



88-C Bowery New York, NY 10013
Tel & Fax: (212)941-7756

August 29, 2009

Amanda Burden, Chair
City Planning Commission
22 Reade Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Burden,

As a successful jewelry store owner on one of Chinatown's busiest corners, I am very fearful and upset at the widespread suffering caused by high-rise developers on the Bowery's east side. Across from my business, at 91 Bowery, an eighteen-story luxury hotel construction site so destabilized surrounding buildings that one was torn down and another will be soon. At the 123 Hester Street building, sixty residents and the ground floor Hong Kong Station restaurant are now homeless. Because the hotel site and the 123 Hester building have the same owner, many in the community believe that this tragic situation was caused on purpose.

While the rapid destruction of buildings on the east side of the Bowery is displacing residents and small businesses, it is also destroying the culture and historic character of this dynamic part the Bowery and Chinatown. Since this is one of the city's most active commercial districts and since visitors come here to experience something different, it makes no economic sense to allow such destructive overdevelopment to continue.

I therefore strongly support the East Bowery Preservation Plan, which would give east Bowery the same low-rise zoning protections that are on its west side.

Sincerely,

Carroll Ho, Owner
Natalie Creative Jewelry