Nicholas Viest Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

February 27, 2013

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

Re: 815 Fifth Avenue (between 62nd and 63rd Streets) – Upper East Side Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney:

Enclosed please find a resolution of the Board disapproving the plans for 815 Fifth Avenue. Please note, however, that the applicant has advised our Board that he is delaying his appearance before the Commission and is coming back to our Landmarks Committee in March with revisions. Therefore, if the revisions of the applicant change the position of the Board, we reserve the right to replace the enclosed resolution with a new resolution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest Chair David Helpern and David Liston Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York

Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senate Member Hon. Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member Hon. Micah Kellner, NYS Assembly Member Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member Hon. Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Member Nicholas Viest Chair

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Re: 815 Fifth Avenue (between 62nd and 63rd Streets) – Upper East Side Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2013, the board adopted the following resolution regarding 815 Fifth Avenue (between 62nd and 63rd Streets) – Upper East Side Historic District - *T.P. Greer Architects*, *LLC* – An Italianate style residence designed by Samuel A. Warner in 1870-71 and altered by Murgatroyd & Ogden in 1923. Application is to reconstruct the entire building façade.

WHEREAS the existing, 25 foot wide, five story brownstone with be expanded vertically into a 14 story building,

WHEREAS the proposed enlargement of the existing building will demolish the remaining elements of the original façade of the oldest building on Fifth Avenue;

WHEREAS the scale of the block, with its variegated character, provides a relief from the typical cornice line blocks on Fifth Avenue;

WHEREAS the modern design, with large windows in a limestone grid, is not compatible with the character of the buildings on the block; and

WHEREAS the rear glass curtain wall is totally out of context with its surroundings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this application is disapproved.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 26 in favor, 1 opposed, and 6 abstentions.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest Chair David Helpern and David Liston Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York

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