



THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

59 East 4th Street - New York, NY 10003

Phone (212) 533-5300 - Fax (212) 533-3659

www.cb3manhattan.org - info@cb3manhattan.org

Gigi Li, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

March 27, 2014

Hon. Robert B. Tierney, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC)
Municipal Building
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner Tierney,

At its March 2014 monthly meeting, Community Board 3 passed the following resolution:

VOTE: Community Board 3 Resolution Supporting Landmarks Designation for 75 Essex Street, the former Good Samaritan/Eastern District Dispensary, built in 1890.

WHEREAS, the Italianate-style Good Samaritan/Eastern Dispensary building located at 75 Essex Street (corner of Broome Street), erected in 1890 and designed by distinguished architects Rose & Stone, is the only structure of its kind on the Lower East Side; and

WHEREAS, the four-story building, which is in excellent condition, is clad in orange and tan brick, laid in Flemish bond, with brownstone trim, featuring a series of five round-arched openings on the first story along Essex Street; and

WHEREAS, the Dispensary building was financed through private contributions, with operations funded by the City, and served the impoverished immigrant community of the Lower East Side; and

WHEREAS, the building survives as a testimony to social reformers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, whose vision and commitment propelled New York City to pioneer progressive social change; and

WHEREAS, a building that is part of the new Essex Crossing development will surround 75 Essex Street; and

WHEREAS, other historic buildings within the Seward Park Urban Renewal Area will be demolished, leaving 75 Essex Street it as a lone architectural reminder of the history of the area; and

WHEREAS, that Friends of the Lower East Side have agreed to work with the owner, the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the City Council, and the City Planning Commission to assist the owner with realizing the value of the property's considerable air rights; so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board 3 supports the proposal that the Landmarks Preservation Commission calendar and designate 75 Essex Street as a New York City Individual Landmark.

If you have any questions, please contact the community board office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gigi Li". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gigi Li, Chair
Community Board 3

Cc: Jenny Fernandez, Landmarks Preservation Commission
Emily Rich, Landmarks Preservation Commission
Carolyn Ratcliffe, Landmarks Subcommittee Chair