

Foreword

This document is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Coastal and Social Resiliency Initiatives for Tottenville Shoreline project. The Notice of Availability and Notice of Completion for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Actions was issued by the New York State Governor’s Office of Storm Recover (GOSR) on March 24, 2017. GOSR held a duly noticed public hearing on the DEIS on April 26, 2017, at Public School 6, 555 Page Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10307. The comment period remained open for receiving written comments until May 8, 2017.

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 24, “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, a preliminary FEIS (pFEIS) was circulated to cooperating, involved and interested agencies for review and comment, and subsequent consultation was conducted as necessary. Comments received on the pFEIS, and responses to those comments have been summarized in a new Appendix, Appendix K. Changes to the text and graphics have been made in this FEIS, as necessary, in response to those comments.

Additional changes between the DEIS and FEIS include:

- Change in terminology to more accurately describe the shoreline protection element proposed between Brighton Street and Loretto Street—“hybrid dune” has been changed to “hybrid dune/revetment” throughout the FEIS.
- Revisions resulting from advancement in the design of project elements since the publication of the DEIS, as follows:

Breakwaters Project (Alternatives 2 and 3):

- Refinements in the size, quantity, location, spacing and surface treatments of the proposed breakwater system
- Elimination of floating oyster nursery structure and associated active oyster restoration activities
- Elimination of potential water access at the existing Conference House Park pavilion (previously associated with Water Hub Potential Location 2).
- An additional option “Potential Location 3” for Water Hub activities. Potential Location 3 would involve a “floating” Water Hub—a research vessel operated by a non-profit organization. Associated wayfinding, interpretive signage and monitoring

Coastal and Social Resiliency Initiatives for Tottenville Shoreline FEIS

locations at points along the shoreline would be included for orientation, education, and information on shoreline resiliency.¹

Shoreline Project (Alternatives 2 and 4):

- Refinements in the design of the earthen berm in the area between Carteret and Brighton Street including overall length and width reductions, and revisions to provide a continuous treatment (at the time of the DEIS, this element included a small separation between two sections of the earthen berm).
 - Refinements in the design in the area between Brighton Street and Manhattan street including removal of the previously proposed wetland bridge and associated transition nodes; addition of an eco-revetment between the proposed earthen berm and hybrid dune/revetment; and repositioning of the western terminus of the proposed hybrid dune/revetment.
 - Reduction of the footprint of the transition node at the western terminus of the proposed eco-revetment at Loretto Street.
- Incorporation of supplementary aquatic resources information based on additional sampling conducted in June, July, and September 2017.
 - Revisions to Chapter 1, “Purpose and Need and Alternatives” to consider additional strategies in the evaluation of alternatives to the Proposed Actions based on agency comments.
 - Revisions to Chapter 9, “Natural Resources,” and related Appendix E to address certain comments received on the DEIS, pFEIS and comments received during subsequent consultation with cooperating, involved and interested agencies.
 - Revisions to Chapter 11, “Water and Sewer Infrastructure” to incorporate results of a seepage analysis performed as part of the design process for the Shoreline Project.
 - Revisions to Chapter 20, “Mitigation and Minimization of Impacts,” based on changes made to Chapter 9.
 - Revisions to Chapter 21, “Indirect and Cumulative Effects,” based on changes made to Chapter 9.
 - Addition of Chapter 24, “Responses to Comments on the DEIS.”
 - Addition of Appendix G – Hazardous Materials
 - Addition of Appendix H – Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Plan
 - Addition of Appendix K – Responses to Agency Comments on the pFEIS
 - Addition of Appendix L – Comments Received on the DEIS
 - Updates to figures, where relevant, to reflect the revisions listed above.

¹ It should be noted that since the publication of the DEIS, in response to public comments received during the public review process and additional feasibility considerations, Potential Location 1 for the Water Hub (in the vicinity of the southern terminus of Page Avenue) has been removed from further consideration for implementation. However, in the interest of completeness and to ensure a detailed comparative assessment of potential alternatives, the FEIS conservatively retains the analyses that were presented in the DEIS that were associated with this location.

All text changes since publication of the DEIS are marked by double-underlining in this FEIS. No double-underlining is used for revisions to figures, or for this Foreword, Chapter 24, Appendix E-1, components of Appendix E-12, Appendix G, Appendix H, Appendix K, and Appendix L, which are entirely new to the document. *