



**Greenwich
Village
Society for
Historic
Preservation**

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July 11, 2012

Hon. Margaret Chin
City Councilmember, 1st District
165 Park Row, Suite 11
New York, NY 10038

Re: NYU 2031 Plan

Dear Councilmember Chin:

We write to follow up on the June 29th City Council hearing on the NYU 2031 plan. As you saw, there was extremely deep and broad opposition to the plan, from neighbors, from NYU's faculty, staff, and graduate workers. There also remain myriad unanswered questions about the plan and its finances, its environmental impact, the necessity of NYU locating additional facilities in this area, and the possibility of alternatives.

We were heartened by your comments criticizing the plan, its size, and its potential impact.

While we all recognize and value the important place NYU has in our city as an institution of higher education and as an economic engine, we remain steadfast in our position that NYU should not be allowed to absorb or reconfigure public land by easement or expansion, that no zoning changes should be approved, and that no urban renewal agreements should be overturned.

Thus as you and your fellow Councilmembers move towards a final vote on the proposal, we wish to reiterate to you in the strongest of terms that we believe that the only appropriate thing for the Council to do is to vote no, and send this plan back to the drawing board. Only in this way can these critical outstanding issues be answered, can the true necessity of siting facilities in these sensitive and oversaturated locations be determined, and can viable alternative options be fully explored.

Sincerely,

Andrew Berman
Greenwich Village Society for
Historic Preservation

Mark Crispin Miller
NYU Faculty Against the
Sexton Plan

Scott Sommer
New York Sub-Regional Director
UAW Region 9A
(the union of ACT-UAW [adjunct faculty] and
GSOC-UAW [graduate employees] at NYU)

Stephen Rechner
President
UCATS, Local 3882, NYSUT, AFT

Martin Tessler and Terri Cude, Co-Chairs
Community Action Alliance on NYU 2031

Simeon Bankoff, Executive Director
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Downtown Independent Democrats

Bill Borock, President
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David Mulkins, President
Bowery Alliance of Neighbors

Lesley Doyel and Justin Hoy
Co-Presidents, Save Chelsea

Anne Hearn, Co-President
Washington Square Village Tenants Association

Susan Kramer
Village Residents Alliance

Mary Johnson
East Square Neighbors Association

Sara Jones, Chair and Ellen Horan, Vice-Chair
LaGuardia Corner Gardens

Leigh Behnke and Pete Davies
Broadway Residents Coalition

Howard Negrin, President
Washington Place Block Association

Enid Braun, President
Lower Manhattan Neighbors' Organization

Elaine Hudson, President
Mercer Street Block Association

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Executive Committee
Silver Towers Tenants Association

Ruth Rennert, Chair
Save Washington Square Village
Sasaki Garden Committee

Georgette Fleischer, Founder
Friends of Petrosino Square

Richard Blodgett, President
Charlton Street Block Association

Barbara T. Devaney
Friends of LaGuardia Place

Jim Jasper, President
300 west 15th Street Block Association

Constance Dondore, Coordinator
15 Washington Place Tenants Association

David Weiner, President
88 Bleecker Street Cooperative Board
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Vicki Sando
546 LaGuardia Place Owners Corp.

Marilyn Appleberg, President
10th and Stuyvesant Block Associations

Gerald Banu, President
Perry Street Block Association

Gary A. Tomei, President
West 13th 100 Block Association

Margery Reifler Evans
Grove Street Block Association

Wayne Conti, Owner
Mercer Street Books

Jennifer Lewis, Board
552 LaGuardia Place

Lynne Funk, President
Chelsea-Village Partnership

Cc: Members of the City Council
State Senator Tom Duane
Assemblymember Deborah Glick
Community Board #2, Manhattan