

PARK WEST 77TH STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION

Co-chairs:

Anne Snee

44 West 77th Street

Peter Wright

6 West 77th Street

NY, NY 10024

March 26, 2007

Honorable Robert Tierney

Chair

NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

New York Historical Society....widened entrances not needed.

Dear Chairman Tierney:

Our block includes the N-Y Historical Society. Its proposal for wider doors flies in the face of reality. The two current openings, one 8 feet across, the other 12 feet across with a 50 foot handicapped, ramp together welcome 100,000 visitors each in a good year. 200,000 visitors is the recent high water mark of total attendance by the society's own admission.

The nearby American Museum of Natural History has 3, 8 foot wide, revolving-door openings on Central Park West. Their own figures state that each of these doors admits 800,000 visitors per year...or 2.4 million total visitors (the other 1.6 million visitors come to the Rose Planetarium entrance, to 77th Street, or to the new 79th Street entrance.

The Whitney Museum has attendance of 450,000...and only two doors (each 42" wide)...thus...thus admitting 225,000 visitors per door.

And the Museum Of The City Of New York also has only two doors (each 66" wide), one with a handicapped ramp, to admit 173,000 total visitors (fiscal '06).

Why does the Historical Society need wider entrances and more doors ? The experience of the Museum neighbors mentioned above suggests that they definitely do not !!

Respectfully Submitted...

Peter Wright

212-877-3204