



Greenwich
Village
Society for
Historic
Preservation

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September 18, 2008

Hon. Amanda Burden
Director, NYC Department of City Planning
22 Reade Street
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Need to Rezone the M1-6 Zone in the South Far West
Village/Hudson Square**

Dear Chair Burden:

I write to reiterate the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation's call to rezone the M1-6 district located at the southern end of the Far West Village and in the northern end of Hudson Square.

As you know, M1-6 zoning allows an enormously high density of development, with an as-of-right FAR of 12 and no limits upon air rights transfers, no contextual controls, and no height limits. This has already resulted in the construction of the Trump SoHo 'Condo-Hotel,' a 454 ft. tall building for which the Department of Buildings has just allowed an additional floor. Other papers filed with the Department of Buildings seem to indicate the developer may be seeking yet an additional floor.

This is an outrageous and totally inappropriate scale for this neighborhood. The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation continues to urge that the zoning be changed to more appropriately limit the size, height, and scale of development in this area. We also believe that the dynamic, mixed use nature of the area should be maintained.

Sincerely,

Andrew Berman
Executive Director

Cc: SoHo Alliance
SoHo Arts Council
Greenwich Village Community Task Force
Historic South Village Advisory Board