

ROBERT CANE ARCHITECT PLLC

2328 BROADWAY NEW YORK NEW YORK 10024

March 9, 2010

Honorable Brad Lander
New York City Council Member
456 5th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Re: West-Park Presbyterian Church

Dear Honorable Council Member Lander:

As a practicing Architect whose offices are located several blocks from the magnificent and picturesque Romanesque Church cited above, I was of course very pleased to hear of its designation by the Landmarks Commission.

I am writing to urge you, as Chairman of the City Council's Subcommittee on Landmarks, to make every effort to secure the Council's approval of Landmark status for this building. Such status would be essential to the building's preservation but in the event the Church wishes to file a claim of hardship would also, in accordance with Landmark law, make that process specific and transparent to all concerned citizens.

I believe that the interests of the Church and the neighborhood need not by definition be at odds. With the assistance of local government offices like yours, creative discussions can be had among the congregation, Church authorities, neighborhood interests and business leaders to help the congregation find solutions that do not involve destroying this irreplaceable structure.

I would appeal to you and the other Council Members to take the lead in such an effort to unite religious, community and business leaders by devising new approaches for appropriate reuse of ecclesiastical buildings and encouraging thoughtful planning for Church consolidation. This will be essential if the fate of our City's historic structures is not to be left repeatedly in the hands of narrower special interests. The development of new paradigms will help insure that our political leaders will not have to face these issues anew for years to come.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Cane, AIA

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July 9, 2009

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

Re: West-Park Presbyterian Church

Dear Chairman Tierney,

As a practicing Architect whose office is located several blocks from this magnificent and picturesque Romanesque structure, I urge the Commission to designate it an official New York City Landmark.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Cane, AIA