

Corey D. Johnson
Councilmember-Elect, District 3



December 13, 2013

Hon. Robert Tierney, Chair
Landmarks Preservation Commission
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

Re: Designation of Phase II and Phase III of Proposed South Village Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney,

I write to urge you to adhere to the public commitments made by LPC regarding the second and third phases of the proposed South Village Historic District, which was submitted to the LPC for consideration in December of 2006. Specifically, I call upon the Commission at its public meeting on December 17 to vote to designate "Phase II" in its entirety without diminution and to ensure the completion of a survey of "Phase III" before the end of the year.

Phase II, which was calendared and heard, should be voted upon before the end of the year and approved in its entirety with no diminution of its boundaries, including the NYU Vanderbilt Hall and Kevorkian Center and ten 1840s houses at 130-148 West Houston which were added to the proposed district in May after being initially excluded by the Commission. A survey of Phase III, the area south of Houston Street, should also be completed post haste. The development pressures on the South Village are too great and any future delay would be detrimental to the preservation of this area's history. Too much of that architectural history documenting both the immigrant struggle and later cultural innovation

has already been lost due to a lack of landmark protections. The recent addition of the entire South Village to both the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places only further highlights the importance of this area to our local, city, state, and nation's history and the need to quickly extend landmark designation to all three phases.

I hope that at its December 17 meeting the Commission will see fit to landmark Phase II in its entirety and ensure the continuing steps to extend those protections to Phase III in the immediate future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CJ', written in a cursive style.

Corey Johnson

City Councilmember-Elect, District 3