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April 10, 2017

Hon. Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: New Policy Governing the Timeline for Public Submission of Testimony to the Landmarks Preservation Commission

Dear Chair Srinivasan,

I write you with respect to the recently adopted policy that requires testimony for a Tuesday Landmarks Preservation Commission meeting to be received by 1:00 pm on the day before.

As noted in an April 4 letter signed by the *Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation, Landmarks West!* and *Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts*, this new policy does not provide the public with sufficient time to review application materials, compose a thorough testimony and submit it properly.

As the letter notes, application materials are often not available to the public until late in the day Friday. Under such conditions, it does not seem reasonable to expect that the public would be in a position by Monday at 1:00 pm to have reviewed those materials, considered them thoughtfully and composed a testimony.

I therefore urge the Landmarks Preservation Commission either to relax this deadline for public submission of testimony, or implement a new policy that requires application materials to be made available to the public well in advance of the deadline for public submission of testimony. The aforementioned letter recommends 5:00 pm on Thursday as

an adequate deadline for such materials to be made available; I would support that deadline, and even encourage the Commission to consider an earlier timeframe as well.

I empathize with the Commission for being tasked with considering an extraordinary number of applications, and I recognize the importance of having adequate time to organize materials in advance of your meetings. I write you with respect for that need, but also out of consideration for the public's need to have adequate time to create well-informed and thoughtful public testimony. I appreciate your judgment and leadership in finding a way to meet both needs.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CJ', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Corey Johnson,
Council Member, 3rd District