

CHARLES B. RANGEL
15TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS
RANKING MEMBER

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3215

2354 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3215
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4365

DISTRICT OFFICE:
MS. VIVIAN E. JONES
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

163 WEST 125TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10027
TELEPHONE: (212) 663-3900

PLEASE RESPOND TO
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March 13, 2007

The Honorable Robert B. Tierney
Chair
Landmarks Preservation Commission
1 Centre Street
Municipal Building, 9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

RE: Manhattan Ave. Historic District (105th - 106th Streets)

Dear Chairman Tierney:

I am writing in strong support of designating the section on Manhattan Ave. between 105th and 106th streets as a historic district.

This unique area, which is in my congressional district, is very special. The architecture of the buildings, which were built in the late 1800s, is distinctive and extraordinary and the folks at Landmark West! have done a terrific job in outlining why it deserves this honor. It is my understanding that at one of the public meetings on the issue virtually all of the area's residents who attended strongly supported the designation. Furthermore, as I understand it, the area's councilwoman, Melissa Mark-Viverito, and Community Board 7 both support this initiative.

Apart from recognizing this area for its exceptional beauty, landmarking this section of the Upper West Side will send a strong message of preservation. As you know, the West Side has been very sought after by developers over the past few years as it becomes more lucrative. Luxury towers are going up and large developers are buying up space. This has forced the city to expedite the rezoning of the neighborhood. By landmarking this section, the Commission will send a strong signal to the entire city that maintaining NYC's timeless skyline and beautiful architecture is essential.

Once again, let me reiterate my support for designating the area in question as a historic district. I hope you will support such a designation.

Sincerely,



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

CBR/djb