

## Appropriate Improvements to Landmark Sites.

Along with the American museum of Natural History's Gilder Center, a string of controversial approvals city-wide seems to undermine the Landmarks Preservation Commission's very purpose to preserve and protect the historic character of landmarked districts like the [Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District](#).

There's no denying that the L.P.C.'s decisions to approve a very out-of-context ultra-modern addition to the AMNH that takes away public parkland is a highly damaging, disappointing decision.

The fact that the AMNH's proposal claims to solve circulation issues, while providing no master plan for the future of the museum in the park should have, at minimum, forced the AMNH back to the drawing board until it could present a cogent and coherent vision for their place in the park.

Fundamentally, I believe that the privatization of public lands and buildings permanently diminishes our quality of life. We deserve a responsible city government that clearly articulates not just the interim benefits, but also the long term negative impacts of moving our public assets into private hands

When we lose usable and vibrant public space like parks, our neighborhoods become less usable and vibrant themselves.

Despite some of the disappointing and disheartening decisions made by this L.P.C. the public still plays an important role in the process, and we should take losses and disappointments as a call to re-double our efforts, not to give up or quit the process, despite how cynical we may be about it.

The work that Landmark West! does every single day does make an impact, and there have been several good decisions that should not be ignored because of the some of the complete misses or failures of the L.P.C.

I highly recommend that you, the concerned citizen get involved and join landmark West! in advocating for important issues before the L.P.C. The more we can bring to bear the voice of the neighborhood, the better off we will be, and there is no better advocate or ally than Landmark wet! To carry our banner forward with regards to the L.P.C.

The role of City Council needs to be expanded to be a clear and outspoken voice for our neighborhoods and communities on issues that we may not have any direct say in like the L.P.C.'s process or the state of our disastrously managed subway system. These are issues that have a huge impact on our overall quality of life.

The current state of New York politics is that there are many backrooms deals, negotiations, and compromises that take place behind closed doors between the city and the state. Your councilmember should be beholden to no one except you, the constituent.

When prominent city officials can't or won't stand up for you, you better be able to count on your councilperson to do so. This is not a bold new idea, it is something that has been lost since the bygone days when politicians were public servants, not slick operators out for their own personal, political gain.

I am by far and away the most capable public speaker and advocate in this race. There are 51 New York City council members. You need to elect someone whose voice is clear and powerful so that they can grab and hold the attention of the public and media when they are at the podium, otherwise your issues, and the issues of quality of life, will be lost in the shuffle and the clamoring of 51 city council members vying to make their constituent's interests heard.