7 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

7.1 Introduction

Per the 2021 *CEQR Technical Manual*, historic and cultural resources include both architectural and archaeological resources. Archaeological resources include physical remains, usually subsurface, such as burials, foundations, artifacts, wells, or privies of the prehistoric, Native American, or historic periods. Architectural resources generally include historically important buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts including:

- Buildings and properties designated as a New York City Landmark (NYCL) or historic district by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC), or buildings and properties calendared for NYCL consideration;
- Properties listed on the State/National Register of Historic Places (S/NR) or contained within a district listed on or formally determined eligible for S/NR listing;
- Properties recommended by the New York State Board for listing on the S/NR or National Historic Landmarks (NHL) designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior; and
- Properties not identified by one of the programs listed above, but that meet their eligibility requirements by the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

The Proposed Actions would allow the development of the Proposed Facility – an approximately 3,093,880-gross-square-foot (gsf), approximately 245-foot-tall facility containing gaming, hotel, event center, and retail uses. Bally's would also construct an approximately 40,160-gsf, approximately 40-foot-tall replacement standalone clubhouse for the Golf Course.

In connection with the Proposed Facility, the uninterrupted circular roadway within the Park that connects the southbound and northbound Hutchinson River Expressway service roads (the "Ring Road") would be widened and improved in coordination with the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT).

Collectively, the Development Site and the Ring Road comprise the "Affected Area." The Proposed Actions contemplate that ground disturbance would occur within the Affected Area.

7.2 Principal Conclusions

The Proposed Actions would not result in a significant adverse impact to historic and cultural resources.

Architectural Resources

As indicated in correspondence from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) dated 02 April 2024, the Affected Area has no architectural significance (see LPC environmental review letter in Appendix B).

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (SHPO)'s Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) shows no historic or cultural resources within 400 feet of the Affected Area. In a letter dated 24 September 2024, SHPO confirmed that there are no historic properties or historic resources on the Development Site (see Appendix B). Accordingly, the Proposed Actions would not result in significant adverse historic and cultural resource impacts to an architectural resource and no further analysis is warranted.

Archaeological Resources

The Affected Area is shown outside an "archaeological buffer area" on CRIS.[1] Project-generated development would disturb areas where soils may have not been previously disturbed. As indicated in correspondence from LPC dated 02 April 2024, the Affected Area has no archaeological significance. Therefore, no further assessment of archaeological resources is warranted.

7.3 Methodology

Eligibility Criteria

For a resource to be eligible for listing on the state or national registers of historic places, the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture must be present in a district(s), a site(s), a building(s), a structure(s), or an object(s) that possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

B. Is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

[1] According to the SHPO, an archeological buffer area is a specified distance around archaeological sites that SHPO has inventoried. Because these areas are based on proximity to sites, locations within these areas may not be archaeologically sensitive, and locations outside of these areas may still be archaeologically sensitive. SHPO's reviewers evaluate sensitivity based on a variety of environmental factors, including topography and hydrology, so these buffer areas are only suggestive.

C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. Has yielded – or may be likely to yield – information important in prehistory or history.

Architectural Resources

The first step to evaluate if a proposed project may affect a historic resource is to consider what geographic area the project might affect and identify historic resources within that area. To assess potential direct and indirect impacts to architectural resources, the *CEQR Technical* Manual recommends an architectural resources study area that is within 400 feet of the Affected Area (the "Study Area"). Figure 7-1 shows the Historic and Cultural Resources Study Area established for this project, which does not identify any historic or cultural resources within 400 feet of the Affected Area. The nearest S/NR-eligible historic resources - 2780 Schurz Avenue and 850 Zerega Avenue – are over 2,000 feet from the Affected Area.

Architectural resources within the Study Area were also inventoried using SHPO's Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) database and LPC's Discover NYC Landmarks Map. No architectural resources were identified within 400 feet of the Development Site. In a letter dated 24 September 2024, SHPO confirmed that no historic resources would be affected by the Proposed Actions (see Appendix B). Additionally, as indicated in correspondence from LPC dated 02 April 2024, the Affected Area has no architectural significance.

Archaeological Resources

For archaeological resources, the study area is the area of ground disturbance that would be disturbed by project-generated construction. The Affected Area is within an "archaeological buffer area" on SHPO's CRIS.[2] Project-generated development and improvements to Ring Road require ground disturbance in an area where soils may have not been previously disturbed.

Archaeological resources are typically assessed for projects that would result in ground disturbance and where either SHPO or LPC has reason to suspect the presence of archaeological resources. In a letter dated 24 September 2024, SHPO confirmed that no archaeological resources would be affected by the Proposed Actions. As indicated in correspondence from LPC dated 02 April 2024, the Affected Area has no archeological significance. Therefore, no further consideration of archaeological resources is warranted.

[2] See footnote 1.

Figure 7-1: Historic and Cultural Resources

