

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

February 25, 2022

Hon. Sarah Carroll, Chair  
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Municipal Building  
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: 210 East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Dear Chair Carroll and Members of the Landmarks Preservation Commission,

I am writing as Chair of Community Board 8 Manhattan (“CB8” or “the board”) on behalf of the board to request (1) that you hold a public hearing—and not just a public meeting—on the application for 210 East 62nd Street and (2) that CB8 be permitted to review and advise on the application before it is heard by the LPC. We note that our local elected officials and community groups join us in this request and have already written to you.

The current version of the application is very different from the one that previously came before CB8. It is imperative that the public have the opportunity to be heard on the application that is actually proposed to be implemented, not an outdated version that is no longer operative. That opportunity should come both in the form of CB8 review, where our Landmarks Committee has the experience and expertise to provide a thorough review, and in allowing the public to be heard by the LPC directly.

The material changes to the application would warrant public comment and community board input in any event, but such comment and input are particularly necessary here in light of this applicant’s history. After the LPC approved the original application in 2016, it came to light in 2018 that the actual construction being undertaken by the applicant differed substantially from what had been approved. It was not until 2021 that the applicant finally acknowledged that fact and requested that its plans be retroactively approved, providing no explanation for why it had misled CB8 and the LPC and why it had proceeded with plans that differed from the application that had been submitted, and obscuring the true extent of the deviation from the original plans. CB8 rejected that request in 2021.

In sum, we ask that the LPC allow CB8 time to review the latest version of the application before taking it up for LPC review, and that the LPC allow the public to comment on the application in its meeting.<sup>1</sup> Please let me know if it would be helpful to discuss or if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

*Russell Squire*

Russell Squire  
Chair

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<sup>1</sup> It also bears noting that the community and CB8 have serious concerns about the condition of the building and the applicant’s failure to protect it from the elements in the course of the work that has been done. We are following up with the Department of Buildings about this.

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District  
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District  
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District