

**Number Four Rivington Street, Inc.**

**4 Rivington Street  
New York, New York 10002  
Paddy Kan, Owner and President**

August 19, 2009

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

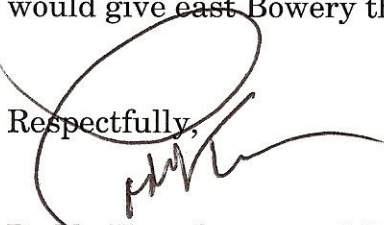
Dear Ms. Burden,

As a longtime local resident and owner of a building flanked on its west side by the Bowery, I am greatly disturbed by the irresponsible overbuilding on the Bowery's east side. Old buildings are being torn down and replaced by absurdly tall structures that clash with and are completely out of context with their surroundings. Because this new emphasis is on luxury, the real estate market has gone through the roof and is causing tremendous hardship and displacement for many residents and small businesses.

The Bowery is the connecting thoroughfare for the historic Chinatown, Little Italy, Lower East Side, NoHo, and East Village districts, and by itself has one of the most colorful histories of any street in the city. While I applaud the city's efforts to increase tourism in this area, it is undercutting its own efforts if allows wrecking ball developers to destroy the very low-rise character and charm that attracts tourists. The Bowery is not a blighted area: it has a thriving, long-established jewelry, lighting, and restaurant supply district, as well as an eclectic mix of other shops, many in the heart of Chinatown.

For the long-term economic health of the Bowery and surrounding community, I strongly support the East Bowery Preservation Plan, which would give east Bowery the same low-rise zoning that protects its west side.

Respectfully,



Paddy Kan, Owner and President  
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