



Honorable Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor  
New York City, New York 10007

June 15, 2015

Dear Chair Srinivasan,

We are one week away from the Commission voting on the designation of the Riverside-West End Historic District Ext II. It has been confirmed that the Commissioners will be presented with the abridged version of the originally calendared district. We must again express our utter disappointment over this decision.

The former Commission, with many of your same staff members, did the research and work, walked these blocks and included these buildings in the calendared district. A public hearing was held on these properties and a pact was made with the public that this extension would be brought before the Commissioners for a vote.

With no public input or discussion WEPS was presented with a fait accompli at our meeting at the end of April. Contrary to any pretense of transparency, this only served to inform us of your decision.

The Commission, dedicated to preserving and protecting NYC's architecturally, historically and culturally significant buildings and districts is doing a great disservice to our northern neighborhoods, areas neglected for decades until we began the process for designation in 2009. It seems you are willing participants in continuing that neglect by eliminating almost the entire stretch of Broadway in the 90's.

We are outraged by the singling out of the site on West End that PS 75 sits on, along with its entire city block. This interrupts the streetscape of West End Avenue from 70<sup>th</sup> St to 107<sup>th</sup> St. You could include this building in the historic district and consider it non-contributing. This would leave the district intact, allow for future development or changes and give the people a voice in what those changes would be. By removing it from the district you are leaving this block open and vulnerable in perpetuity and potentially destroying an otherwise cohesive streetscape, while forever silencing those residents who must abide by your decision.

We ask once more that you reconsider next Tuesday and let the Commission vote on this extension as calendared.

Thank you,

Josette Amato  
Executive Director