



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

DEBORAH J. GLICK
Assemblymember 66th District
New York County

CHAIR
Higher Education Committee

COMMITTEES
Environmental Conservation
Rules
Ways & Means

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

March 10, 2010

Dear Chair Burden,

I am writing to express my support for the community - created East Bowery Preservation Plan. The Bowery is an important part of an area rich in historical significance and is abutted by several neighborhoods that have already received the protection that comes from appropriate zoning including the Special Little Italy District, the Noho Historic District and the west side of Bowery. In light of this, it seems only appropriate to protect the East side of the Bowery as well.

The area in question is surrounded by low rise low density neighborhoods that are protected by zoning that preserves their character, but the efforts to maintain these areas' character will be for naught if we allow out of scale development to emerge on the eastern side of Bowery.

This is a location that is prime for development and the proposed building heights of 85 feet or lower as recommended in the East Bowery Preservation Plan would allow for new projects to revitalize the area without degrading its overall character. As we have seen in other areas of the city, creating protections for only one side of the street allows for wildly out of scale buildings to come face to face with those that typify classic historical landscapes, creating jarring juxtapositions that diminish the cohesiveness of the streetscape.

It is for these reasons that I request that you extend the protections sought in the East Bower Preservation Plan, so that we might save this area from out of character development and ensure that future structures are bound by law to respect the existing aesthetic and character of the neighborhood that has been built up over so many years.

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Glick
Assemblymember