Valerie S. Mason Chair

Ian McKnight District Manager



The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan

October 27, 2025

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

RE: Metropolitan Museum of Art (Individual Landmark) – Metropolitan Museum of Art – A Beaux-Arts style building designed by numerous architects, chiefly, Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould who designed the initial Ruskinian Gothic structure of the MET, and constructed in the 1880s, with additions throughout the 2000s. Application is to replace public arrival wayfinding signage in the Fifth Avenue Plaza and the Great Hall.

Dear Chair Carroll,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on October 22, 2025, the Board approved the following resolution by a vote of 37 in favor, 3 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS 1000 Fifth Avenue is a museum complex (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) on the west side of Fifth Avenue between 80th and 84th Streets; and

WHEREAS the Museum is an Individual Landmark, and Interior Landmark and sits within the Central Park Scenic Landmark District; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to replace existing signage at the entrances to the museum and within the Great Hall with a new "family" of signage types; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the proposed new signage is to facilitate movement into and through the museum, reduce visual "clutter" through standardization and consistent color for each sign type and to provide vital information about exhibitions; and

WHEREAS the applicant proposes for the Great Hall an interactive screen display at the information desk, large District Identification banners at the three entrance porticos, directional pylons at the porticos, amenity ID banners (Tickets, Gift Shop, etc), and smaller direction ID signs mounted to the walls; and

WHEREAS the attachments for the signs will minimally interfere with the stone and the banners will be narrower so as not to detract from the columns at each of the porticos; and

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WHEREAS the exterior signage will include a large banner at the "main" entrance, two smaller banners at the 81st and 83rd street entrances, and a number of directional pylons at the entrances; and

WHEREAS new signage will, by its hierarchical nature and its consistent color scheme, aid the visitor; and

WHEREAS the Committee generally approved of the scheme with some reservations as to the number of signs and some concern over the quantity of exterior signage; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved, this application is APPROVED as presented.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason

Anthony Cohn, David Helpern, and Jane Parshall

Valerie S. Mason Chair Anthony Cohn, David Helpern, and Jane Parshall 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