

Board of Directors
Washington Square Southeast Apartments, Inc.
505 LaGuardia Place
New York, NY 10012

January 28, 2004

Honorable Robert Tierney
Chair, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street, 9th floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Tierney:

As the Board of Directors of 505 LaGuardia Place (Washington Square Southeast Apartments, Inc.), we write to urge you to consider designation of our building, 100 and 110 Bleecker Street (University Village/Silver Towers) and the adjacent landscaping, outdoor sculpture and furniture, and adjacent supermarket and Coles Sports and Recreation Center as New York City landmarks.

We are proud to live in such an architecturally and historically distinguished environment, and we hope that the Landmarks Preservation Commission will be willing to recognize and designate it. As residents and board members we understand the responsibilities that designation would place on us and our neighbors; however, we are unanimous in our support of this proposal and are more than willing to bear the responsibility of designation. We believe in the beneficial impact of landmark designation, and we believe that our superblock is more than worthy of such an honor.

Part of what has made us and our neighbors so invested in staying here is the wonderful design of this space, buildings, landscaping, sculpture and furniture, and surrounding spaces. University Village/Silver Towers is a shining example of thoughtful, modernist urban planning, and its place in the history of urban renewal, Mitchell-Lama housing, university planning, and superblock redevelopment in New York City just adds layers to its significance. This was one of I.M. Pei's first designs in New York, one of the only public outdoor Picasso sculptures in the world, and one of the best examples anywhere of post-war modernist design and planning. Please help us make sure it stays that way.

Few pieces of 1960s urban renewal add to their city or their neighborhood like University Village/Silver Towers does. We urge you to recognize this by designating its superblock as a New York City landmark.

We have attached 111 letters which represent 111 apartments of 505 LaGuardia Place to show our overwhelming support for this designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merle Holley".

Board of Directors:

Merle Holley, President
Connie Masullo, Vice President
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Cc: Andrew Berman, GVSHP