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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

April 25, 2016

Hon. Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: 1009 Fifth Avenue-(between 81st and 82nd Streets)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District-Individual Landmark

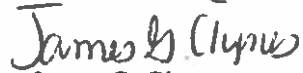
Dear Chair Srinivasan:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, the board adopted the following resolution regarding **1009 Fifth Avenue-(between 81st and 82nd Streets)-Metropolitan Museum Historic District-Individual Landmark-Tiffani Simple, architect**. Application for the repair and upgrade to existing guardrail.

WHEREAS the retaining wall around the moat has started to shift inwards due to water infiltration;
WHEREAS the inner portion of the wall, composed of ashlar blocks and brick masonry, is failing;
WHEREAS the large, bluestone coping blocks have started to tilt inwards;
WHEREAS some of the cast iron columnar posts on the guard rail have started to crack due to the shifting of the retaining wall;
WHEREAS the cast iron railing and posts are rusted in multiple locations;
WHEREAS the bluestone copings and ashlar blocks are to be replaced with cast stone to match the color and texture of the bluestone;
WHEREAS brick from the inner (non-visible) wythe will be removed, salvaged and reused;
WHEREAS damaged and deteriorated brick from the exterior face of the wall will be replaced with new brick to match the existing – with salvaged brick to be in most visible locations and new brick to be in least visible locations;
WHEREAS the interior of the wall will be drained into the moat and new weep holes incorporated in the reconstruction of the interior wall;
WHEREAS the existing guard rail will be repaired and repainted black;
WHEREAS new ¾” square steel vertical rods with a new ¾” top rail will be set on the inside of the existing guard rail to bring the railing into compliance with the current Building Code, which now requires that the safety components be vertical and not horizontal;
WHEREAS the top of the existing guard rail ranges from 33” to 36” above the sidewalk and the posts are 46” high, the new rail composed of vertical rods will be 42” above the sidewalk to meet the current building code;
WHEREAS the retaining wall and existing guard rail will be fully restored, the new safety railing with vertical rods will be painted to match the original guard rail, and the new safety railing will be designed to be as unobtrusive as possible in the dimension of the rods and the placing of the rods to the inside of the original guard rail;
THEREFORE be it resolved that this application be approved as presented.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 41 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Sincerely, 



James G. Clynes
Chairman



David Helpert and Jane Parshall
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District