July 23, 2012

City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn
City Councilmember Margaret Chin
Members of the New York City Council

Delivered via fax and postal mail to all members

Re: NYU 2031 Plan

Dear Speaker Quinn, Councilmember Chin, and Members of the City Council:

We strongly urge you to vote ‘NO’ on the amended NYU expansion plan approved by the Council’s Land Use Committee.

This is the wrong plan for New York City, for the university, and certainly for Greenwich Village. Those most affected by this plan -- NYU’s neighbors, its faculty, its staff, and its graduate workers -- have expressed overwhelming opposition to it and urged the Council to vote it down. While we recognize and value NYU’s important place in our city, real alternative locations that could be win-wins have not been explored, and NYU has still not provided any information to justify the true need for this expansion.

The modified plan would still break the original agreements under which NYU was given this formerly-public land years ago, oversaturate a residential neighborhood with more university facilities, and take away precious public park space. The City Council should not approve such a plan, and should instead send it back to the drawing board to come up with real solutions.

Please do the right thing not only for Greenwich Village, but for New York City and for New York University. Vote ‘NO’ on the NYU expansion plan.

Sincerely,

Andrew Berman, Executive Director
Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation

Mark Crispin Miller
NYU Faculty Against the Sexton Plan
(representing more than 450 faculty)

Scott Sommer
New York Sub-Regional Director
UAW Region 9A
(the union of ACT-UAW [adjunct faculty] and GSOU-UAW [graduate employees] at NYU)

Stephen Rechner, President
Union of Clerical, Technical, and Administrative Staff at NYU,
Local 3883, NYSUT, AFT, AFL-CIO
(representing 1,400 NYU workers)

Terri Cude and Martin Tessler, Co-Chairs
Community Action Alliance Against NYU 2031 (a coalition of 35 community groups)