10 Stanton Street Tenant Association

New York, New York 10002 Alysha Coleman, President; Deborah Gonzalez, V.P. Alyshacoleman@yahoo.com

December 8, 2011

Ms. Amanda Burden Chairperson City Planning Commission 22 Reade Street New York, New York 10007

Dear Ms. Burden:

It is with great urgency that we write to you in regards to the development on the Bowery. As community organizers, affordable housing advocates and local residents for more than 20 years, we feel passionate about the historical integrity and protection of the Bowery area.

The Bowery is an integral part of lower Manhattan and the City as a whole. It helps to link together neighborhoods stretching from the Lower East Side to Chinatown. In recent years increasing development has threatened this historical area and the surrounding neighborhoods.

The greatest danger is on the streets east side, where a lack of zoning restrictions encourages demolition, high-rise development, and the rapid displacement of long-time residents and small businesses. As high-rise developments create harsh disruptions to the community's traditional low-rise streetscape, the cultural diversity and creative ferment that has made the street so distinctive and historically unique is being threatened.

It is critical in a time of severe economic uncertainty that the City take efforts to protect its residents, while ensuring that developments proceed responsibly and with due consideration to long-time residents, ensuring that developments proceed responsibly and with due consideration to the history and unique character of the areas they inhabit. We urge you to give East Bowery Preservation proposal a thorough examination and we thank you for any and all consideration.

Sincerely,

Alyshe Colum Alysha Coleman, President

Deborah Gonzalez, Vice President

Deborah Gongales

cc: David Mulkins, Bowery Alliance of Neighbors