

# *Noble Lighting Inc.*

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August 20, 2009

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

Dear Chair Burden,

As a retailer of affordable, custom made lighting design, we have been located on the Bowery for the past three years. We located here because the area is the city's most popular, well-established lighting district. It has been both a challenge and a pleasure to locate here, because there is so much competition and because the area has a more relaxed and friendly community.

Recently, because of the rapid increase in building demolition and high-rise construction on the Bowery's east side, many neighborhood businesses have been forced to close because of soaring and unreasonable rents. In some cases, the demolition of one lot has caused irreparable damage to surrounding buildings, and those buildings, too, have had to come down. There is tremendous fear and uncertainty in the business community down here.

I am writing you to strongly support the Bowery Alliance of Neighbor's "East Bowery Preservation Plan", which would give the Bowery's east side the same low-rise zoning protections that preserve and protect the west side. Because most Bowery buildings are only four or five stories high, and because the entire street is in the heart of an historic area loved by tourists, it makes sense to protect both sides of the Bowery. During this time of economic uncertainty, this rezoning plan would help preserve the long-established lighting, jewelry, and restaurant supply businesses, and at the same time preserve the character that makes this community such a popular place to come to.

Sincerely,

Peggy Situ, Manager  
Noble Lighting, Inc.

