



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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Gale A. Brewer, Borough President

March 24, 2016

Alicia Glen
Deputy Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Deputy Mayor:

We are gravely concerned by the sale of Rivington House and its likely conversion to market-rate condominium housing. This building, at 45 Rivington Street in Community District 3, has served as a public school and an AIDS patient hospice, and prior to its use as a not-for-profit health care facility, it was City-owned. Its deed contained permanent restrictions limiting the building to non-profit and health care use.

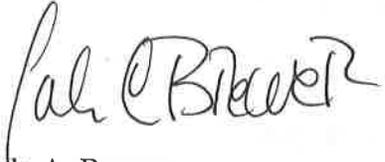
The building was sold to a for-profit health care organization (the Allure Group) in February of 2015, and the deed restrictions were subsequently lifted by the Mayor's Office on November 10th, 2015. It is our understanding that the Allure Group paid the City \$16,150,000 in return for lifting the deed restrictions (see attached), and that the building has since been sold to a private developer for \$160,000,000 on February 11, 2016.

We were working with your office to put together a meeting with the now-former owner, but the building was sold before this meeting materialized. We understand that a brief meeting eventually did occur at which the former owner stated that he no longer had an interest in the property. It appears we have lost the chance to push for this property to be sold to a developer who would commit to creating a community resource on the site. It is our sincere hope that the Administration will work with our offices and Community Board 3 to ensure that the neighborhood's residents are duly compensated for this disheartening loss.

As we communicated to your office in an email last month, the community deserves to be made whole. The decision to lift these deed restrictions was a mistake that must be corrected, and the local community is rightfully distraught over this outcome. We therefore request that the City use the \$16,150,000 it made from this deal to create a community resource facility, affordable housing, or both in Community District 3 as near the Rivington House site as possible. The City should also push the new owner to develop a community facility and/or affordable housing on the site. Finally, the City must work to replace the number of medical beds lost at Rivington House in the community.

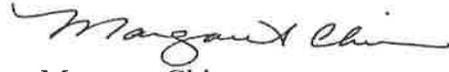
With these efforts, we can ameliorate the effects of the decision to lift these deed restrictions that resulted in the loss of a community pillar. We invite you to meet with us in order

to address these concerns. Please contact Jim Caras, General Counsel to the Borough President, at (212)669-8299.



Gale A. Brewer
Manhattan Borough President

Sincerely,



Margaret Chin
Council Member

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Lisette Camilo, Commissioner, Department of Citywide Administrative Services
Gigi Li, Chair, Community Board 3
Susan Stetzer, District Manager, Community Board 3
James Patchett, Chief of Staff to Deputy Mayor Glen