comments on Scope accepted until April 25
• Draft SEIS Completed in May
• Public Hearing on Draft in June
• Final SEIS completed by October

This schedule is necessary so that DSNY can complete closure of Section 6/7 without further delay.
Completion of SEIS allows:

Closure of Section 6/7 to be modified to accommodate roadbed, making the construction of the roads significantly faster and cheaper.

Construction of roads through East Park can begin after landfill closure is complete, pending permits and approvals.
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