

Valerie S. Mason
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The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan

October 25, 2024

Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Center Street, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10007

RE: 593 Park Avenue (Upper East Side Historic District) – *Walter B. Melvin Architects, LLC* – A neo-Gothic building designed by Henry C. Pelton and Allen & Collens and constructed in 1920-1922. Application is for exterior lighting fixtures at the sanctuary and the belltower.

Dear Chair Carroll,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on October 23, 2024, the Board approved the following resolution by a vote of 35 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS 593 Park Avenue is the Central Presbyterian Church, occupying the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 64th Street; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes a scheme of exterior lighting at the large windows of the nave on 64th Street, the West window on Park Avenue, and all eight sides of the bell tower; and

WHEREAS the current proposal is part of an extensive restoration project begun in 2015, part of which involved the removal of previously installed exterior lighting; and

WHEREAS at the large Park Avenue-facing window, the applicant proposes to add LED lighting strips at the base of each of the three major divisions of the window; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to add lighting strips similarly at each of the five major windows of the nave along 64th Street; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to light the tower from up to four strips with additional vertical LED strips on the Park Avenue facade; and

WHEREAS the proposed lighting strips will be approximately 5 ½” high and painted to match the existing material of the church exterior; and

WHEREAS the proposed lighting will require minimal penetrations of the original church fabric to bring power to the fixtures; and

WHEREAS the proposed lighting will be used only for night-time illumination;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this application is **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason

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Chair

Anthony Cohn and David Helpern

Anthony Cohn and David Helpern
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

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, 8th Council District