

Screens and Railings

The Committee has two concerns about the proposed railings. First, their visibility from 75th Street, Riverside Drive and Park is increased by their height, which should be restricted to the 42- inch minimum height required by code. In addition, the screens and railings should be simplified, with perhaps pipe rail as the material choice, rather than the combination of highly designed, commercial-looking glass and stainless steel on the upper deck and much of the lower deck, and of virtually solid wood on the balance of the lower deck.

Stanchions

The proposed stanchions are inappropriate in scale, material and lighting. Vent pipes are common on roofs throughout the city and therefore tend to blend with other utilitarian elements. In this instance, the pipes are being hidden by large, high, stainless steel stanchions that become sculptural objects, and hence highly visible. We would otherwise recommend that the vent pipes simply be replaced with new and more attractive pipes, or hidden by trellises with plantings, which would bear a better relationship to the pergolas. In no instance should the Commission permit these elements to be lit.