June 9, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The Bowery has a unique and rich history and has always been an important part of New York City. Although certain portions of the west side of the Bowery in the Special Little Italy District and the NoHo Historic District has been protected, the east side of the Bowery as well as other sections of the west side, are not protected.

The Bowery has always served as a gateway to multiple historic districts including the Lower East Side where the Lower East Side Tenement Museum has been for 21 years. As an institution that has been concerned about rampant development and the destruction of many historic buildings and sites, we urge all interested stakeholders to come together and support the Bowery Alliance of Neighbors and their work to encourage smart rezoning of the Bowery.

The Tenement Museum supports all efforts to protect and preserve the historic fabric of this vital part of New York City where not only the roots of the city began but also serves as the iconic gateway to America.

Very truly yours,

David Eng
Vice President
Public Affairs