

LANDMARK WEST!

THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

June 4, 2002

The Honorable Daniel Doctoroff
Deputy Mayor for Economic Development & Rebuilding
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

RE: 2 Columbus Circle, the former Huntington Hartford Gallery of Modern Art

Dear Deputy Mayor Doctoroff:

As you know, LANDMARK WEST! is a lead advocate for the preservation of 2 Columbus Circle, the former Huntington Hartford Gallery of Modern Art. This building is a characteristic and, we believe, landmark-worthy work by one of the leaders of post-war American architecture, Edward Durell Stone. As such, it is an integral part of New York City's heritage of modern architecture. Architect Robert A. M. Stern has stated that the Gallery of Modern Art is one of the most significant modern buildings in New York City, and that its preservation through landmark status is imperative.

The present development focus on Columbus Circle yields myriad opportunities for re-establishing the identity of this historically vital urban space, but it also raises questions about the future of the Circle's defining architecture. These questions merit open discussion, and we write to request that the City provide its customary forum for such discussion—the Uniform Land Use Review Process.

As New Yorkers, we care deeply about the process by which the City makes important land-use decisions—a process that customarily calls for public input and decision-making in an open forum. That process is not being followed here, where the real estate at issue is more than just another development site. 2 Columbus Circle is a "gift" given to the citizenry of New York under terms intended to ensure a long-term benefit. It belongs to all of us, and decisions concerning its future must be exposed to broad, formal public examination and healthy, open discussion.

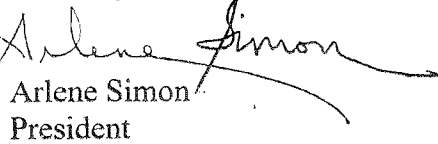
We understand that the fate of 2 Columbus Circle may be decided very soon. It is critical that LANDMARK WEST! and other members of the general public be formally included in the thought process governing the disposition of the property. In addition, we urge you, as soon as the City designates the successful bidder, to initiate public review of the winning proposal via the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure so that all interested parties have the opportunity to offer feedback that will shape specific plans for the site.

Hon. Daniel Doctoroff
June 4, 2002
Page Two

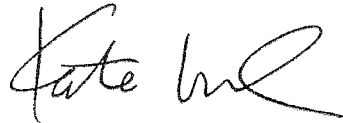
LANDMARK WEST! is committed, on behalf of a broad coalition of concerned citizens, to preserving not just this building, but the integrity of the entire civic armature designed to ensure legitimate and democratic participation in the shaping of our City.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We will call you to set up a meeting.

Sincerely,



Arlene Simon
President



Kate Wood
Executive Director

cc. Frank Sanchis, Municipal Art Society
Simeon Bankoff, Historic Districts Council
Roger Lang, New York Landmarks Conservancy
Margot Gayle
John Jurayj and Michael Gotkin, Modern Architecture Working Group
Caroline Zaleski, Docomomo
Olive Freud, Committee for Environmentally Sound Development
Edward Kirkland, Community Board 4
Lola Finkelstein, Community Board 5
Ethel Sheffer, Community Board 7
Matthew Woitkowski, Woitkowski & Schmidt
Antonia Bryson, Urban Environmental Law Center
U.S. Congressman Jerrold Nadler
U.S. Congressman Carolyn Maloney
Senator Thomas K. Duane
Senator Eric T. Schneiderman
State Assemblymember Richard Gottfried
State Assemblymember Scott Stringer
Councilmember Gale A. Brewer
Councilmember Christine Quinn
Councilmember Eva Moskowitz



Jane Rudofsky