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**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

May 23, 2025

Richard R. Buery Jr., Chair  
New York City Charter Revision Commission  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: Even if ULURP is revised, the Community Board's role in the ULURP process should not be diminished**

Dear Chair Buery Jr.,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on May 21, 2025, the Board approved the following resolution by a vote of 27 in favor, 4 opposed, 8 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

**WHEREAS** Community Boards are the only city entity composed entirely of local volunteers who live and work in the neighborhood and thus are the front line of local democracy, bringing in deep local knowledge of neighborhood conditions, history, and needs that a centralized agency may overlook; and

**WHEREAS** Community Boards host public hearings where residents can voice support, concerns, or opposition to land use proposals. Weakening the role of Community Boards would cut out a major avenue for community voices, especially for lower income or marginalized groups; and

**WHEREAS** Community Boards understand how proposals might affect traffic, school capacity, housing affordability, open space, small businesses, and neighborhood character. Their recommendations help share projects to reduce harm and increase community benefit; and

**WHEREAS** Even if the votes of Community Boards are advisory, Community Boards often succeed in negotiating changes to development plans, such as more affordable housing or stronger tenant protection. Diminishing their role could lead to less responsive or balanced projects;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That CB8M recommends to the City Charter Revision Commission that even if the ULURP process is revised, Community Board's role in the ULURP process should not be diminished.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Valerie S. Mason*

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Chair

*Edward Hartzog and Sharon Weiner*

Edward Hartzog and Sharon Weiner  
Co-Chairs, Voting Reform and Charter Revision Task Force

cc: Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York  
Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative

Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District  
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District  
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District  
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District  
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District  
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8<sup>th</sup> Council District