

**Date: June 3, 2008**

**Committee of Origin: Parks & Preservation**

**Re: Proposed West End Avenue Historic District.**

**Full Board Vote: 33 In favor 1 Against 1 Abstention 0 Present**

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

West End Avenue north of 70<sup>th</sup> Street presents a unique blend of urban neighborhood domestic architecture, consisting almost entirely of classic apartment buildings dating from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century to shortly prior to World War II, interspersed with pockets of largely intact individual row houses and a few notable institutional buildings.

The historic West End Avenue streetscape is markedly more intact than that of, for instance, Fifth Avenue or Park Avenue, and presents a unique sense of place.

While some buildings on West End Avenue are in one of two existing Historic Districts that span parts of West End Avenue, the majority of West End Avenue is unprotected, and in particular the many remaining row houses that are not in Historic Districts present potentially imminent opportunities for out-of-scale and out-of-character development.

Noted New York architectural historian Andrew Scott Dolkart has written, in a letter to the West End Preservation Society dated March 10, 2008, that “West End Avenue as a whole meets the criteria for historic district designation.”

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan believes that West End Avenue from 70<sup>th</sup> Street to its termination at 107<sup>th</sup> Street should be protected by Historic District status.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges that the Landmarks Preservation Commission promptly calendar a hearing with regard to designation of a West End Avenue Corridor Historic District, to include all buildings fronting on West End Avenue between 70<sup>th</sup> Street and 107<sup>th</sup> Street, and further urges the Commission to designate such Historic District.

*Committee: 7-0-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0.*