

Park West Village Tenants' Association

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December 30, 2008

Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair
Board of Standards and Appeals
Re: BSA Calendar Number 149-08A; 808 Columbus Avenue

Dear Ms. Srinivasan:

As President of the Park West Village Tenants' Association, I have joined with other residents concerned by the relentless progression of massive new buildings planned and now rising which change the nature of our previously wonderful neighborhood. Today however, I am writing to express my own carefully considered opinion regarding the matter of the Board of Standards and Appeals' consideration of findings issued by the Department of Buildings.

Park West Village, my home for nearly forty years, is a planned community constructed in the late 1950s and early 1960s. The good quality of life here depends upon our landscaped grounds, family-friendly recreational facilities, and lots of light, air, and undeluded open space we cherish.

We've enjoyed the large, affordable apartments, abundant trees and walkways, playgrounds and parking, plus Central Park and the diverse population of neighbors who have become a unique community of good friends. All this has made Park West Village a very special place for most of us, until now -- please see the enclosed photos. From our warm, close-knit neighborhood of families and family-friendly stores, we do not want this drastically transformed into a gargantuan destination shopping complex.

The Department of Buildings' "reconsideration" of open space requirements with regard to 808 Columbus Avenue-designated "open space" in a restricted area open only to residents of that building rather than all the residents of the PWV site at 784, 788, and 792 Columbus Avenue is a travesty of what should instead be beneficial planning. This obtuse redefinition of "open space" and the subsequent abhorrent restriction of genuine open space for most residents of a zoning lot diminishes the quality of life that all of us have come to expect in this community.

The Department of Buildings' interpretation of the Zoning Resolution has created a proposed development which exceeds the area's zoning and the earlier planners' original intent. I urge you to support the appeal which rejects findings issued by the Department of Buildings.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Tice, President
Park West Village Tenants' Association
372 Central Pak West, Apt. 16X
New York, NY 10025-8211

Enclosure

Park West Village BEFORE



Park West Village AFTER

