

Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for Child Development Center

**United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
Brooklyn, Kings County, New York**



March 2024

**Prepared for: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
Directorate of Public Works
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Cover Sheet

Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for Child Development Center at Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Responsible Agencies: United States Department of the Army

Affected Location: United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Report Designation: Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

Abstract: The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new child development center (CDC) facility (the Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as “Fort Hamilton” or the “Installation”) in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Current designs for the Proposed Action include a 16,632 square feet (ft²) single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 ft², 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features. White Avenue and Schum Avenue will be repaved within the alignment of the new CDC facility. Accessibility and force protection measures will be provided, as required. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to better meet the Installation’s needs for childcare services. The current CDC has a limited enrollment capacity of approximately 76 children and is housed in an outdated, 1960’s era building. The Proposed Action will increase enrollment capacity from approximately 76 to 126 children by providing a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC’s mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will have amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers’ nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

This Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA) supports the Army’s environmental review process for the Proposed Action and will become Sections 1 and 2 of an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze the potential for environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, and aid in determining whether a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can be prepared, or if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

Comments and inquiries regarding this document should be directed by email to FortHamiltonCDC-EA@usace.army.mil, or by mail to the Fort Hamilton Public Affairs Office, Building 113, Schum Avenue, New York, New York 11252.

PRIVACY ADVISORY

The Draft EA will be made available for public comment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 United States Code [USC] § 4321 *et seq.*), the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations

[CFR] §§ 1500–1508), and Army Regulations (AR) 200-2 “Environmental Analysis of Army Actions” as promulgated by 32 CFR Part 651.

The environmental review process provides an opportunity for public input on Army decision-making, allows the public to offer input on alternative ways to accomplish what it is proposing, and solicits comments on the analysis of environmental effects.

Public commenting allows the Army to make better, informed decisions. Letters or other written or oral comments provided may be published in the EA. As required by law, comments provided will be addressed in the EA and made available to the public. Providing personal information is voluntary. Any personal information provided will be used only to fulfill requests for copies of the EA or associated documents. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a mailing list for those requesting copies of the EA. However, only the names of the individuals making comments and specific comments will be disclosed. Personal information, home addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses will not be published in the EA.

Table of Contents

1.	PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION	1-1
1.1	Introduction.....	1-1
1.2	Project Location.....	1-1
1.3	Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action	1-2
1.4	Scope of the Environmental Assessment.....	1-5
1.5	NEPA and Other Compliance Requirements	1-5
1.6	Stakeholder Coordination and Public Involvement.....	1-6
2.	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES.....	2-1
2.1	Proposed Action	2-1
2.2	Selection Standards for Project Alternatives	2-8
2.3	No Action Alternative	2-8
2.4	Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis.....	2-8
2.5	Identification of the Preferred Alternative	2-9
3.	INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING LETTERS MAILING LIST.....	3-1

List of Figures

Figure 1-1.	Fort Hamilton Location Map	1-3
Figure 1-2.	Proposed Child Development Center Location Map	1-4
Figure 2-1.	Proposed Child Development Center Components.....	2-6
Figure 2-2.	Proposed Construction Access and Staging	2-7
Figure 2-3.	Alternative Sites Considered	2-10

List of Tables

Table 2-1.	Site Selection Standards	2-9
Table 3-1.	Distribution List	3-1

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABA	Architectural Barriers Act
ADP	Area Development Plan
AR	Army Regulations
Army	United States Department of the Army
CEQ	President's Council on Environmental Quality
CDC	Child Development Center
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
DOPAA	Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives
ft ²	Square Feet
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
Fort Hamilton	United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
DoD	United States Department of Defense
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NYC DEP	New York City Department of Environmental Protection
NYC LPC	New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NY SHPO	New York State Historic Preservation Office
Proposed Action	Construction and Operation of a New CDC
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
UFC	United Facilities Criteria
USC	United States Code
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance

1. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

1.1 Introduction

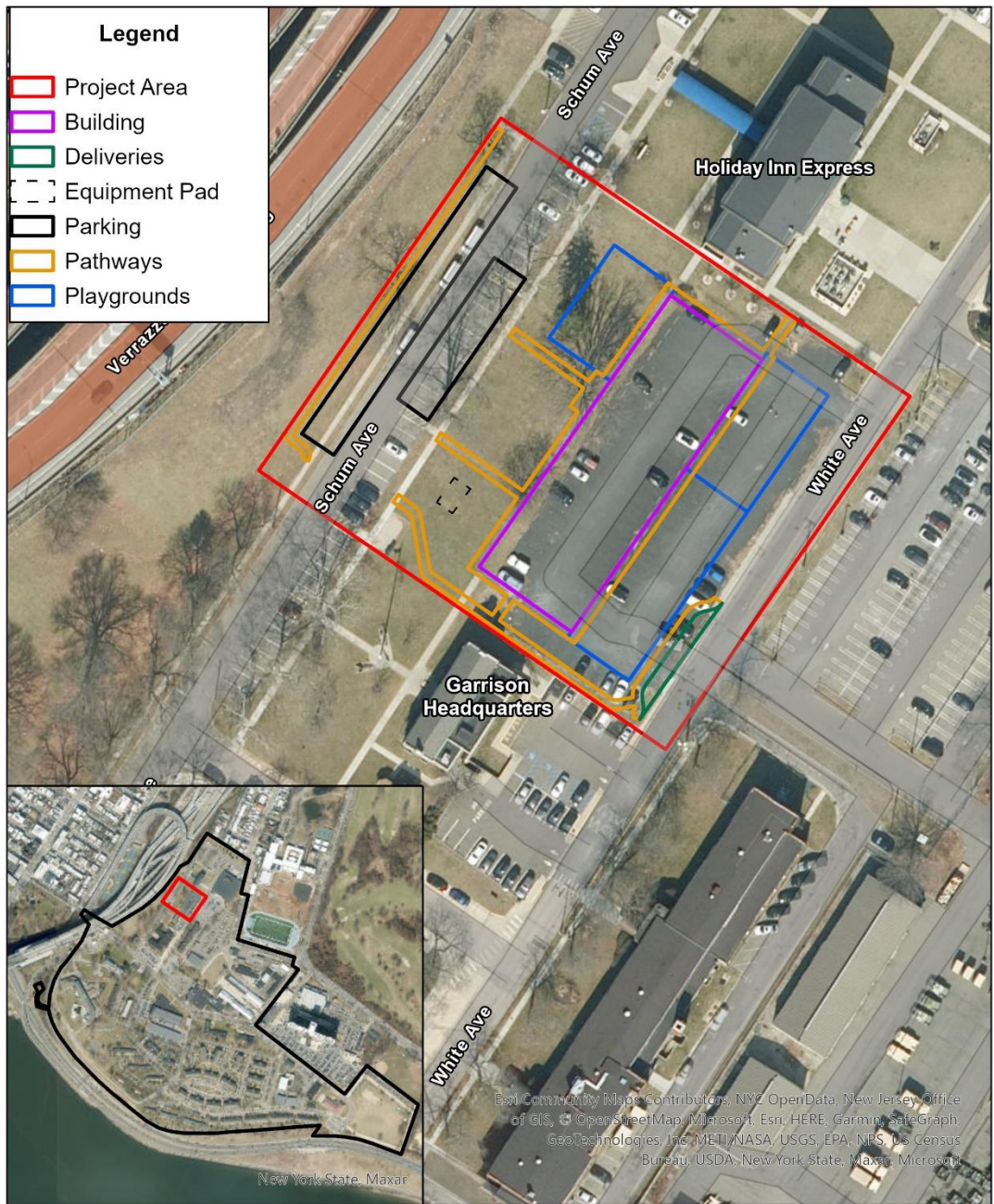
The United States Department of the Army (Army) is planning to construct and operate a new child development center (CDC) facility (the Proposed Action) on United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton (herein referred to as “Fort Hamilton” or the “Installation”) in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Current designs for the Proposed Action include a new 16,632 ft² single story building, three outdoor playgrounds totaling 16,667 ft², 24 new parking spaces, paved pedestrian pathways, perimeter fencing and lighting, landscaping, a truck delivery space, utility connections, stormwater management, and security features. White Avenue and Schum Avenue will be repaved within the alignment of the new CDC facility. Accessibility and force protection measures will be provided, as required. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to better meet the Installation’s needs for childcare services. The current CDC has a limited enrollment capacity of approximately 76 children and is housed in an outdated, 1960’s era building. The Proposed Action will increase enrollment capacity from approximately 76 to 126 children by providing a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC’s mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children between six weeks and five years of age. The new CDC facility will have amenities such as a kitchen, changing areas, administrative support space, mothers’ nursing room, staff lounge, laundry, storage, and supply rooms.

This DOPAA supports the Army’s environmental review process for the Proposed Action and will become Sections 1 and 2 of an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will be prepared to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The EA will be prepared in accordance with NEPA (42 USC § 4321 *et seq.*), CEQ regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR §§ 1500–1508), and Army NEPA-implementing regulations, 32 CFR Part 651.

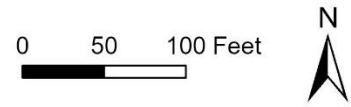
1.2 Project Location

Fort Hamilton is located at the southwestern portion of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York (**Figure 1-1**). Within the New York City, Fort Hamilton is situated at the far western end of Long Island and on the eastern shore of the Narrows – an approximately 6.5-mile tidal straight between Brooklyn and Staten Island, New York, that connects the Upper New York Bay to the Lower New York Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Fort Hamilton is located in the shadow of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge near the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn and is encircled by busy highways, Shore Drive/Belt Parkway, and Fort Hamilton Parkway, and mixed residential and commercial city streets within an intensely developed, highly populated urban area.

The proposed project area for the new CDC facility is located on Fort Hamilton and is generally bound by White Avenue to east, the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge to the west, Holiday Inn Express to the north, and Garrison Headquarters to the south



Proposed Project Area and Components



Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

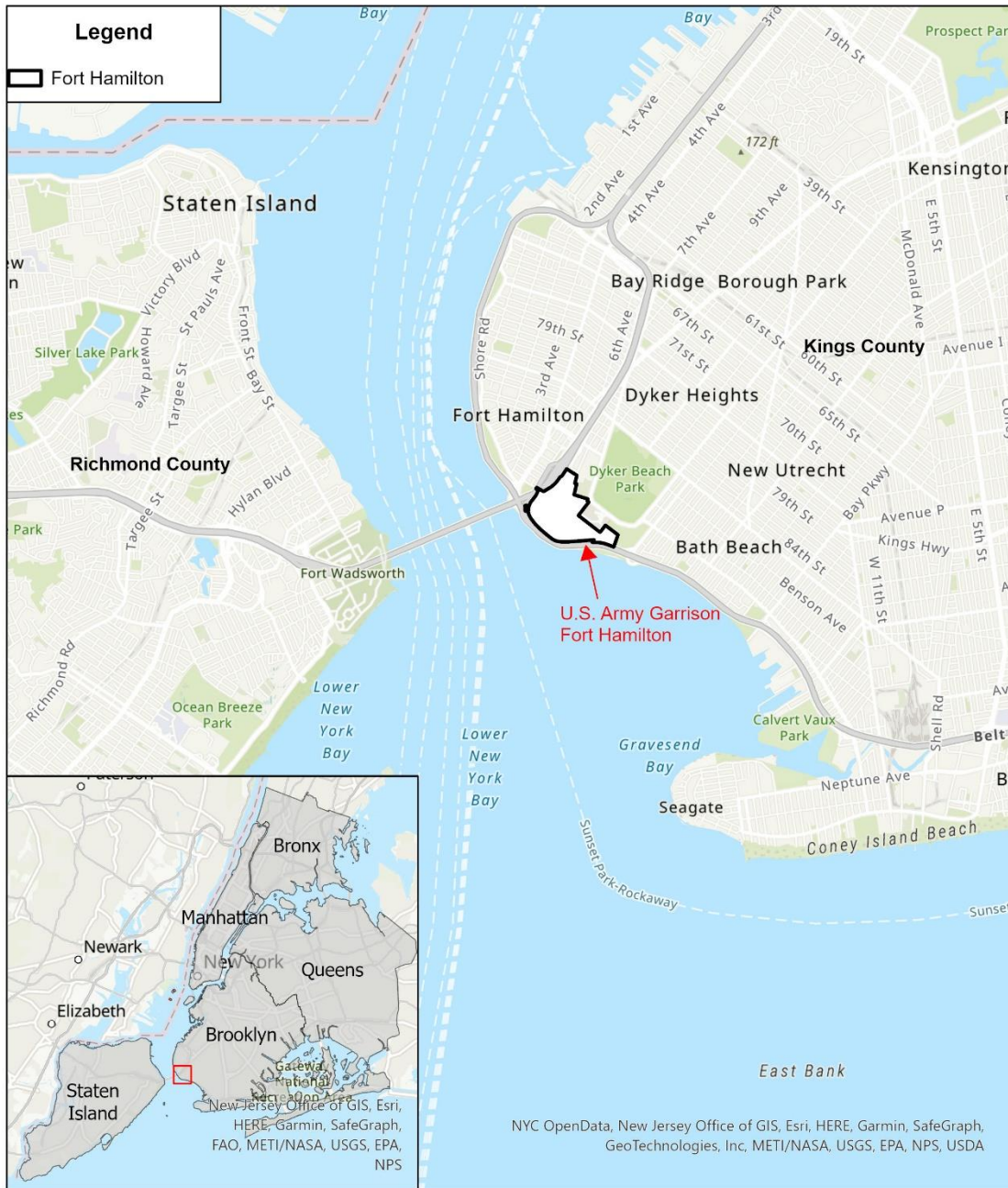
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 Date: 11 December 2023
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Figure 1-2). The proposed project area is approximately 95,000 ft² and contains a gravel parking lot, paved pedestrian pathways, White Avenue and Schum Avenue, and a landscaped turf lawn

area with several trees and shrubs. The existing gravel parking lot within the proposed project area was closed in 2023 due to persistent sinking and flooding.

1.3 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to better meet the Installation's needs for childcare services. A new facility is needed because the current CDC has a limited enrollment capacity of approximately 76 children and is housed in an outdated, 1960's era building. The Proposed Action will increase enrollment capacity from approximately 76 to 126 children by providing a larger facility. In addition, the modernized facility will support the Fort Hamilton CDC's mission to offer a consistent, safe, and nurturing environment for children.



Site Location Map

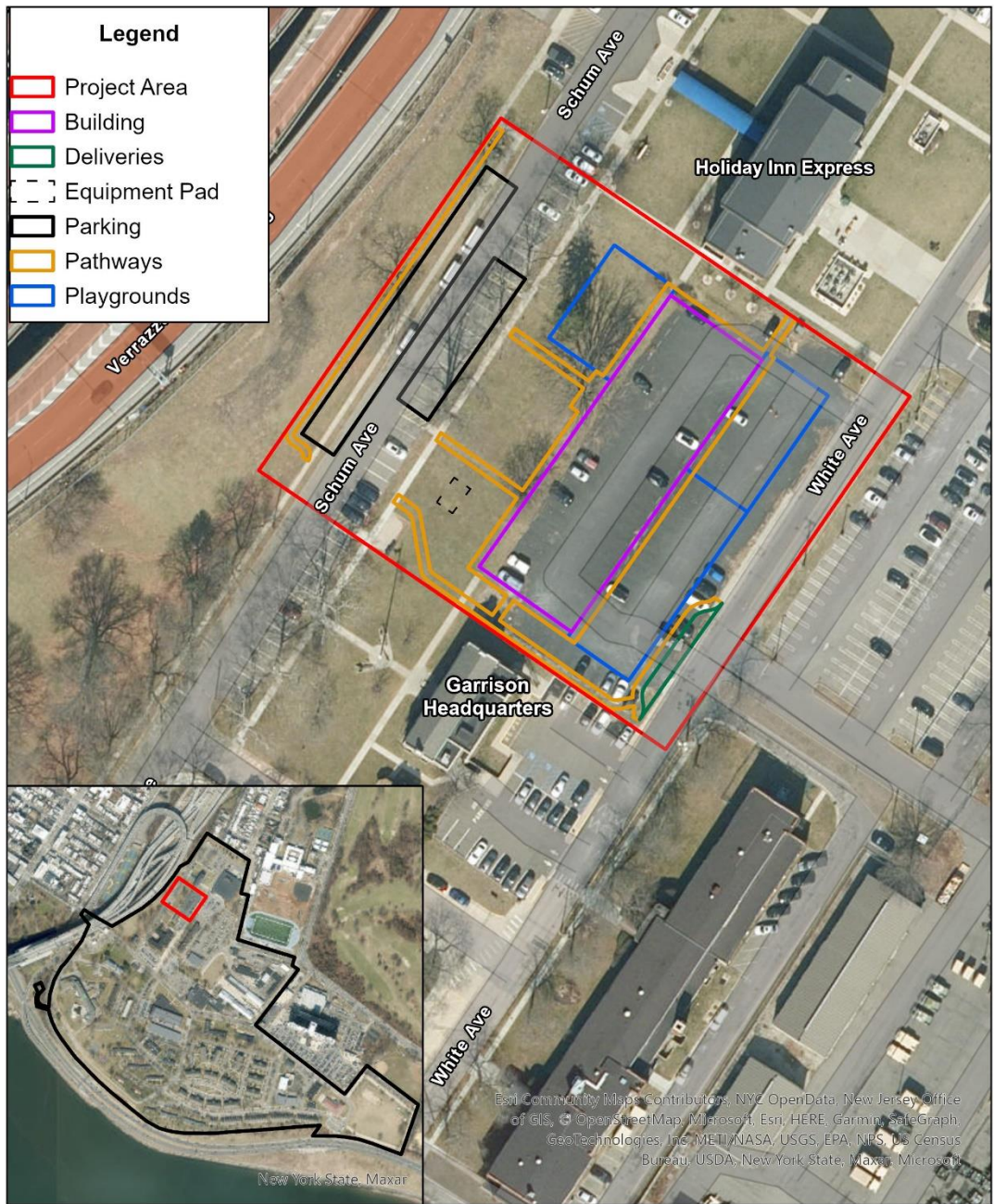
Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

0 3,000 6,000 Feet

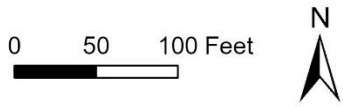


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Figure 1-1. Fort Hamilton Location Map



Proposed Project Area and Components



Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

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Figure 1-2. Proposed Child Development Center Location Map

1.4 Scope of the Environmental Assessment

An EA considers the effects of a proposed action on the human environment, which includes the natural and physical environment. It uses a systematic, interdisciplinary approach to evaluate a proposed action and possible alternatives and must disclose all considerations to the public. The scope of this EA includes the Proposed Action, alternatives considered, a description of the existing environment, and direct impacts, including those for reasonably foreseeable environmental trends and planned actions. The scope of the Proposed Action and the range of alternatives to be considered are presented in **Section 2**. The Army NEPA-implementing regulations, 32 CFR Part 651, require the consideration of the No Action Alternative, which is analyzed to provide the baseline against which the environmental impacts of implementing the range of alternatives addressed can be compared.

The EA will identify the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives on affected resource areas. Per CEQ regulations (40 CFR § 1501.9[f][1]), only resource areas that apply to the Proposed Action and alternatives are analyzed. The EA will address, as applicable, the following resource areas: topography, geology, and soils; water resources; biological resources; air quality; greenhouse gases and climate change; traffic and transportation; hazardous materials and waste; noise and vibration; cultural resources; health and safety; environmental justice; and cumulative impacts.

1.5 NEPA and Other Compliance Requirements

NEPA is a federal law requiring the analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with proposed federal actions prior to implementation. The intent of NEPA is to inform decisions based on potential environmental consequences and take action(s) to protect, restore, or enhance the environment. NEPA established the CEQ, which is charged with developing implementing regulations and ensuring federal agency compliance with NEPA. The CEQ regulations mandate all federal agencies use a prescribed approach to environmental impact analysis. The approach includes an evaluation of the potential environmental consequences associated with a proposed action and consideration of alternative courses of action.

The process for implementing NEPA is outlined in 40 CFR §§ 1500–1508, *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act*. These CEQ regulations specify that an EA be prepared to determine whether a FONSI is appropriate or if the preparation of an EIS is necessary.

The Army provides its procedures for environmental review to comply with the NEPA and CEQ regulations in AR 200-2 “Environmental Effects of Army Actions” as promulgated in 32 CFR Part 651. In addition to NEPA and its implementing regulations, the Proposed Action will comply with other applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. If the EA predicts the Proposed Action would result in significant impacts, then the Army would decide whether to conduct mitigation to reduce impacts below the level of significance, prepare an EIS, or abandon the Proposed Action. The EA will also be used to guide the Army in implementing the Proposed

Action in a manner consistent with department standards for environmental stewardship should the Proposed Action be approved for implementation.

1.6 Stakeholder Coordination and Public Involvement

1.6.1 Intergovernmental Coordination

Executive Order (EO) 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*, July 14, 1982, as amended by EO 12416, April 8, 1983, with the same title and supplemented by EO 13132, *Federalism*, August 10, 1999, requires federal agencies to provide opportunities for consultation by elected officials of state and local governments that could be affected by a federal proposal. Through the intergovernmental coordination process, the Army notifies relevant federal, state, and local agencies of a proposed action and alternatives, and provides them with sufficient time to make known their environmental concerns specific to the action. The process also provides the Army with the opportunity to cooperate with and consider state and local views in implementing the federal proposal. **Section 3** of this DOPAA contains the intergovernmental coordination list, and **Appendix A** of the EA will contain documentation of intergovernmental coordination.

1.6.2 Government to Government Coordination and Consultation

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 USC §§ 306101-306131) requires federal agencies to consult with Native American tribal governments to identify cultural resources that may be adversely affected by the agency's proposed action. Consistent with the NHPA, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes*, September 24, 2018, AR 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*, December 13, 2001, and EO 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*, November 6, 2000, federally recognized tribes that are historically affiliated with the Fort Hamilton geographic region are invited to consult on all proposed undertakings that potentially affect properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance to the tribes. The tribal consultation process is distinct from NEPA consultation with federal, state, and local governments or the intergovernmental coordination process, and it requires separate consultation with all relevant tribes. The timelines for tribal consultation are also distinct from those of other consultations. The Fort Hamilton point-of-contact for Native American tribes is the Installation Commander (DoD 4710.02, Section 3.4[a]). **Section 3** lists the Native American tribal governments that will be coordinated or consulted with regarding the Proposed Action, and **Appendix A** of the EA will contain relevant correspondence.

1.6.3 Other Agency Consultations

Per the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA (54 USC §§ 306101-306131) and implementing regulations (36 CFR § 800) and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 USC §§ 1531-1544) and implementing regulations, information requests, findings of effect, and requests for concurrence, where appropriate, will be transmitted to the New York State Historic Preservation Office (NY SHPO) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, respectively. Local agencies will also be consulted, where appropriate, including the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC LPC) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

(NYSDEC). Results of the consultations and records of correspondence with these agencies will be included in **Appendix A** of the EA.

1.6.4 Public Involvement

NEPA requirements help ensure environmental information is made available to the public during the decision-making process and prior to an action's implementation. A premise of NEPA is that the quality of federal decisions will be enhanced if the public is involved in the planning process. A Notice of Availability for the Draft EA will be published in local newspapers announcing the availability of the Draft EA for review. The Notice of Availability will invite the public and agencies to review and comment on the Draft EA. The Draft EA will be made available for review online at: <https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Environmental-Assessment/Fort-Hamilton-CDC/>. Copies of the Draft EA and FONSI will also be made available for review at the Brooklyn Public Library's Fort Hamilton Branch, 9424 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209.

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2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

As discussed in **Section 1.5**, the NEPA process provides for an evaluation of potential environmental consequences associated with a proposed action and considers alternative courses of action. Reasonable alternatives must satisfy the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action, as defined in **Section 1.3**. In addition, CEQ guidance recommends the inclusion of a No Action Alternative against which potential impacts would be compared. While the No Action Alternative would not satisfy the purpose of or need for the Proposed Action, it is analyzed in detail in accordance with Army NEPA-implementing regulations (32 CFR Part 651).

2.1 Proposed Action

The Army proposes to construct and operate a new CDC facility on Fort Hamilton. The proposed project area is a 95,000 ft² site generally bound by White Avenue, the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge, Holiday Inn Express, and Garrison Headquarters in northwestern Fort Hamilton. Approximately half of the site contains a gravel parking lot with paved pedestrian pathways and the other half contains a landscaped turf lawn area with several trees and shrubs. Current designs for the Proposed Action include a new single-story building, three outdoor playgrounds, additional parking, a truck delivery space, perimeter fencing and lighting, concrete pathways, utility connections, stormwater management, security features, and installation of electrical and mechanical equipment (**Figure 2-1**). White Avenue and Schum Avenue will be repaved within the alignment of the new CDC facility.

The new CDC facility will be designed in accordance with Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) Department of Defense (DoD) *Minimum Antiterrorism Standards for Buildings*, UFC 4–101–01 (dated 8 October 2003, including change 1 dated 22 January 2007) (DoD 2008), as well as conforming to other project-specific design requirements and guidance for structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, communications, fire protection, and safety. The design will comply with UFC 1-200-02 *High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements*, which complies with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, and the *Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings* (Guiding Principles). The design will comply with the *Army Standards for CDCs* (April 2021) and will be fully accessible in accordance with standard UFC requirements and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA; 42 U.S.C. §§4151 *et seq.*) and implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 1191).

CDC Building. The proposed CDC facility will have a single story 16,632 ft² building. The building will have brick veneer exterior walls and a side-gabled roof with asphalt shingles. The inside of the building will have four infant and pre-toddler activity rooms, three pre-school and pre-kindergarten activity rooms, and one outreach and transitional care activity room. All activity rooms will have storage and bathrooms. A nursing mothers' room will be located near the infant and pre-toddler activity rooms. Administrative rooms near the building entrance will include a staff lounge, reception, director's office, assistant director's office, waiting area, janitor's closet, isolation area, training room, laundry room, recycling room, reception, bathroom, and stroller and

car seat storage. A kitchen will be located next to an active playroom with bathroom. Rooms for mechanical and electrical equipment will also be provided and will only be accessible via secure doors on the outside of the building to prevent unauthorized access. The main entrance to the building will be located off Schum Avenue and will have a locking vestibule and a covered concrete entrance pathway leading to a new parking area. Several other paved pathways will be constructed around the new building and will connect to existing pathways to improve pedestrian circulation. The pathways will also connect to doorways on each side of the building for life safety and staff access.

Playgrounds. Outdoor playgrounds will have age-appropriate child development equipment, safety surfacing, and fencing. Playground A will be used for infants and will be constructed on the Schum Avenue side of the building by the main entrance. Playground A will have shaded playhouses, a water play area, crawling play area, storage bins, planter boxes, and an art and music area. Playgrounds B and C will be installed on the White Avenue side of the building. Playground B will be for toddlers and preschoolers and Playground C will be for pre-kindergarteners. Playgrounds B and C will have shaded play equipment and playhouses, storage, a water play area, tinker areas, art and music areas, and planter boxes. An open play area will also be included in Playground C. The three playgrounds will have a total size of 16,667 ft². Fixed bollards will be situated at five feet spacing on the White Avenue side of the building for protection from traffic due to proximity to the roadway.

Parking and Roadways. There will be 24 new asphalt parking spaces for privately-owned-vehicles on Schum Avenue. A concrete pathway will be installed around the new parking spaces for access. Twelve existing parking spaces on Schum Avenue will be dedicated to child pick up and drop off. There will be a tractor-trailer delivery space (55-by-10-ft) on White Avenue. Within the alignment of the new CDC facility, White Avenue and Schum Avenue will be repaved curb-to-curb with traffic lines repainted. The existing gravel parking lot at the proposed project area will be demolished. The existing gravel parking lot was established on the site after former Building 110 was demolished in 2012 and was subsequently closed in 2023 due to persistent sinking and flooding.

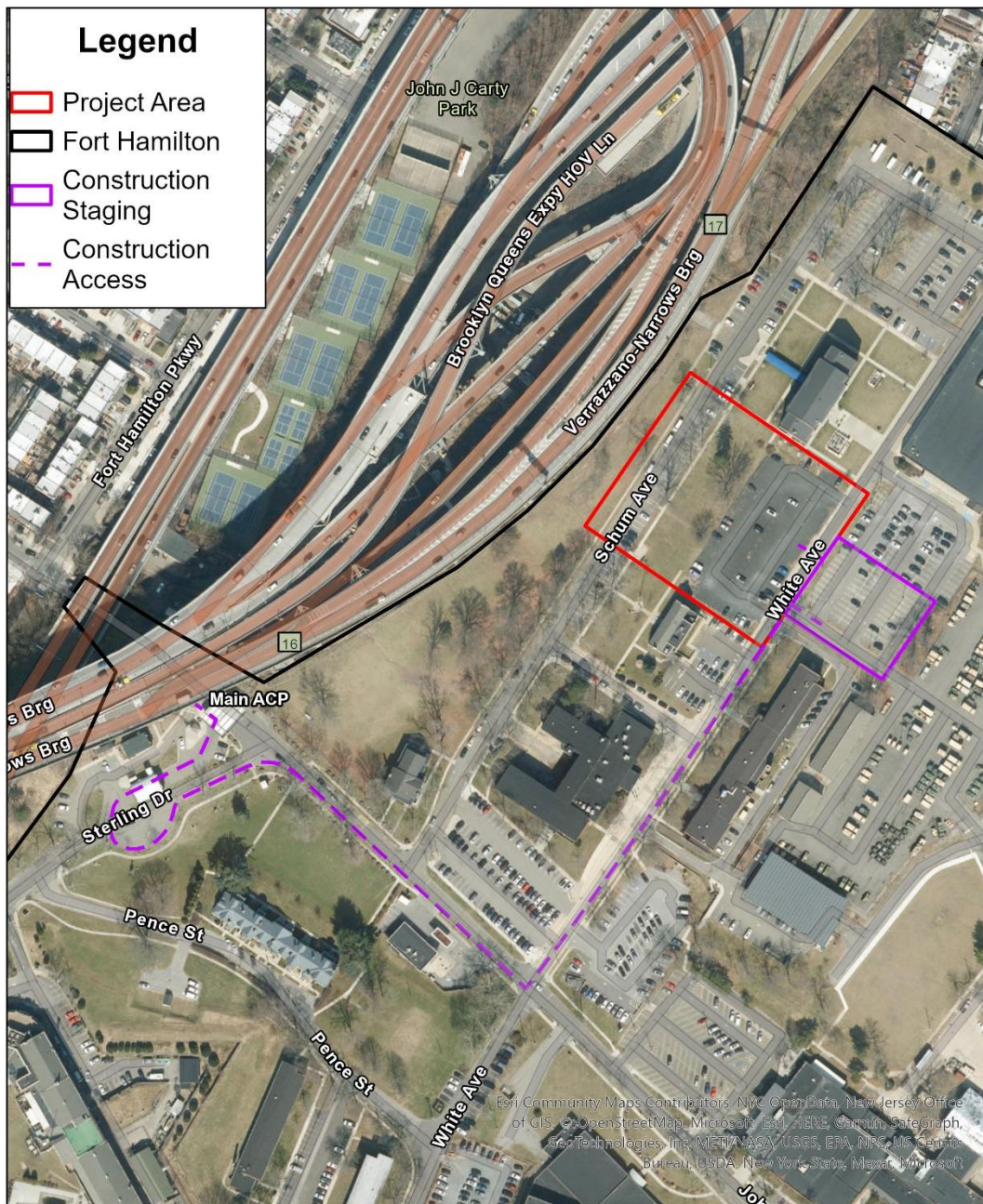
Perimeter Fencing, Lighting, and Landscaping. Perimeter fencing will be installed at least 50 feet from the building. Fencing will also be installed around the playgrounds. Exterior lighting will be provided in the new parking area and around the building and playgrounds. Lighting will be mounted to the building and poles. Shrubs and coniferous trees will be planted along the outside edges of playground perimeter fencing. New trees will be planted in the front and the back of the building. Landscaped areas will be seeded with turf grass. Up to 14 trees will be removed for the Proposed Action. All trees that are removed will be replaced in accordance with Fort Hamilton's *Tree Replacement Guidelines*. Child safe plant species will be used.

Utilities and Site Improvements. Utility connections will be provided by the existing providers and will be modified or extended from those serving the existing, adjacent buildings. Required utility connections include potable water, sanitary sewer, electricity, steam (for heating), and telephone and fiber-optic communications. Mechanical and electrical equipment will be housed

on concrete pad (16-by-8-feet) enclosed in chain link fence on the Schum Avenue side of the building, away from Playground A.

Development of the site would increase impervious surface cover, requiring implementation of stormwater management measures designed to minimize stormwater related impacts to water quality and water quantity. The stormwater management measures would be based on the *Fort Hamilton Stormwater Management Plan* and *New York State Stormwater Design Manual*, with consideration given to a variety of measures, including underground management devices.

Construction and Operations. Construction of the new CDC facility will involve clearing and grading of approximately 95,000 ft²; White Avenue and Schum Avenue will be repaved within this footprint. Construction timing is dependent on the availability of construction funds. Currently, construction is expected to commence between 2027 and 2030. Construction will occur during daylight business hours to the greatest practicable extent. Construction access into Fort Hamilton will be achieved via the main access control point on John Warren Avenue. Construction staging and laydown will utilize approximately half of the parking lot across from the proposed site on White Avenue (



Construction Access and Staging

0 125 250 Feet



Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

By: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NY District
 Date: 28 September 2023
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Figure 2-2). Construction is expected to result in the temporary use of approximately 55 parking spaces until the White Avenue parking lot is no longer needed for staging.

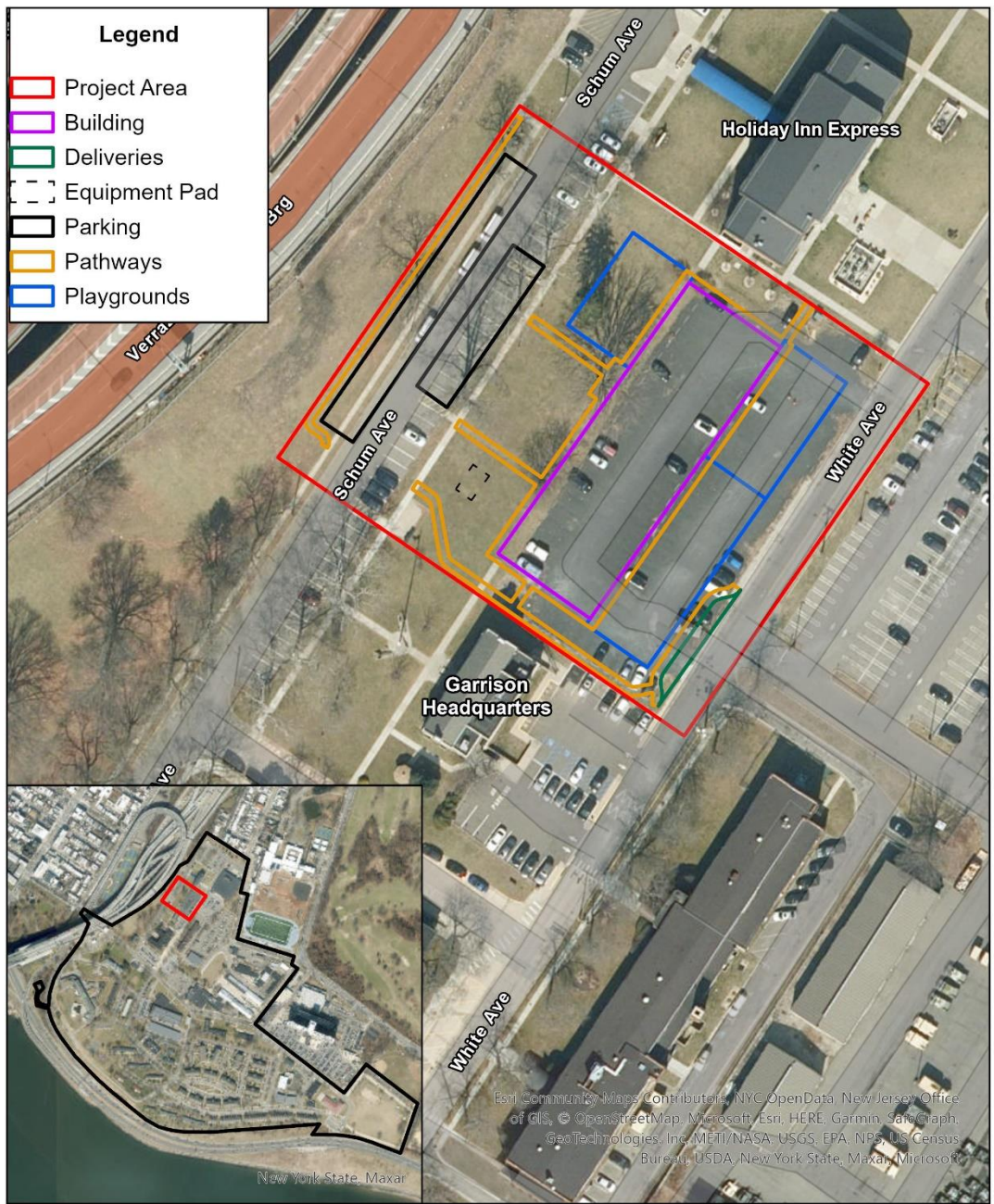
The new CDC facility will be operated year-round from 0600 hours to 1800 hours, Monday to Friday. Tractor trailers will make approximately twelve deliveries per month on White Avenue for food and supplies.

Additionally, the Proposed Action would incorporate the following measures and best management practices to comply with requirements that apply specifically to Fort Hamilton:

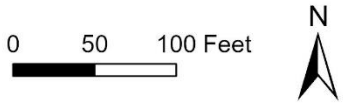
- The Proposed Action will exceed one acre of soil disturbance. Stormwater permits and approvals for construction activities will be obtained from NYSDEC and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection prior to construction. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be developed for the stormwater construction permit. The SWPPP will identify best management practices that will be implemented for sediment and erosion control. The Proposed Action will be consistent with the soil erosion management guidelines in the *Fort Hamilton Stormwater Management Plan* and *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan*, as applicable.
- Stormwater would be managed in accordance with and Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 USC §§ 17001 *et seq.*), *Fort Hamilton Stormwater Management Plan*, and *New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual*, as applicable.
- The Proposed Action will comply with the *Fort Hamilton Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan*. In the case of inadvertent discovery of prehistoric or historic artifacts during project construction, all construction would cease, the site would be secured, and the Fort Hamilton Cultural Resource Manager would contact NYC LPC, NY SHPO, and federally recognized tribes within 24 hours.
- Prior to any activities involving digging, drilling, grading, or any other subsurface disturbance activity, the construction team would initiate and procure a Dig Permit (FH Form 200-1 for Land Excavation and Water Use).
- While the project area is not anticipated to contain unexploded ordinance (UXO), the construction specifications would provide clear instructions to construction personnel on the steps to follow if UXO is discovered. A pre-construction safety brief would be provided by the Fort Hamilton Safety Office to the construction team outlining how to recognize UXO and the steps to follow. If UXO is discovered, all work would cease, workers would muster at an off-site location, and the discovery would be reported immediately to the Fort Hamilton Dispatch Office.
- The construction contractor will create a waste management plan and report waste reuse and recycling quantities in accordance with Fort Hamilton's waste management policies.
- During construction, heavy equipment would be required to park overnight on paved surfaces. All equipment would be regularly inspected for hydraulic and fuel leaks. If leaks are detected, clean-up and repair would be performed immediately. In the event of a hazardous material or petroleum spill at the project area, the Fort Hamilton Dispatch Office

and Environmental Division Office would be contacted immediately at accordance with the installation's spill response policy.

- All construction equipment would comply with the three-minute idling limit pursuant to New York City Administrative Code, Title 24, Section 24-163. All non-road diesel equipment would comply with the Federal Clean Air Nonroad Diesel Rule, which regulates emissions from nonroad diesel engines and sulfur content in nonroad diesel fuel.
- Dust suppression techniques would be used during construction to reduce air pollution. Recommended methods include application of water, soil stabilizers, or vegetation; use of covers on soil stockpiles and dump truck loads; use of silt fences; and suspension of earth-movement activities during high-wind conditions (gusts exceeding 25 miles per hour). The construction area will be kept tidy and any fugitive soil or debris on the public roadway will be swept regularly.
- During construction and operation, electricity from Fort Hamilton would be used preferentially over the use of generators. All generator use would be pre-approved by the Fort Hamilton Air Quality Manager and adhere to applicable regulatory requirements. If generators are used, then duration of use will be documented to calculate emissions.
- Temporary road closures on White Avenue and Schum Avenue are anticipated during construction. Road closures would be required for repaving activities but may also be needed during other stages of construction to maintain safety. Signage and flaggers will be deployed where appropriate to redirect pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicle operators during temporary road closures and to maintain safety during construction. Temporary fencing will be installed around the construction area for safety and security.
- Tree removals will be performed in accordance with Fort Hamilton's 2009 *Tree Replacement Guidelines*. Trees will be identified and measured prior to removal and replacement trees will be provided. Tree protection measures, such as tree guards, will be implemented as needed during construction to protect trees that are retained on site.



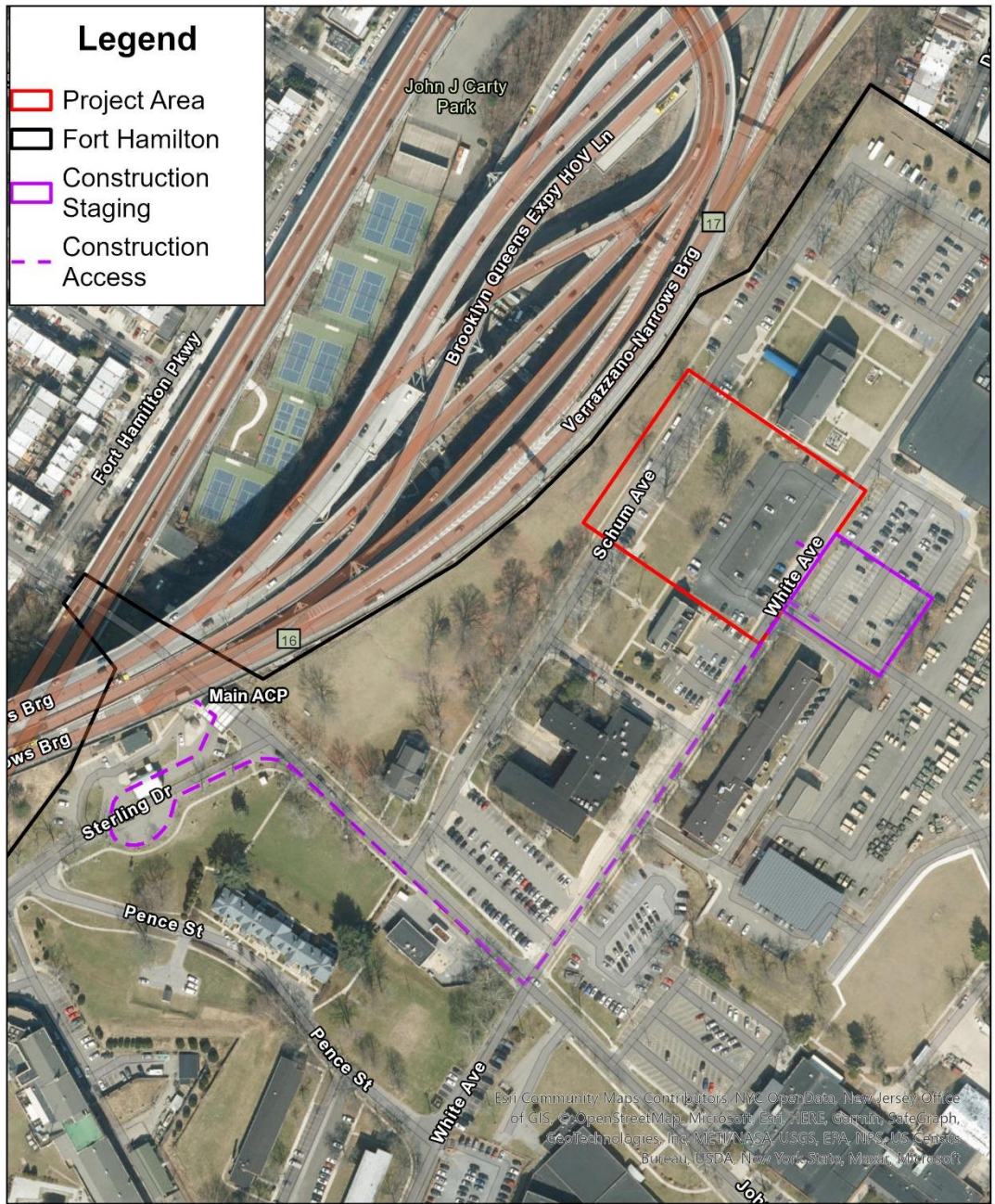
Proposed Action Components



Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

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Figure 2-1. Proposed Child Development Center Components



Construction Access and Staging

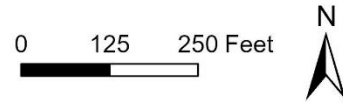


Figure 2-2. Proposed Construction Access and Staging

2.2 Selection Standards for Project Alternatives

The development of selection standards is an effective mechanism for the identification, comparison, and evaluation of reasonable alternatives. The selection standards were developed to be consistent with the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action and to address pertinent mission, environmental, safety, and health factors. The following selection standards were utilized to identify reasonable alternatives for analysis in the EA:

- Adequate space and infrastructure to accommodate the new facility;
- Compatible with the CDC's mission;
- Compatible with the 2019 Fort Hamilton Area Development Plan (ADP);
- Complies with Army design standards and regulations;
- Protects children from environmental health and safety risks;
- Developable with minimal preparation, relocation, or demolition.

2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the Army would not construct a new CDC facility within Fort Hamilton. The Proposed Action site would remain as a landscaped area and closed gravel parking lot. Child enrollment capacity would not be increased from 76 children to 126 children. The CDC would continue to be operated out of an outdated, 1960's era building.

The No Action Alternative would not satisfy the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action as described in **Section 1.3**; however, the Army environmental review process requires consideration of the No Action Alternative, and CEQ guidance recommends inclusion of the No Action Alternative in an EA to assess environmental consequences that may occur if the Proposed Action is not implemented. Therefore, the No Action Alternative will be carried forward for detailed analysis and serves as a baseline against which the Proposed Action can be compared.

2.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

As part of the alternative development process, alternative sites for the Proposed Action on Fort Hamilton were considered (Figure 2-3). Site A is approximately 95,000 ft² and is bordered by Holiday Inn Express, Garrison Headquarters, White Avenue, and Schum Avenue in northwestern Fort Hamilton. Site B is approximately 40,000 ft² and is bordered by Pence Street, John Warren Avenue, White Avenue, and Building 209 in western Fort Hamilton. Site C is the existing Child and Youth Services Building 412 bound by Pershing Loop, Sterling Drive, John Warren Avenue, and Building 403 on the eastern side of Fort Hamilton. Site C is approximately 70,000 ft².

In comparing these sites, Site A meets all the site selection criteria and Sites B and C do not (**Table 2-1**). Site B is not large enough and does not comply with Army standards for CDCs because it is too close to Fort Hamilton's main access control point on 101st Street. In addition, Site B is next to a fueling station which could pose health and safety risks to children. Site C would require renovation of the existing Child and Youth Services building and construction of an addition to the building. Therefore, Site C would require substantial site preparation, relocation, and demolition that would disrupt ongoing Child and Youth Services operations. For these

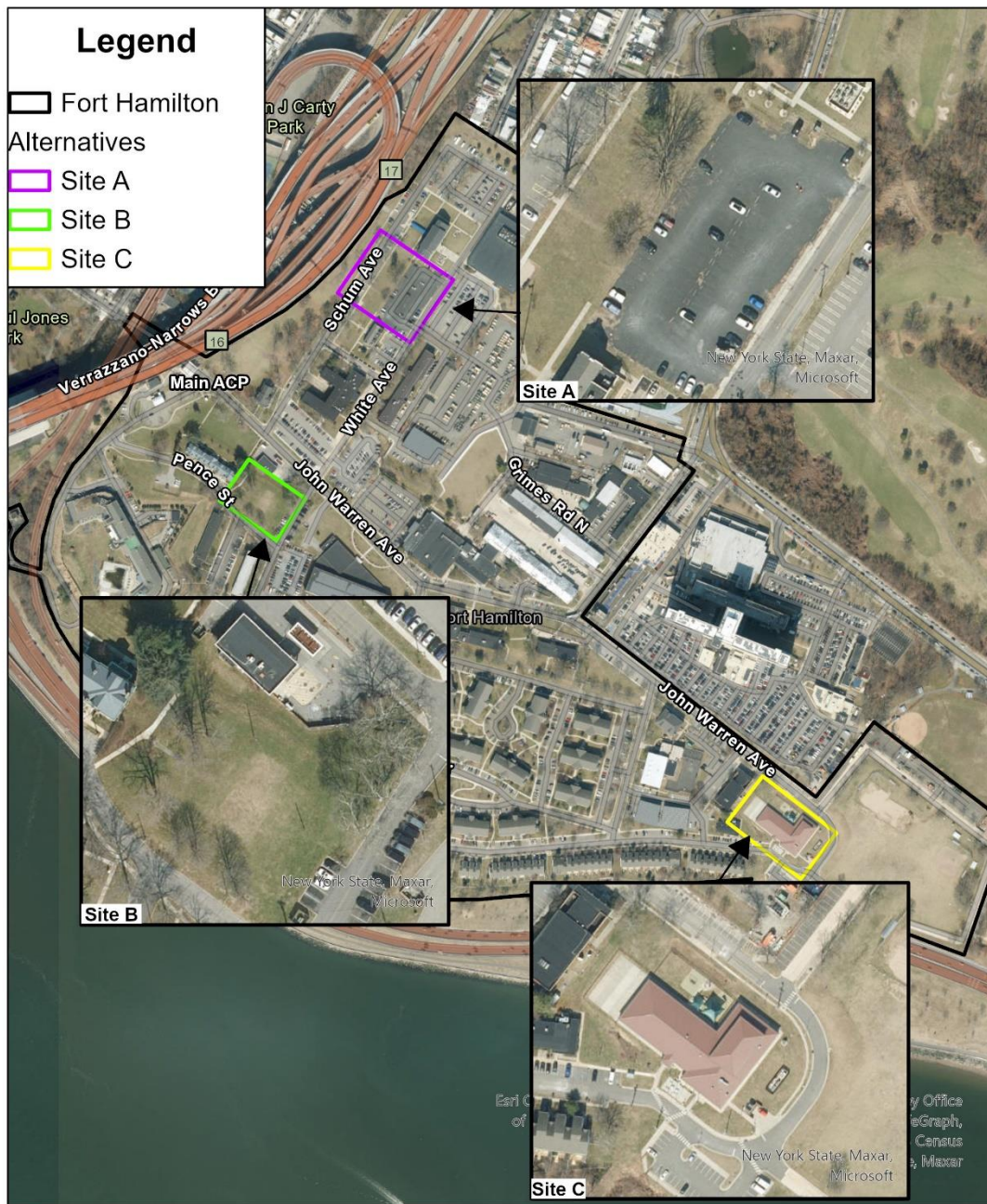
reasons, Sites B and C were rejected and do not require detailed analysis. Site A satisfies the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action and meets the site selection standards.

Table 2-1. Site Selection Standards

Site	Adequate Space and Infrastructure	Meets CDC Mission	Compatible with ADP	Complies with Army Regulations	Protects Health and Safety	Minimal Preparation, Relocation, or Demolition
Site A	X	X	X	X	X	X
Site B		X	X			X
Site C	X	X	X	X	X	

2.5 Identification of the Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative is to implement the Proposed Action at Site A, as described in **Section 2.1**.



Alternative Sites

Child Development Center
 Army Garrison Fort Hamilton
 Brooklyn, New York

0 312.5 625 Feet

By: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NY District
 Date: 26 September 2023
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Figure 2-3. Alternative Sites Considered

3. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING LETTERS MAILING LIST

Table 3-1. Distribution List

Federal and Regional Agencies	
Steve Sinkevich Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist United States Fish and Wildlife Service Long Island Ecological Services Field Office 340 Smith Road Shirley, NY 11967-2258	Mark Austin United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 290 Broadway New York, New York 10007-1866
State and Local Agencies	
Daniel Mackay Deputy Commissioner Division for Historic Preservation New York State Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation PO Box 189 Waterford, NY 12188	Stephen Watts Regional Permit Administrator New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 2 1 Hunter's Point Plaza 47-40 21st Street Long Island City, NY 11101-5401
Gina Santucci Director of Environmental Review New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission David N. Dinkins Municipal Building 1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North New York, NY 10007	Stormwater Permit Program Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis New York City Department of Environmental Protection 59-17 Junction Blvd, 9th Floor Flushing, NY 11373
Hilary Semel Director and General Counsel Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination 100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor New York, NY 10038	New York Natural Heritage Program New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway, 5th Floor Albany, NY 12233-4757
Federally Recognized Tribes	
Susan Bachor Historic Preservation Officer Delaware Tribe of Indians Historic Preservation 5100 Tuxedo Blvd. Bartlesville, OK 74006	Jeffrey Bendremer Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians 86 Spring Street Williamstown, MA 01267
Rainbow Chavis Cultural Resources Director Shinnecock Indian Nation PO Box 5006 100 Church Street Southampton, NY 11969	Jeremy Dennis Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Shinnecock Indian Nation PO Box 5006 100 Church Street Southampton, NY 11969
Deborah Dotson Tribal Council President Delaware Nation P.O. Box 825	Shannon Holsey Tribal Council President Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians

Anadarko, OK 73005	N8476 MohHeConNuck Road Bowler, WI 54416
Brad KillsCrow Chief Delaware Tribe of Indians 5100 Tuxedo Blvd Bartlesville, OK 74006	Katelyn Lucas Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Historic Preservation Office Delaware Nation P.O. Box 825 Anadarko, OK 73005
Bryan Polite Chairperson Shinnecock Indian Nation PO Box 5006 100 Church Street Southampton, NY 11969	