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I represent	: City of New York Dept of Parks + Recreation 830 5th Av NY, NY 10065

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I represent: ADOCATES TO INWOOD MANHATTAN
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Name: JOE IENUSO (PLEASE PRINT)
Address: 400 W. 119 ST NEW YORK NY 10027
I represent: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Address: 400 W. 119 St NEWYORK NY 10027
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Date:
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Name: JOSHUA RIVERA
Address: 200 KM ST. 4 KAZIMIVOFF ST.BLVD
I represent: New York Botanical Narden
Address: 2900 Southern Brod.
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Address: 3274 Hull Ave
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I represent: residents
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Name: Fric Kothstein
Address: \$ 338 W. 394 St
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Name: Michael Kelly
Address: 136 waverly Rd Scarsdale, by 10583
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#### Presentation

To

City of New York, City Council, Land Use Committee,

#### Councilmen

Honorable Marc Weprin, Leroy G. Comrie, Brad Lander and Stephen Levin

Subject: Columbia University Baker Field Boathouse Marsh

By

David Brodherson

Advocates for Inwood, Manhattan

A Neighborhood Coalition of

Individuals and Groups Organizing

Including

New York Outrigger Canoe Club,

Northern Manhattan Democrats for Change,

Harlem River Boat Club, Park Terrace Owners Corporation,

Park Terrace West Corporation

March 15, 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the land Use Committee on the request for a waterfront zoning variance by Columbia University for the Baker Field Boathouse Marsh. I am associated with a growing and currently organizing group of almost 500 residents of Inwood, Manhattan and interested water users. On behalf of our group I seek your vote against the variance or modification of related terms.

Other members of the group will examine such topics as environmental impacts, offsetting neighborhood student scholarships, and mitigation of "muggers alley." I would like to concentrate briefly on two:

- 1. Waterfront access, the linchpin of the law governing the variance.
- 2. Social or environmental equity or justice related to Columbia's application.

First Columbia's design in fact it degrades waterfront access and is consequently contrary to the intent of law. Access is "permission, liberty or ability, to enter, approach, communicate with, or pass to and from . . . " (Webster's Third New International Dictionary) The terms of use that Columbia has established in accord with the Department of Parks and Recreation, Memorandum of Understanding dated September 30, 2010 and the design itself reduce access. For example, bringing human-powered boats to the water will require carrying a heavy awkward object on a long winding path packed with other people a distance in excess of approximately 800 feet. This superhuman effort makes access impossible or an unfulfilled promise, a breach of the law.

Second, requirements of social or environmental equity or justice are not incorporated into the zoning variance. However, efforts for equity and justice are incorporated into our other parks and recreational facilities such as Central Park

and the Esplanade in Battery Park City. There, as pictured, an esplanade for exercise and several docks are available for a human powered boat launch. Shouldn't the other end of Manhattan have the same opportunities even if our pockets are not as deep?

In conclusion I am reminded of the famous Chicago architect and urban planner,

Daniel Burnham's comments:

"Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood ... Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency... Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty. Think big."

Columbia's plan is a "Trojan horse" made by small, unjust minds with power and money. It is a deception. The university has bamboozled almost all to think that this is the best that can be done. The university can and must do much better for the neighborhood, borough and city. Consequently we ask you to vote against this variance or demand better.

#### TESTIMONY OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

New York City Council Sub-Committee on Zoning and Franchises Chairman Mark S. Weprin

On the proposed

#### WEBSTER AVENUE/ NORWOOD/ BEDFORD PARK REZONING

Tuesday, March 15, 2011 9:30 am

Good morning. My name is Joshua Rivera and I am the Director of Government Relations for The New York Botanical Garden. I am here this morning to testify before you on behalf of the Four Bronx Institution Alliance (FBIA) regarding the proposed Webster Avenue/ Norwood/ Bedford Park rezoning.

As you know, the Four Bronx Institutions Alliance (FBIA) is a partnership between the four major, private, not-for-profit institutions in the north central Bronx. FBIA consists of The New York Botanical Garden, the Bronx Zoo, Fordham University and Montefiore Medical Center.

FBIA has been working together for the past five years to create a large-scale urban improvement plan for this three and a half square mile district where we live and do business. Webster Avenue is a vital component of that District.

The Webster Avenue/Bedford Park/Norwood rezoning proposal aims to revitalize a 1.75-mile stretch of Webster Avenue encompassing 80 blocks in the Northwest Bronx with residential and commercial development, while protecting the lower scale communities of Norwood and Bedford Park.

In order to create a pedestrian friendly corridor that better serves the neighborhood and visitors, the Webster Avenue/Bedford Park/Norwood proposal would change antiquated restrictive zoning along Webster Avenue that dates to the time of the third Avenue elevated train, demolished in 1973, to permit residential, commercial and community facility uses in 8- to 10-story buildings.

It would also apply contextual height limitations to reinforce the character of the residential areas of Bedford Park and Norwood immediately to the west of Webster Avenue. The proposed zoning would create opportunities for residential development and incentivize permanently affordable housing, shift incentive of development from the neighborhood area to the Webster Ave corridor, preserve neighborhood character of Bedford Park and Norwood, unify urban design and provide height limits, encourage commercial office and business development and limit unwanted uses, and provide a variety of development options to spark revitalization of Webster Avenue.

This proposed zoning would be a major step forward in revitalizing this community and will serve as an economic engine for the Bronx.

This area is home to some of New York City's most recognizable and much frequented cultural, medical and educational institutions, many of which are within walking distance to the proposed area. Many of our visitors often take advantage of the close proximity to the Belmont shopping district and Arthur Avenue. The Webster Avenue rezoning has all of the elements needed to produce a similar experience for the community and visitors alike.

Future development of commercial space and the development of permanent affordable housing will help to stimulate the economy of the community while preserving the esthetics and character of this beautiful area.

The New York Botanical Garden and our partners in the Four Bronx Institution Alliance support the proposed rezoning of the Webster Avenue/Norwood/ Bedford Park communities. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our existing relations with the community and to forge new relationships and partnerships in the future.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify today.

#### **Contact Information:**

Joshua M. Rivera
Director of Government Relations
The New York Botanical Garden
(718-) 817-8694
jrivera@nybg.org
www.nybg.org

#### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY FACILITIES
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

October 20, 2010

Pamela Palanque-North, Board Chair Wayne Benjamin, Land Use Committee Chair Community Board 12 Manhattan 711 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10032

Dear Ms. Palanque-North and Mr. Benjamin:

Since September 2009, Columbia University has met with elected officials, Community Board 12 Manhattan (CB12), and community members to share information on a proposed project at the University's Baker Field athletics facility that would involve: the construction of a new building, the Campbell Sports Center, to support its existing athletics program; and a waterfront public access area, which would seek to satisfy the Waterfront Zoning provisions of the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York.

On October 6, 2010, the Community Board 12 Manhattan Land Use Committee unanimously passed a resolution recommending that the full board support these projects, conditional on Columbia's response to issues raised by CB12. This letter intends to clarify and document Columbia's positions and commitments in response to our ongoing discussions and requests from the community.

#### The Baker Field Athletics Facility

Baker Field, located at the northern tip of Manhattan, is the athletics and recreational facility for Columbia's outdoor varsity sports and recreational programs. Baker Field is utilized by 14 intercollegiate teams (seven women's teams and seven men's teams) and is the venue for practice and intercollegiate competitions for nine varsity sports. The site contains Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium (football and women's lacrosse), Chrystie Field House, The Remmer Boathouse and other rowing facilities, Columbia Soccer Stadium, Columbia Softball Venue, Robertson Field at Satow Stadium (baseball), the Columbia Field Hockey Venue, The Dick Savitt Tennis Center, and a maintenance building. The site is also home to New York-Presbyterian/Allen Hospital, a community hospital serving northern Manhattan,

Riverdale and other communities in the Bronx. The proposed Campbell Sports Center, designed by award-winning New York City-based architect Steven Holl, would replace the existing maintenance building on 218<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway and would not add any additional teams to Baker Field.

#### **Land Use Actions**

Following a year of discussions with CB12, local residents, and elected officials, Columbia's proposal for Baker Field was reviewed by the City Planning Commission on September 13, 2010. The City Planning Commission also determined on that date that the proposed action would not have a significant effect on the environment and issued a Negative Declaration for CEQR No. 10DCP030M.

On September 17, 2010, the Department of City Planning forwarded Columbia's application and relevant materials to CB12 for review and comment. Columbia's application sought two specific actions:

- N 100339 ZAM an application for the grant of an authorization by the City Planning Commission
  pursuant to Section 62-822(a) of the Zoning Resolution to modify the location, area and minimum
  dimension requirements of Section 62-50 (GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VISUAL
  CORRIDORS AND WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS); and
- N 100340 ZAM an application for the grant of an authorization by the City Planning Commission pursuant to Section 62-822(b) of the Zoning Resolution to modify the requirements of Sections 62-513 (Permitted obstructions in visual corridors) and Section 62-60 (DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS);

The Baker Field Zoning Lot is located on a "waterfront block" and waterfront zoning regulations, as originally adopted in 1993 and modified in April 2009, generally require that waterfront public access areas include a set percentage of the zoning lot area in connection with any development. The waterfront zoning regulation also provides for the request of a modification to this and other requirements if such development would be impracticable, physically or programmatically, due to site planning constraints such as the presence of existing buildings or other structures or significant elements.

Given the existing conditions at Baker Field, including existing buildings, program uses and topography along the shoreline, Columbia has submitted an application to the City Planning Commission requesting an authorization to modify the public waterfront public access area and design requirements. As to the requested design modifications, they would result in a waterfront public access area, designed by Field Operations, that is functionally equivalent or superior to the design prescribed by strict adherence to the applicable provisions.

#### The Boathouse Marsh

Working with the New York City Department of City Planning and the Department of Parks and Recreation, Columbia has commissioned James Corner Field Operations, lead designers of the High Line, to design a waterfront public access area that would not only satisfy waterfront zoning requirements but create a special place for the community and the environment.

This project, known as "Boathouse Marsh," would create new public access and new amenities on the Harlem River waterfront, provide seating and passive recreation areas, restore and extend the area's native marshland, and extend the educational offerings of Inwood Hill Park by creating an environment for learning about wetlands and living herbarium of the plants species that once flourished all over the valley. In addition, as a result of community input, Columbia has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide community access to an additional 11,000 square feet of City-owned land adjacent to Baker Field and community access to the existing dock for small non-motorized boats. (See Attachment #1)

Columbia has been a part of Inwood since 1921 and cares deeply about the community. Through a close working relationship with the community, we seek to improve the area with award-winning architecture, waterfront access for the community, restoration of the area's native ecosystems, and a stronger University-Community relationship. Attached are details regarding the University's ongoing and planned community engagement activities. (See Attachment #2)

We have appointed Sandra Harris, Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Affairs, to serve as the official community liaison for Baker Field. Sandra can be reached at 212-305-6359 or via email at sh533@columbia.edu. We look forward to working with you as we implement our new programming and enhance our relationship. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Ienuso

**Executive Vice President** 

Columbia University Facilities

Encl

cc: Maxine F. Griffith
Sandra Harris

M. Dianne Murphy

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter

## THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK 412 Low Memorial Library 535 West 116<sup>th</sup> Street New York, New York 10027

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

The Arsenal

Central Park

830 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10021

PART OF A NEGOTIATION BETWEEN
THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK AND THE CITY OF NEW YORK

September 30, 2010

Re: Baker Field

This Memorandum of Understanding sets forth the intent of The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York ("Columbia") and the City of New York (the "City"), acting by and through the Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") (collectively, the "Parties"), to enter into a transaction with respect to (a) a strip of land located adjacent to Columbia's Baker Field Property in Manhattan (Block 2244, Lot 1), which strip appears to be owned by the City and under the jurisdiction of DPR (the "Strip"), as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto, and (b) a dock owned and maintained by Columbia adjacent to the Strip (the "Dock"), used by Columbia in connection with its crew team.

The Parties recognize the need for an understanding that will allow for the following: (a) Dual use of the Dock by Columbia crew and by members of the public for small non-motorized boat launching and for taking such boats out of the water; (b) Use of the Strip by Columbia for access to the Dock; (c) Use of the Strip by members of the public as an improved public open space that will be connected to the Columbia-owned area located at the southwesterly corner of Baker Field proposed for improvement pursuant to Waterfront Zoning (the 'Waterfront Zoning Improvement'), and which will be open to the public during the same hours as the Waterfront Zoning Improvement (6 am to 10 pm from April 15 to October 31; 7 am to 8 pm from November 1 to April 14); and (d) Maintenance of the Columbia's boathouse at its current location (the "Dual Use Agreement").

The Parties intend that the Dual Use Agreement will be effected by an arrangement under which: (a) the Dock is gifted to the City of New York; and (b) DPR and Columbia enter into a

license, maintenance and operation agreement under which: (i) Columbia will maintain the Dock for public use as above provided, with appropriate limitations during the periods when the Dock is used by Columbia for its crew teams and crew-related activities; (ii) Columbia may continue to use the Strip for access to Dock for the foregoing use; (iii) Columbia will maintain the Columbia boathouse at its current location; (iv) Columbia will improve the open space on the Strip pursuant to a plan approved by DPR, acting in consultation with New York City Department of City Planning, for public use and enjoyment. Such plan shall include seating and landscape features which shall allow the open space on the Strip to function as a continuous public open space in combination with the adjacent City - and Columbia - owned properties at the southwesterly corner of Baker Field to be improved by Columbia pursuant to Application Nos. N100339ZAM, N100340ZAM and N100341ZCM, with unimpeded access to and from the open space on the Strip from the City-owned property improved under Application Nos. N100339ZAM, N100340ZAM and N100341ZCM, and shall meet the following minimum standards:

Overall Planting: Approximately 50% of the total area of the Strip, to include a

mix of accessible lawn area and other plantings

Accessible Lawn: Approximately 50% of the Overall Planting Area

Seating: 150 linear square feet, including a mix of benches with backs

and other seating types

Seating Details: To be provided, in accordance with the size and shape standards

of ZR Section 37-741, paragraphs (1), (2) and (3)

Canopy Trees: Six (6)

Circulation Path: 12 feet (wide)

Fencing: A three foot iron fence may be erected along the City/Columbia

property line; no fence may be erected within the Strip

If it is determined, in consultation with the New York City Law Department, that the Dual Use Agreement cannot be fully effectuated in the manner set forth above by January 31, 2011, then Columbia shall, no later than June 30, 2011, prepare a ULURP application and an Environmental Assessment Statement with respect to the disposition of the Strip or portions thereof, and Columbia and DPR shall promptly cooperate in the introduction and prosecution of legislation permitting the alienation of the Strip or portions thereof, as necessary to effectuate the Dual Use Agreement. In the event that efforts to secure such legislation are unsuccessful, the parties shall pursue alternative arrangements under which the Dual Use Agreement would be implemented, with relocation of the Columbia Boathouse.

#### Working with the Community

What We Have Heard

Columbia engaged the local community, Community Board 12 and local elected officials early and often in the process to keep them informed and solicit feedback. Since September 2009, the University has met with the community and elected officials representing the area on 17 separate occasions. Throughout the course of our dialogue, issues were raised directly related to the proposed projects at Baker Field and a desire expressed — which the University shares — to improve the University-Community relationship. Specifically, issues raised include: increased access to the facilities at Baker Field; enhanced learning and educational opportunities; improved transportation and parking conditions; security and maintenance of the Boathouse Marsh; enhanced environmental sustainability in the area; reduced noise from rooftop mechanical equipment; better management of the stadium and field lights; and the appointment of a liaison from the University to work with the community going forward.

#### What We Have Already Done

Our students and staff participate in numerous community service initiatives. Columbia offers free sports clinics, community access to our facilities, as well as complimentary admission to our varsity sports contests. Columbia also offers numerous programs to benefit children in the local community. Columbia Cubs Camp, New York Soccer Academy and The Dick Savitt Tennis Center are Columbia-affiliated recreation programs that offer discount and/or free enrollment to children in the local community.

In addition, in response to specific requests expressed by the community, the University has recently:

- Agreed to gift the Columbia-owned dock at Baker Field to The City of New York and maintain
  the dock for community access for small non-motorized boats as summarized in a Memorandum
  of Understanding between Columbia and the New York City Department of Parks and
  Recreation. (See Attachment #1)
- Removed the existing fence surrounding the perimeter of Baker Field and installed a new, more aesthetically-pleasing fence.
- Worked with the City to plant new trees on the north side of West 218<sup>th</sup> Street and committed to care for these trees.
- Planted new hedges to beautify the north side of West 218<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Installed enhanced sound-attenuating devices on rooftop mechanicals at Chrystie Field House to reduce the sound level emitted by the mechanical equipment.
- Installed remote control lighting at the field hockey and soccer venues so that we can extinguish
  the lights to reduce unnecessary usage.
- Upgraded the lights at the field hockey venue with more energy efficient, directional lighting to provide more focused light and reduce lighting glare.
- Appointed Sandra Harris, Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Affairs, as the official community liaison for Baker Field.

#### Columbia's Action Plan

Columbia has created an action plan, taking into consideration the City's Vision 2020 Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, the April 27, 2010 Community Board 12 Manhattan Parks and Recreation Committee Resolution and the October 6, 2010 Community Board 12 Manhattan Land Use Committee Resolution, as well as input from the local community and elected officials.

#### I. Increase Access to Facilities at Baker Field

Columbia is committed to working with the community to increase the accessibility of the facilities at Baker Field for residents of Washington Heights and Inwood. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Design, maintain, and provide security for the Boathouse Marsh, a waterfront public access area that creates a special place for the community and the environment.
- b. Operate the Boathouse Marsh consistent with operating hours for New York City Parks, generally 6am to 10pm from April 15 to October 31; 7am to 8pm November 1 to April 14.
- c. Gift the Columbia-maintained dock at Baker Field to The City of New York for use by small non-motorized boats.
- d. Provide space for one community meeting per month in the proposed new Campbell Sports Center (consistent with University policy and subject to availability).
- e. Provide rental of the facilities at Baker Field to residents of Washington Heights and Inwood at the "Columbia Community Rate" which is the lowest rate (consistent with University policy and subject to availability).
- f. Provide access for residents of Washington Heights and Inwood to the Lawrence A. Wien Stadium track beginning January 1, 2011 (See Attachment #3).
- g. Allow residents of Washington Heights and Inwood to purchase unaffiliated memberships at The Dick Savitt Tennis Center without sponsorship by current members beginning January 1, 2011.
- h. Provide complimentary admission to all intercollegiate baseball, softball, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's tennis, women's tennis, field hockey and women's lacrosse contests for fans of all ages, beginning immediately.
- i. Create and implement an annual "Washington Heights and Inwood Neighbors Appreciation Day" special event at a select Columbia home football game. Provide complimentary admission and other special amenities to the Washington Heights and Inwood residents, beginning Fall 2011.

#### II. Educational Programs for Community Children

Working with local elected officials and members of the community, we continue to expand the programs and services available to our neighbors. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Develop an annual Learn to Row or other water safety program for children from Washington Heights and Inwood (consistent with University policy).
- Offer up to 19 scholarships annually for children from Washington Heights and Inwood to Columbia Cubs Camps and select Columbia Sports Camps at Baker Field.
- c. Create an environmental service-learning project related to the restored fresh/salt water marsh that will include local school children.
- d. Sponsor a summer junior tennis program in local New York City parks.

#### III. Improve Current Transportation and Parking Conditions

Columbia encourages fans to utilize mass transportation to help decrease the amount of privatelyowned vehicles trying to park near Baker Field. Columbia is committed to continuing its efforts to reduce traffic congestion at and around Baker Field. To that end, Columbia has begun and will continue to:

- a. Direct our construction partners to develop a construction logistics plan that will minimize impacts to the community and communicate this plan with the community.
- b. Collaborate with the Allen Hospital and other area organizations to explore usage of alternative parking options for buses and vehicles during football game days and other major events.
- c. Direct the shuttle bus company to minimize the use of West 218<sup>th</sup> Street for weekday athletics shuttle and football game day fan bus service.
- d. Hire dispatching/public safety personnel for all home football games to ensure driver compliance with appropriate bus routes.

#### IV. Security and Maintenance of the Boathouse Marsh

At Columbia, the safety and security of our students, employees and neighbors is our top priority. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Provide security services for the Boathouse Marsh. Columbia Public Safety will provide portal security and foot patrols of the Boathouse Marsh.
- b. Maintain a clean, attractive, and environmentally sound environment at the Boathouse Marsh. Columbia University Operations will be responsible for this area.

#### V. Enhance Environmental Sustainability in the Area

Environmental stewardship is a cornerstone of Columbia University's commitment to being a responsible member of the community. A practitioner of environmental sustainability, the University works actively to maintain a safe environment for staff, students, and neighbors. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Commit to attain LEED Silver status for the proposed new Campbell Sports Center.
- b. Maintain and enhance established view corridors at Baker Field.
- Maintain new trees and enhance existing planting on the north side of West 218th Street.
- d. Incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices in its construction projects, which seek to prevent the spread of pest problems by proactively monitoring pest populations and using least toxic methods of control.
- e. Ensure that appropriate environmental testing and remediation is completed prior to and during construction of the Boathouse Marsh.
- f. Involve school children in the creation of the Boathouse Marsh and create opportunities for ongoing environmental education related to the presence of the Boathouse Marsh and its environmental aspects.
- g. Reduce the sound level emitted by the mechanical equipment by repairing and replacing boilers and heat pumps in Chrystie Field House.

#### VI. Better Management of Stadium and Field Lights

The University continues to work to improve Lawrence A. Wien Stadium and other venue lights. Columbia has recently installed remote control lighting at the field hockey and soccer venues to reduce unnecessary usage. Columbia has installed energy efficient, directional lighting at the field hockey venue to provide more focused light and reduce lighting glare. Going forward, Columbia will:

- a. Install remote control lighting at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium.
- Adjust lighting timers based on venue usage schedules; turn-off all field lights at 10:30 p.m., seven days a week.
- c. Provide community by December 1, 2010 with a 24/7 phone number [212-854-2222], staffed by Columbia University Facilities, to voice community concerns about venue lights at Baker Field if the lights remain on beyond 10:30 p.m.

#### VII. Regular Engagement with the Community

Columbia and the community share a desire to strengthen relationships and partnerships to advance the mutual needs of the community and the University. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Host up to two community relations meetings or open house meetings annually at Baker Field.
- b. Create a new informational Web site related to use of Baker Field.
- c. Inform the community of the various University-Community programs and services available.
- d. Increase opportunities to employ local residents during construction. Columbia's goals are 35% Minority-, Women-, and Locally owned business participation for total construction, maintenance, and repair spend and 40% Minority, Women, and Local workforce participation.
- e. Post intercollegiate contests schedules at Baker Field.
- f. Engage local businesses in promotional and sports marketing initiatives.



# WELCOME TO

Attachment 3

# LAWRENCE A. WIEN STADIUM SHOOH YOYAL

TRACK HOURS SUBIECT TO CHANGE

IANUARY 1, 2011 - FEBRUARY 1, 2011 MONDAY- FRIDAY, 7 A.M. - 4 P.M.

FEBRUARY 2, 2011 - JUNE 1, 2011 MONDAY-FRIDAY, 7 A.M. - 1 P.M.

IUNE 2, 2011 - AUGUST 12, 2011 MONDAY- FRIDAY; 7 A.M.-8 A.M. MONDAY- FRIDAY, 5 P.M.-7 P.W. Hours for 2011-12 academic year to be posted in August

**CHAIR** 

Minority Program Development

RANKING MEMBER

Housing

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Codes
Economic Development
Environmental Conservation
Insurance
Judiciary

THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK



ADRIANO ESPAILLAT SENATOR 31<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT DISTRICT OFFICE

5030 Broadway, Suite 701 New York, NY 10034 (212) 544-0173 Fax: (212) 544-0256

ALBANY OFFICE

Legislative Office Building 188 State Street, Rm. 513 Albany, NY 12247 (518) 455-2041 Fax: (518) 426-6847

www.espaillat.nysenate.gov espailla@nysenate.gov

### Testimony before the New York City Land Use Committee March 15, 2011

As New York State's Senator for the 31<sup>st</sup> District, privileged to represent the Inwood and Washington Heights, as well as the Upper West Side and Manhattanville – all of the Manhattan communities in which Columbia University is located – I am pleased to testify today regarding Columbia University's Baker Field project.

The University proposes to construct a 47,700 square foot sports facility on its Baker Field campus in the Inwood section of Manhattan. This is a waterfront zoning lot of 1,208,773 square feet (roughly 30 acres), the use of the lot also has blocked public access to its own waterfront for many years. The lot is also contiguous to the City's Inwood Hill Park.

Compliance with waterfront zoning regulations would generally require the University to provide, among other things, a public walkway along the Baker Field shoreline as well as a public access area equal to 15% of the zoning lot. Given Baker Field's size, this would be almost 200,000 square feet or roughly four-and-a-half acres. Due to space limitations and site constraints, the University asserts it cannot comply with this requirement, and requested instead to provide a half-acre public access area (built partially on city-owned land), to build a modest new freshwater marsh area for public use, and to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation to enter into a license, maintenance and operating agreement whereby the University would improve City property and provide public waterfront and waterway access.

Throughout this process I have worked closely my constituents and the Community Board 12, mindful of certain common principles:

- the new athletic facility built mustn't serve the University at the expense of the community, but must accommodate site requirements and aesthetic considerations;
- the target project must improve the surrounding parkland without negatively impacting the delicate ecological balance of the surrounding wetlands and marsh;

- the development cannot merely provide visual access to the waterfront, but also must provide meaningful public access to the waterfront and waterway themselves; and
- the public must be made whole for the University's long-standing use of public land without prior compensation.

I am pleased with the University's proposed design for a small wetland adjacent to Inwood Hill Park, and with the University's proposal to enhance City property and provide for dual use of it and the University's own dock by the University's crew team as well as by the public. These improvements are excellent as far as they go, but it is not far enough. I echo the remaining community concerns with respect to enhancing safety in and around the proposed new athletic building and park, environmental concerns of the park itself, ongoing waterfront/waterway access, and equity.

Almost a year ago Community Board 12 passed a resolution detailing 15 specific requests of the University. Columbia must rise to these demands and incorporate them into its final proposal.

I draw particular attention to two additional accommodations that the University could implement to make up for its significantly limited compliance with the waterfront zoning regulations: funding of PEP officers for the adjacent city Park, and the renovation of the Park's comfort station south of the subject area. I also remain concerned by apparently contradictory statements in the Environmental Assessment Statement and encourage a review of the eight spills listed in the New York Spills database, and the creation of a remediation plan for same prior to the start of any construction.

Last Sunday afternoon, I had an opportunity to meet once again with the leadership of Columbia University. Along with some of my legislative colleagues, Assemblymember Guillermo Linares and Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez, I was assured of Columbia University's commitment to our community.

I am eager to see this commitment on display throughout this entire process and beyond. I call upon the University to continue the dialogue with the community and its elected officials – including members of the City Council – and urge the Council to not approve the University's application unless the University enters into a binding and enforceable agreement which addresses the various concerns raised by the community, my colleagues and myself.

Thank you.

#### Community Board 12, Manhattan Resolution regarding Columbia University Development at Baker Field 27 April 2010

Columbia University (CU) for many decades and without any compensation to the City or the residents of Whereas:

Community District 12, Manhattan, has been using a small parcel of public land at the southwest corner of

its Baker Field that could provide waterway access to the public; and

CU plans to build a new athletic facility elsewhere on this waterfront lot, along W. 218<sup>th</sup> Street between Park Whereas:

Terrace East & Broadway; and

Whereas: Waterfront/waterway access is a required zoning mitigation for any development of a waterfront lot; and

Community Board 12, Manhattan (CB12M) continues to list waterfront/waterway access and both passive Whereas:

and active waterfront/waterway recreation as high priorities for the District; and

CB12M, its Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee and the surrounding Inwood community have voiced Whereas:

concerns about development at Baker Field, as well as programming and access at the site, as cited at

minutes of various public meetings; and

Whereas: CU consulted with the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) on a small (just under one-acre) park on the

site adjacent to Inwood Hill Park, incorporating many of DPR's requests and suggestions into the design, which it initially presented to the community at a Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee meeting on October 6, 2009, where the plan was well received, both for the design itself and the level of community and agency

collaboration; and

Whereas: CU presented the park plan again, as well as a design concept and then plans for a its proposed new athletic

facility at a joint meeting of the Parks & Cultural Affairs and Land Use Committees on November 4<sup>th</sup>, and at CU-sponsored public meetings on December 9<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at all of which specifically were noted the need for community accommodations as mitigation for development on a waterfront lot and in exchange

for the long-term and previously uncompensated use of public land, and the future use of same; and

Whereas: CB12M, its Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee and the surrounding Inwood community continue to have

concerns about safety, security, programming, access and equity raised by both projects; and

The cost of the park development represents a very small percentage of the overall cost of the new field Whereas:

house, and, while the new parkland will be a welcome addition as a community amenity, it is inadequate in and of itself to mitigate the development of a waterfront lot, compensate for the loss of public access to the waterfront/waterway due to the presence of CU's boathouse to which the public is denied access, and make

the public whole for the unpaid use by CU of public property for many decades; and

Whereas: Even a modest rent compounded at even a modest interest rate over so many years would total an amount

in the millions of dollars; and

The Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee met to discuss a list of accommodations which in the aggregate Whereas:

adequately might serve to meet the zoning mitigation requirements and to compensate for the long-term

use of public property and the future use of same; now therefore be it

CU has entertained community requests and granted accommodations in exchange for other developments, Whereas:

including but not limited to Audubon Ballroom project, Hammer Health Sciences Building; and the

Manhattanville expansion; now therefore be it

**Resolved:** Community Board 12, Manhattan urges that the City of New York require Columbia University to agree to and implement the following accommodations in order to comply with waterfront zoning regulations triggered by CU's construction of the new Baker Field athletic facility and in recognition of CU's long-term use and occupancy of City-owned property without compensation:

- 1. Provide adequate coverage by CU staff of the new park;
- 2. Pay for two Parks Enforcement Patrol (PEP) officers and a vehicle to cover the small park and the adjacent Inwood Hill Park in addition to whatever enforcement is provided by the NYPD and DPR;
- 3. Enable and permit daily public access to the public waterfront/waterway by the boathouse (though not necessarily the boathouse itself, which is private and on private CU property) during the hours that parks generally are open;
- 4. Host periodic (at least monthly) "learn to row" or other public programming events;
- 5. Build a public dock or pier for direct waterfront and waterway access, not just for visual access, but so that people may use the waterway for fishing, boating and other forms of passive and active waterfront recreation;
- 6. Provide a facility for rental of canoes, kayaks, rowboats, and/or other small human-powered craft, and rental of same;
- 7. Pay for and staff seasonal educational and recreational programming in the natural wetlands;
- 8. Provide community rowing programming for schools and children within CB12M in partnership with CU's athletic department and/or crew team;
- 9. Add another recipient to the Dyckman Institute scholarship program, bringing the annual total from four to five;
- 10. Provide an internship or other educational program in environmental sciences to provide hands-on academic opportunities to students of middle schools and high schools located within CB12M;
- 11. Repair and bring into ADA-compliance the comfort stations by Inwood Hill Park's public tennis courts in conjunction with an already-funded NYC DPR capital project to repair the courts;
- 12. Install lighting at the Inwood Little League field at the western end of IHP, across from the boathouse, and other improvements as may be appropriate and necessary;
- 13. Provide for occasional public event use of the terraced plaza at the western end of the proposed new athletic building, and well as periodic use of space within the building for public meetings and events;
- 14. Mitigate the negative visual impact of the soccer field bleachers and chain link fence on Broadway between 218<sup>th</sup> Street and the entrance to the Allen Pavilion;
- 15. Resurface, refurbish and repair the soccer fields at Gaelic Field and install fencing; and be it further

**Resolved:** Community Board 12, Manhattan maintain a role in the oversight and monitoring of these items; and be it further

**Resolved:** Community Board 12, Manhattan calls on the Borough President, its City Councilmembers, State Senators, State Assemblymembers and Congressman to advocate on behalf of CB12M to ensure that the needs of the people of Inwood and Washington Heights adequately are met by Columbia University.

Passed: 19 in favor, 1 opposed, 5 abstaining and 4 not voting due to conflict

### News from New York State Senator

### Adriano Espaillat

For Immediate Release: March 15, 2011

Contact: Ibrahim Khan | IKhan@adrianoespaillat.org | 631.357.6856

\*\*Press Release\*\*

Senator Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman Guillermo Linares, Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez Call on Increased Community Involvement in Columbia University's Baker Field Project

(New York, NY) – Today, Senator Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman Guillermo Linares, and Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez came together to discus Columbia University's Baker Field project. The project, a 47,500 square foot sports complex in its approval stages, will be built on the waterfront along West 218th Street between Park Terrace East and Broadway.

With the project presenting both challenges and opportunities for the local community, Senator Espaillat, Assemblyman Linares, and Councilman Rodriguez are appealing for residents to get involved. They are also calling on Columbia University to step up its outreach to neighbors who will be impacted by a project of this magnitude. Additionally, they have requested that a scheduled vote on the project in the City Council be delayed and public comment period be extended.

Senator Espaillat said: "While I believe this project can mean great things for our community, we must be cognizant of its affect on residents in Inwood and Washington Heights. We must also make sure that local residents and community leaders have a voice in the project's development. That's why I am appealing for residents to testify during planning hearings that are critical in this project moving forward. Furthermore, I am calling for a vote on the project to be postponed, giving more time for residents to voice their opinions"

Assemblyman Linares said: "I am pleased to join my colleagues and residents from Northern Manhattan in closely examining Columbia University's Baker Field project and ensuring that our community gets its fair share. Following the recommendation by Community Board 12, I am calling for CU to provide park enforcement patrol officers to cover the park as well as the adjacent Inwood Hill Park."

Councilman Rodriguez said: "If planned well, the Baker Field project has the potential of being a boon for our community. Columbia University must take steps requested by local residents such as facilitating waterfront access for the public and other measures that will facilitate the use of the facility by our constituents."

Given the importance of incorporating community input in what the project will ultimately look like, Senator Espaillat, Assemblyman Linares, and Councilman Rodriguez are asking the City Council to postpone a vote on the project and extend the public comment period. This will enhance community input and give residents a better opportunity to have their voices heard. A hearing and vote on the project is currently slated for Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

A complete list of Community Board 12's recommendations for the project is attached.

###

### Community Board 12, Manhattan Resolution regarding Columbia University Development at Baker Field 27 April 2010

Whereas: Columbia University (CU) for many decades and without any compensation to the City or the residents of

Community District 12, Manhattan, has been using a small parcel of public land at the southwest corner of

its Baker Field that could provide waterway access to the public; and

Whereas: CU plans to build a new athletic facility elsewhere on this waterfront lot, along W. 218th Street between Park

Terrace East & Broadway; and

Whereas: Waterfront/waterway access is a required zoning mitigation for any development of a waterfront lot; and

Whereas: Community Board 12, Manhattan (CB12M) continues to list waterfront/waterway access and both passive

and active waterfront/waterway recreation as high priorities for the District; and

Whereas: CB12M, its Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee and the surrounding Inwood community have voiced

concerns about development at Baker Field, as well as programming and access at the site, as cited at

minutes of various public meetings; and

Whereas: CU consulted with the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) on a small (just under one-acre) park on the

site adjacent to Inwood Hill Park, incorporating many of DPR's requests and suggestions into the design, which it initially presented to the community at a Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee meeting on October 6, 2009, where the plan was well received, both for the design itself and the level of community and agency

collaboration; and

Whereas: CU presented the park plan again, as well as a design concept and then plans for a its proposed new athletic

facility at a joint meeting of the Parks & Cultural Affairs and Land Use Committees on November 4<sup>th</sup>, and at CU-sponsored public meetings on December 9<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at all of which specifically were noted the need for community accommodations as mitigation for development on a waterfront lot and in exchange

for the long-term and previously uncompensated use of public land, and the future use of same; and

Whereas: CB12M, its Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee and the surrounding Inwood community continue to have

concerns about safety, security, programming, access and equity raised by both projects; and

Whereas: The cost of the park development represents a very small percentage of the overall cost of the new field

house, and, while the new parkland will be a welcome addition as a community amenity, it is inadequate in and of itself to mitigate the development of a waterfront lot, compensate for the loss of public access to the waterfront/waterway due to the presence of CU's boathouse to which the public is denied access, and make

the public whole for the unpaid use by CU of public property for many decades; and

Whereas: Even a modest rent compounded at even a modest interest rate over so many years would total an amount

in the millions of dollars; and

Whereas: The Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee met to discuss a list of accommodations which in the aggregate

adequately might serve to meet the zoning mitigation requirements and to compensate for the long-term

use of public property and the future use of same; now therefore be it

Whereas: CU has entertained community requests and granted accommodations in exchange for other developments,

including but not limited to Audubon Ballroom project, Hammer Health Sciences Building; and the

Manhattanville expansion; now therefore be it

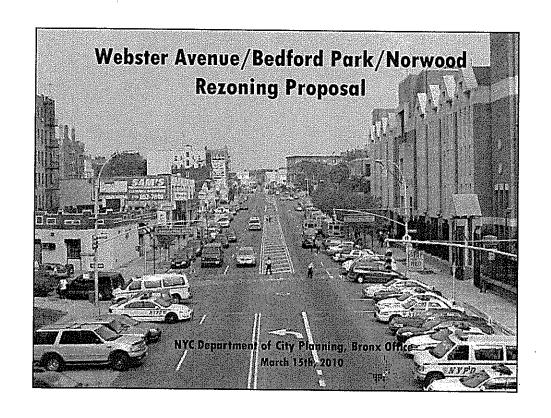
Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan urges that the City of New York require Columbia University to agree to and implement the following accommodations in order to comply with waterfront zoning regulations triggered by CU's construction of the new Baker Field athletic facility and in recognition of CU's long-term use and occupancy of City-owned property without compensation:

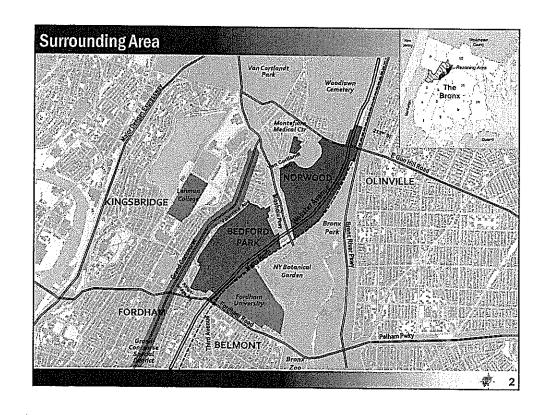
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- 3. Enable and permit daily public access to the public waterfront/waterway by the boathouse (though not necessarily the boathouse itself, which is private and on private CU property) during the hours that parks generally are open;
- 4. Host periodic (at least monthly) "learn to row" or other public programming events;
- 5. Build a public dock or pier for direct waterfront and waterway access, not just for visual access, but so that people may use the waterway for fishing, boating and other forms of passive and active waterfront recreation;
- 6. Provide a facility for rental of canoes, kayaks, rowboats, and/or other small human-powered craft, and rental of same;
- 7. Pay for and staff seasonal educational and recreational programming in the natural wetlands;
- 8. Provide community rowing programming for schools and children within CB12M in partnership with CU's athletic department and/or crew team;
- 9. Add another recipient to the Dyckman Institute scholarship program, bringing the annual total from four to five;
- 10. Provide an internship or other educational program in environmental sciences to provide hands-on academic opportunities to students of middle schools and high schools located within CB12M;
- 11. Repair and bring into ADA-compliance the comfort stations by Inwood Hill Park's public tennis courts in conjunction with an already-funded NYC DPR capital project to repair the courts;
- 12. Install lighting at the Inwood Little League field at the western end of IHP, across from the boathouse, and other improvements as may be appropriate and necessary;
- 13. Provide for occasional public event use of the terraced plaza at the western end of the proposed new athletic building, and well as periodic use of space within the building for public meetings and events;
- 14. Mitigate the negative visual impact of the soccer field bleachers and chain link fence on Broadway between 218<sup>th</sup> Street and the entrance to the Allen Pavilion;
- 15. Resurface, refurbish and repair the soccer fields at Gaelic Field and install fencing; and be it further

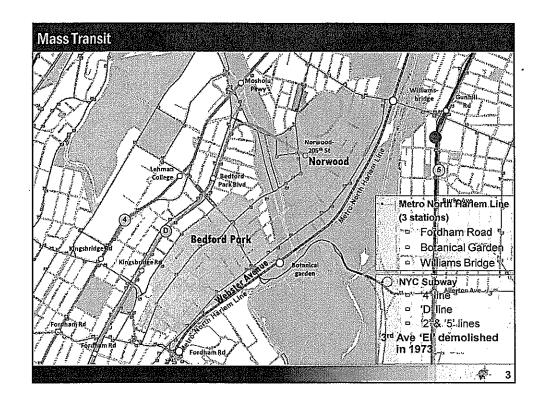
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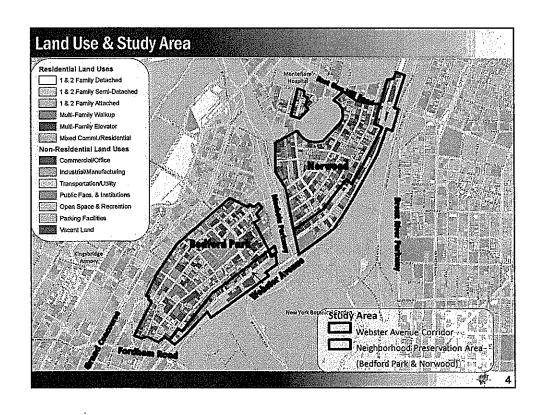
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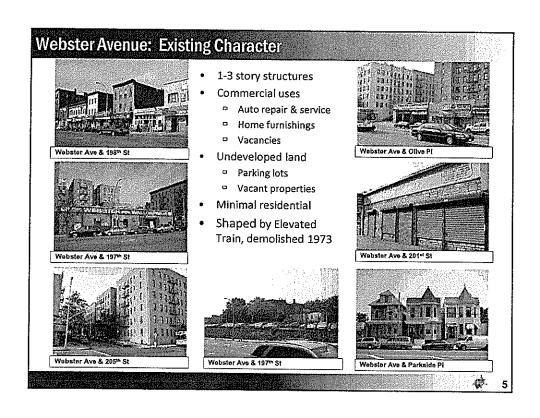
Passed: 19 in favor, 1 opposed, 5 abstaining and 4 not voting due to conflict

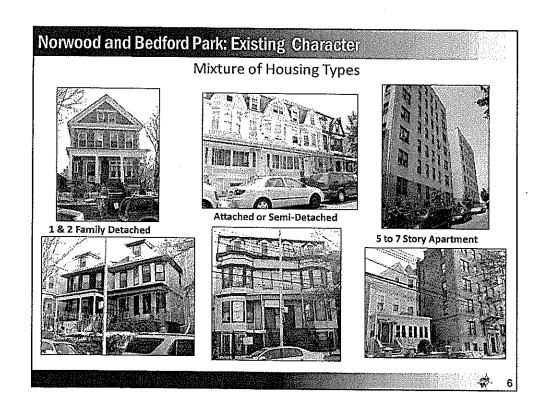


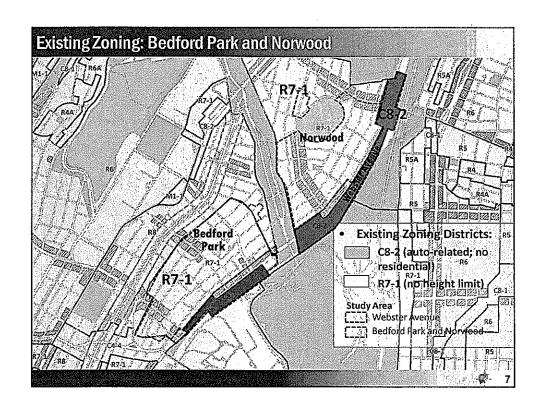


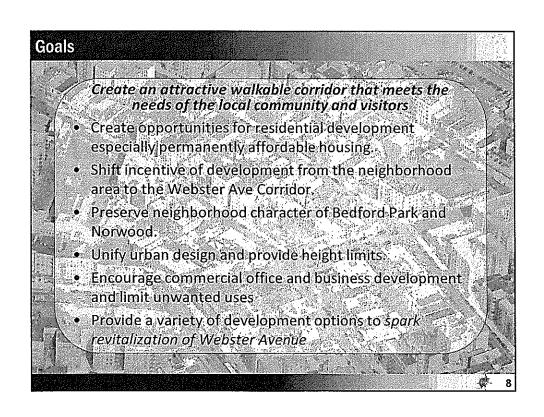


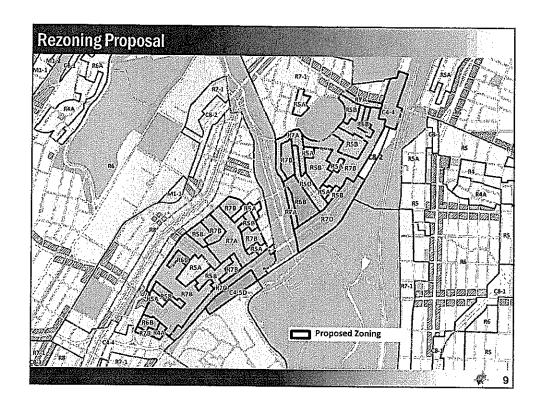


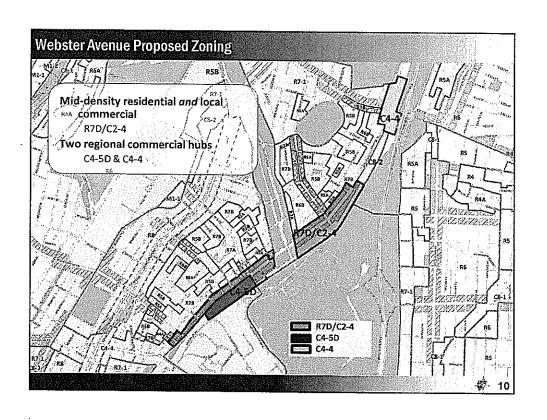


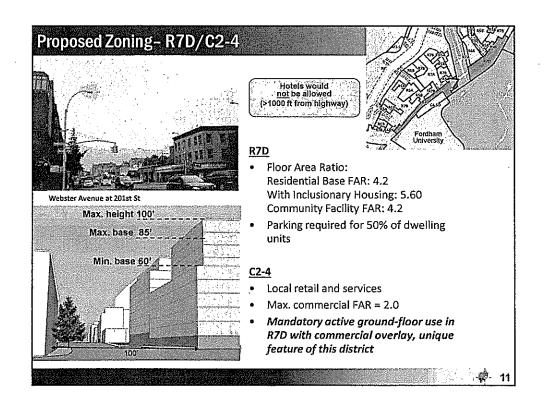


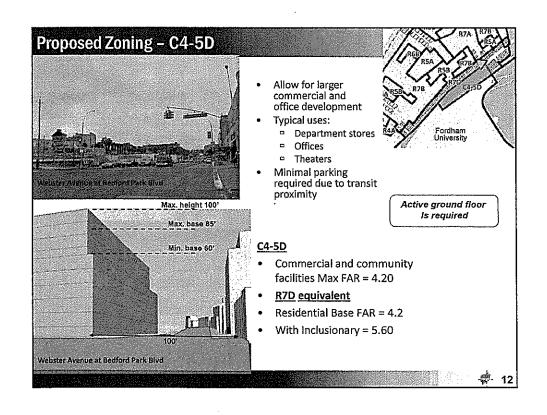


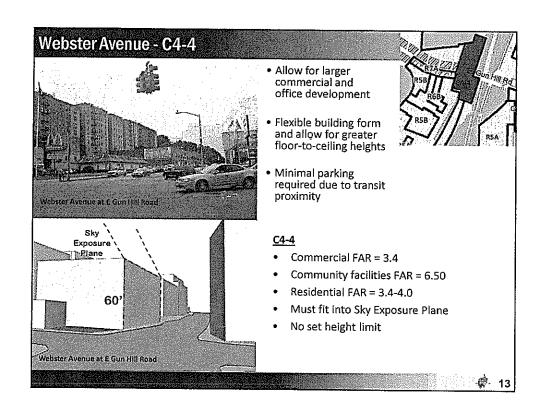


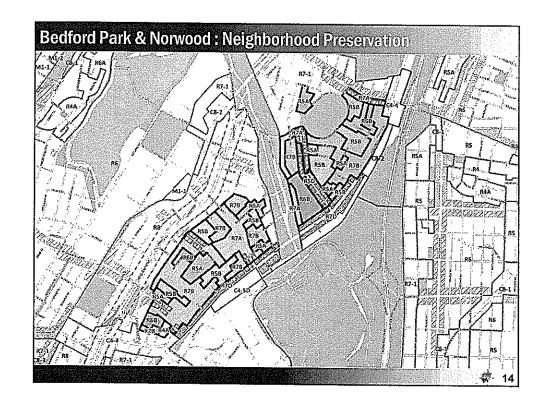


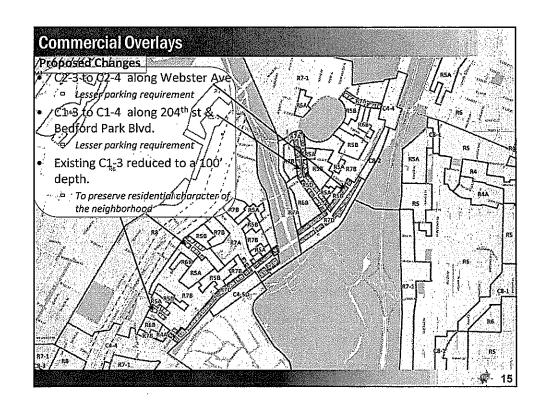


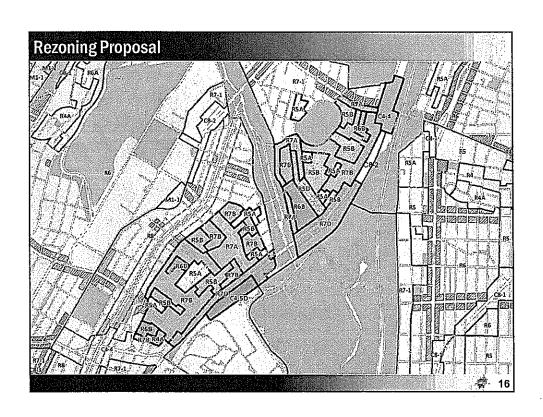












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RSD	1-4	2.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40,	%99	N/A	1,000 sf	1,000 sf
R6B	1-4	2.00	2.00	N/A	N/A	2.00	N/A	N/A	30'	40'	50,	20%	N/A	N/A	800 sf
R7A	1-4	4.00	4.00	N/A	N/A	4.00	N/A	N/A	40,	65'	80 '	20%	N/A	N/A	None Req
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With Qualit	With Quality Housing option on	no nc	* narrow street						\   	SEP: Sky Exposure Plane	ure Plane				

\*\* wide street

+ Commercial overlay regulations follow underlying residential district regulations

SEP: Sky Exposure Plane FAR: Floor Area Ratio D.U.: Dwelling Unit

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### Baker Field Action Plan of Programs, Enhancements and Public Access \*\*

- Increase Public Access to Facilities at Baker Field

  Columbia is committed to working with the community to increase the accessibility of the facilities at Baker Field for residents of Washington Heights and Inwood. Specifically,
  - Design, maintain, and provide security for the Boathouse Marsh as a special waterfront access area for the community and the environment.
  - Design the main entrance to the Boathouse Marsh within Inwood Hill Park to underscore the projects accessibility to the public.
  - C. Operate the Boathouse Marsh consistent with operating hours for New York City Parks, (6am to 10pm from April 15 to October 31; 7am to 8pm November 1 to April 14.)
  - d. Gift the Columbia-maintained dock at Baker Field to the City of New York for public use and provide community access for small non-motorized boats with limitations during periods when used by Columbia for team activities.
  - e. Provide space for one Community meeting per month in the proposed Campbell Sports Center (consistent with University policy and subject to availability).
  - f. Provide rental of the facilities at Baker field to residents at the "Columbia Community Rate" (consistent with University policy and subject to availability).
  - g. Provide access for residents to the Lawrence A. Wien Stadium track beginning January 1, 2011
  - Allow residents to purchase unaffiliated memberships at The Dick Savitt Tennis Center beginning January 1, 2011.
  - Provide complimentary admission to all intercollegiate baseball, softball, soccer tennis, field hockey and lacrosse contests for fans of all ages, beginning immediately.
  - Create and implement an annual "Neighbors Appreciation Day" event at a select Columbia home football game. Provide complimentary admission and other special amenities beginning fall 2011.
- II. <u>Construct an Environmentally Sustainable Waterfront Open Space</u>
  Columbia through its design by James Corner Field Operations will provide a waterfront access area that will:
  - a. Create a unique, tranquil and environmentally sustainable place for the community through new public access and new amenities on the Harlem River Waterfront, seating, passive recreation areas and the restoration of the area's native marshland.
  - Support Vision 2020's plan to improve New York City's waterfront and reconnect New Yorkers to the water.
  - c. Create a saltwater marsh area over a portion of an existing mudflat improving water quality and habitat value.
  - d. Construct new freshwater wetlands in three tiers or chambers.

\*\*Note: This listing is a compilation of programs and enhancements derived from the October 2010 letter to CB12 and the March 2011 to Councilmember Jackson. The listing was assembled for convenience and does not supercede either of the two documents.

- e. Add both salt marsh and freshwater wetland ecosystems vastly improving foraging opportunities to wading birds
- f. Improve the site foot print, water quality and habitat value in the adjacent areas.

### III. Develop Educational Programs for Community Children

Working with local elected officials and members of the community, Columbia continues to expand the programs and services available to our neighbors. Specifically, Columbia will:

- Develop an annual Learn to Row or other water safety programs for children (consistent with University policy).
- Offer up to 19 scholarships annually for children to Columbia Cubs Camps and select Columbia Sports Camps at Baker Field.
- Create an environmental service-learning project related to the restored fresh/salt water marsh that includes local school children.
- d. Sponsor a summer junior tennis program in local New York City parks.
- e. Extend the educational offerings of Inwood Hill Park by creating an environment for learning about wetlands and a living herbarium of the plant species.

### IV. Improve Current Transportation and Parking Conditions

Columbia encourages fans to utilize mass transportation to help decrease the number of privately-owned vehicles trying to park near Baker Field. Columbia is committed to continuing its efforts to reduce traffic congestion at and around Baker Field. To that end, Columbia has begun and will continue to:

- Direct our construction partners to develop a construction logistics plan that will minimize traffic and other impacts to the community.
- Collaborate with the Allen Hospital and other area organizations to explore usage of alternative parking options for buses and vehicles during major events.
- c. Direct the shuttle bus company to minimize the use of West 218<sup>th</sup> Street.
- d. Hire dispatching/public safety personnel for all home football games to ensure bus compliance with appropriate routes.

### V. <u>Provide Security and Maintenance for the Boathouse Marsh</u>

At Columbia, the safety and security of our students, employees and neighbors is our top priority.

Specifically, Columbia will:

- Provide security services for the Boathouse Marsh, including portal security and foot patrols.
- Maintain a clean, attractive, and environmentally sound environment at the Boathouse Marsh.

### VI. Enhance Environmental Sustainability in the Area

\*\*Note: This listing is a compilation of programs and enhancements derived from the October 2010 letter to CB12 and the March 2011 to Councilmember Jackson. The listing was assembled for convenience and does not supercede either of the two documents.

Environmental stewardship is a cornerstone of Columbia University's commitment to being a responsible member of the community. A practitioner of environmental sustainability, the University works actively to maintain a safe environment for staff, students, and neighbors. Specifically, Columbia will:

- a. Commit to attain LEED Silver status for the proposed new Campbell Sports Center.
- b. Maintain and enhance established view corridors at Baker Field.
- c. Maintain new trees and enhance existing planting on the north side of West 218<sup>th</sup> Street.
- d. Incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices in its construction projects.
- e. Ensure that appropriate environmental testing and remediation is completed prior to and during construction of the Boathouse Marsh.
- Involve school children in the creation of the Boathouse Marsh and create opportunities for ongoing environmental education. .
- g. Reduce the sound level emitted by the mechanical equipment in Chrystie Field House.

### VII. Facilitate Better Management of Stadium and Field Lights

The University continues to work to improve Lawrence A. Wien Stadium and other venue lights.

Columbia has recently installed remote control lighting at the field hockey and soccer venues to reduce unnecessary usage. Columbia has installed energy efficient, directional lighting at the field hockey venue to provide more focused light and reduce lighting glare. Going forward, Columbia will:

- a. Install remote control lighting at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium.
- b. Adjust lighting timers based on venue usage schedules; turn-off all field lights at 10:30 p.m., seven days a week.
- c. As of December 1, 2010 there is a 24/7 phone number [212-854-2222], staffed by Columbia University Facilities, for the community to report venue lights at Baker Field should they remain on beyond 10:30 p.m.

### Plan Regular Engagement with the Community VIII.

Columbia and the community share a desire to strengthen relationships and partnerships to advance the mutual needs of the community and the University. Sandra Harris, Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Affairs has been appointed to serve as the official community liaison for Baker Field. She can be reached at 212-305-6359 or via email at sh533@columbia.edu

In addition Columbia will:

- a. Host two community relations meetings or open house meetings annually at Baker Field.
- b. Create a new informational Web site related to the availability of Baker Field.
- c. Inform the community of the various University-Community programs and services available.

\*\*Note: This listing is a compilation of programs and enhancements derived from the October 2010 letter to CB12 and the March 2011 to Councilmember Jackson. The listing was assembled for convenience and does not supercede either of the two documents.

- d. Increase opportunities to employ local residents during construction and for Columbia's permanent workforce. Columbia's goals include a business participation goal of 35% Minority-, and Women-owned and Local business participation for construction, maintenance, and repair and a 40% Minority, Women, and Local workforce participation.
- e. Post intercollegiate contests schedules at Baker Field.
- f. Engage local businesses in promotional and sports marketing initiatives.

\*\*Note: This listing is a compilation of programs and enhancements derived from the October 2010 letter to CB12 and the March 2011 to Councilmember Jackson. The listing was assembled for convenience and does not supercede either of the two documents.

### Good afternoon,

My name is George Starke and I am a Columbia alum. As a former NFL player for the Washington Redskins who appeared in three Super Bowls, I look back with warmth and gratitude on my years as a Columbia College student, where I played on both the football and basketball teams. I did not come from the most privileged background and I did not grow up assuming that I would attend an Ivy League institution; however, from my time at Columbia, I know firsthand the sense of community and belonging that is built through a student's athletic participation. Playing football and basketball enriched my academic experience and led me to a successful pro career, but perhaps more importantly it deepened my commitment to be an active participant in the communities to which I belong. After my pro days ended I founded the Excel Institute, a not-for profit vocational training program for youth and adults.

As the University now moves to construct a new sports center and enhance the area's waterfront, I am very pleased to lend my support to the Boathouse Marsh Project.

I believe that Boathouse Marsh will serve residents of Washington Heights and Inwood and the Columbia community by providing expanded and sustainable access to the waterfront. Simultaneously, the project will enable a range of environmental programs and activities and will become, in a way, another tangible benefit of the University's sports program.

I hope that you will approve Columbia's application so that this important joint project can move forward.

Respectfully,

George Starke

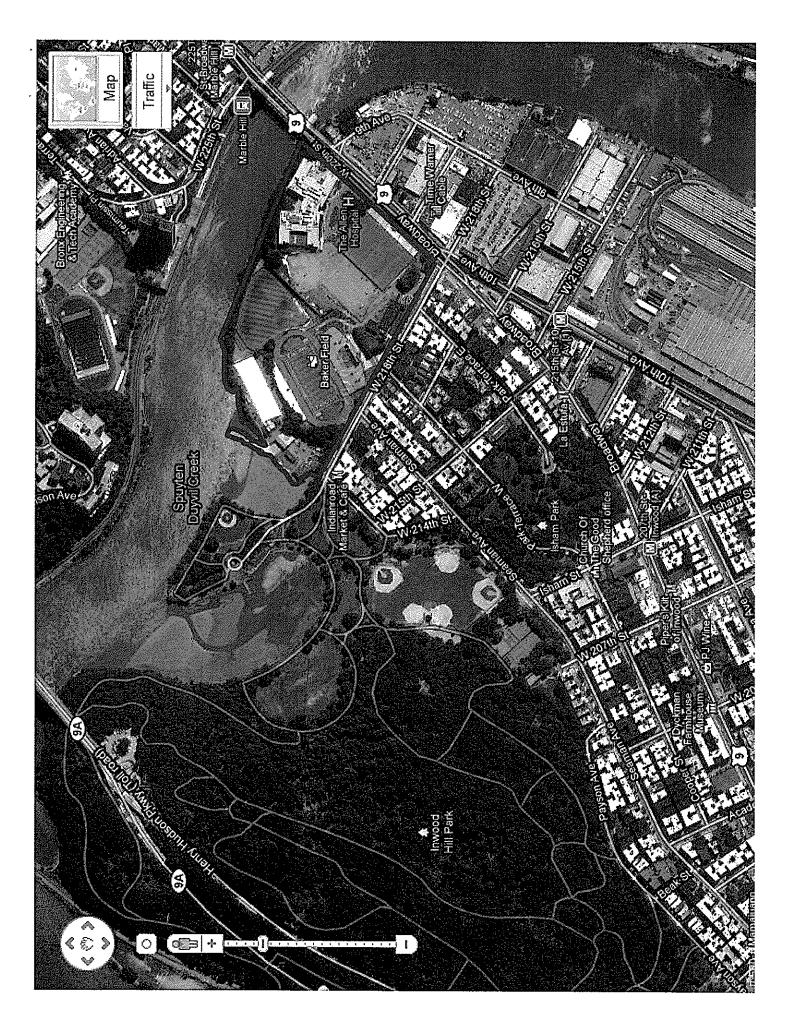
### Baker Field Boathouse Marsh Overview

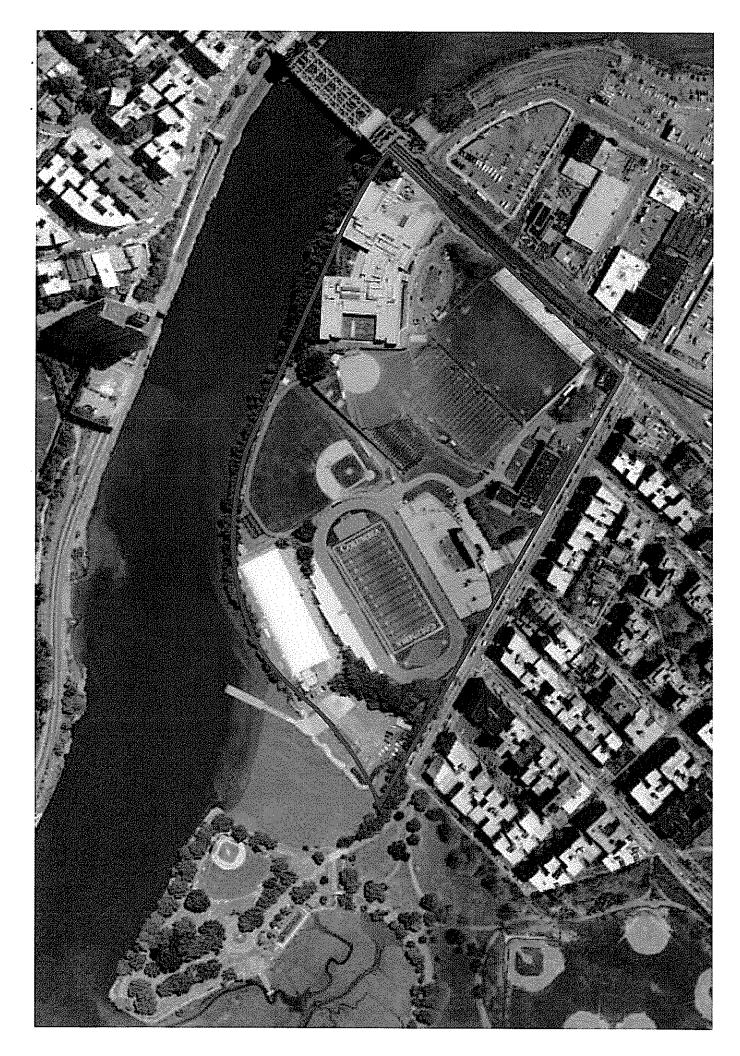
Columbia University is proposing a project at the University's Baker Field athletics facility that would involve: the construction of a new building, the Campbell Sports Center, to support its existing athletics program; and a waterfront public access area, which would seek to satisfy the Waterfront Zoning provisions of the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York.

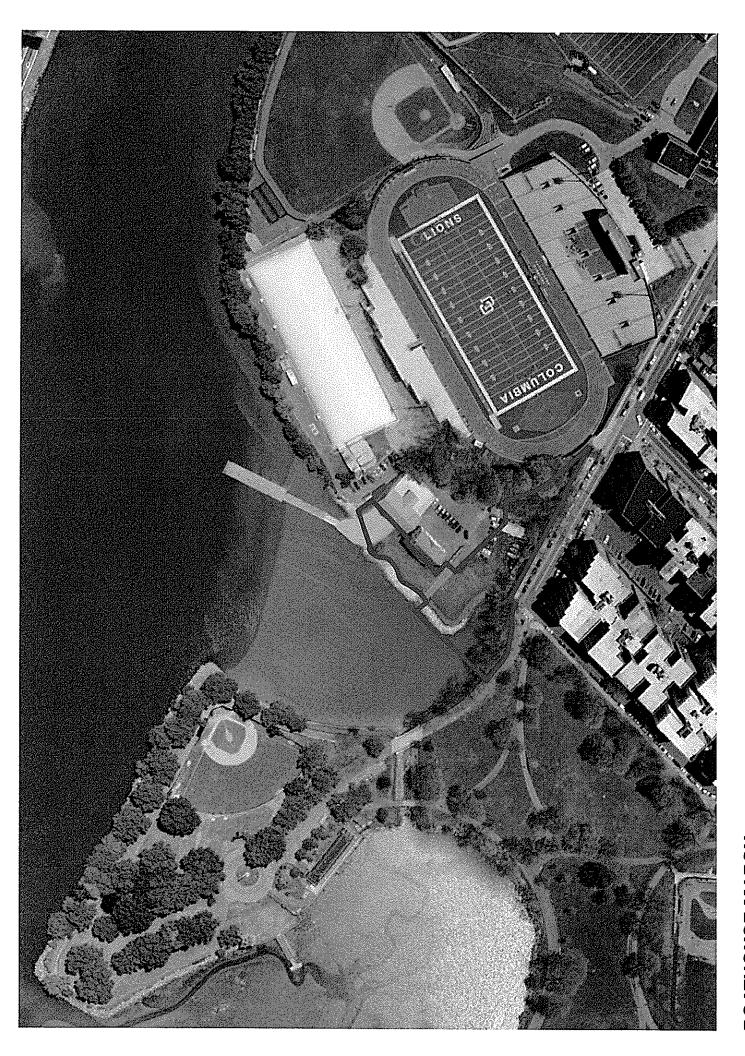
Baker Field, located at the northern tip of Manhattan, is the athletics and recreational facility for Columbia's outdoor varsity sports and recreational programs. Baker Field is utilized by 14 intercollegiate teams (seven women's teams and seven men's teams) and is the venue for practice and intercollegiate competitions for nine varsity sports. The site is also home to New York-Presbyterian/Allen Hospital, a community hospital serving northern Manhattan, Riverdale and other communities in the Bronx. The proposed Campbell Sports Center, designed by award-winning New York City-based architect Steven Holl, would replace the existing maintenance building on 218<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway and would not add any additional teams to Baker Field.

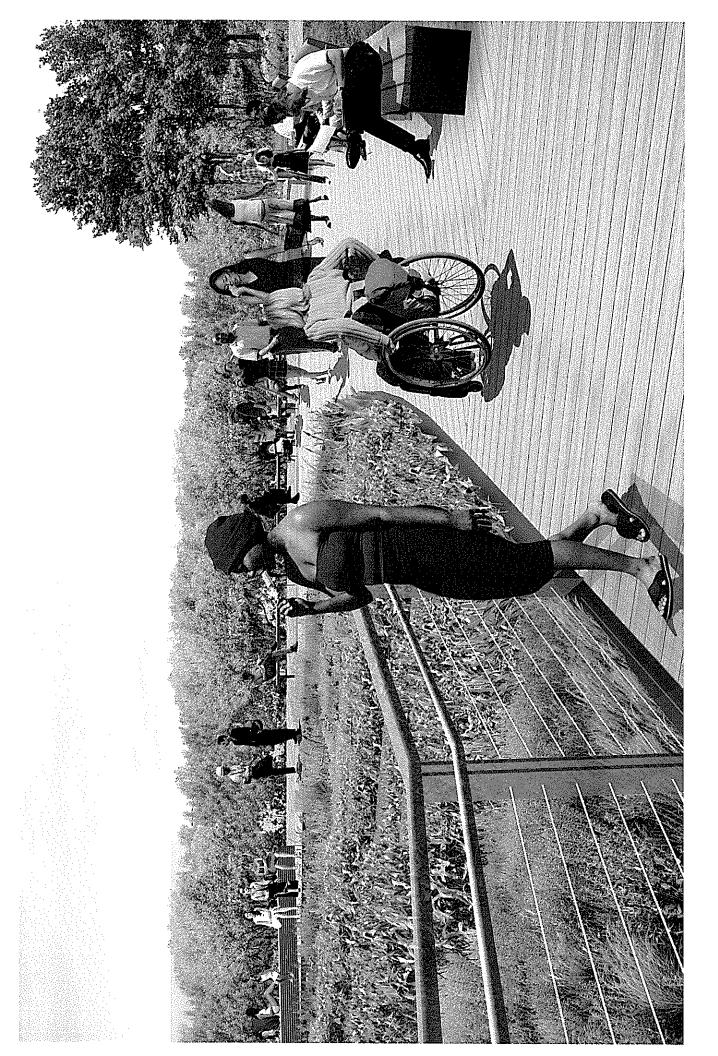
Given the existing conditions at Baker Field, including existing buildings, program uses and topography along the shoreline, Columbia has submitted an application to the City Planning Commission requesting an authorization to modify the public waterfront public access area and design requirements. As to the requested design modifications, they would result in a waterfront public access area, designed by Field Operations, that is functionally equivalent or superior to the design prescribed by strict adherence to the applicable provisions.

Working with the New York City Department of City Planning and the Department of Parks and Recreation, Columbia has commissioned James Corner Field Operations, lead designers of the High Line, to design a waterfront public access area that would not only satisfy waterfront zoning requirements but create a special place for the community and the environment. This project, known as "Boathouse Marsh," would create new public access and new amenities on the Harlem River waterfront, provide seating and passive recreation areas, restore and extend the area's native marshland, and extend the educational offerings of Inwood Hill Park by creating an environment for learning about wetlands and living herbarium of the plants species that once flourished all over the valley. In addition, as a result of community input, Columbia has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide community access to an additional 11,000 square feet of City-owned land adjacent to Baker Field and community access to the existing dock for small non-motorized boats.











# WEBSTER AVENUE REZONING TESTIMONY

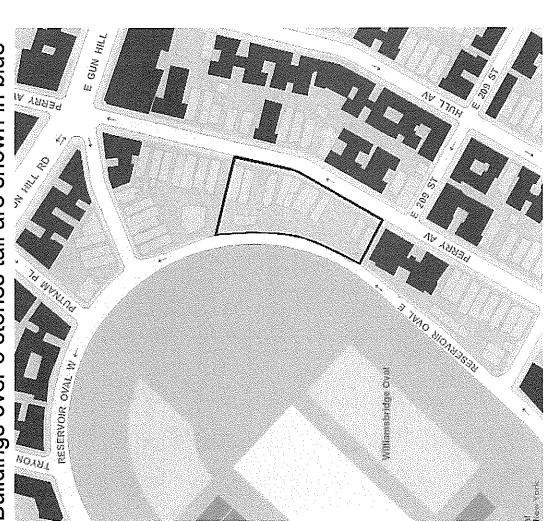
for the Unique Conditions between Perry Avenue and Reservoir Oval East Recommendation for Approval, with a Modification

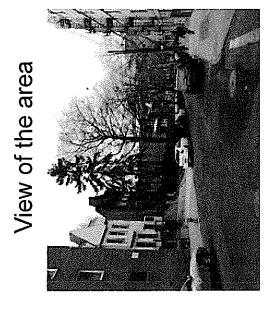


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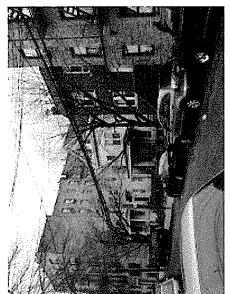
## Area of Concern

The area of concern is outlined in red below Buildings over 3 stories tall are shown in blue





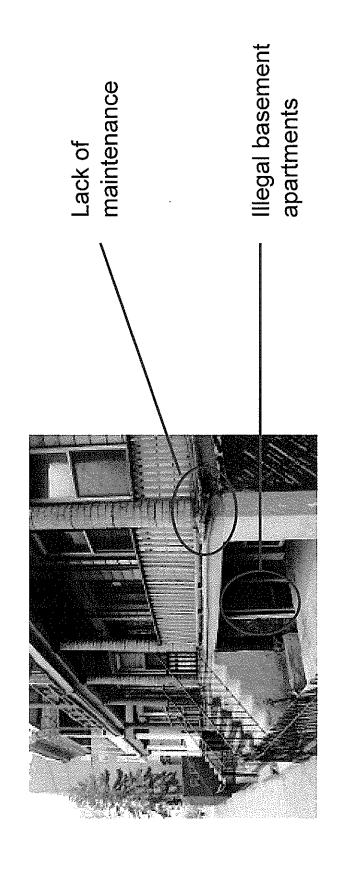
View across the street



# Downzoning will limit financial capacity and puts the neighborhood at risk of long-term deterioration

The existing houses along this stretch show many obvious signs of disrepair

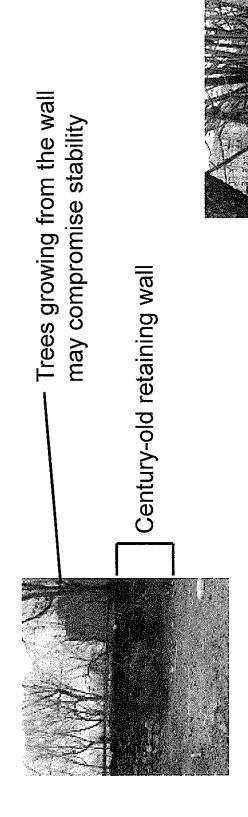
Even with additional rental income from illegal basement apartments, the owners are struggling to keep up maintenance



# In addition, these parcels have other extraordinary expenses

According to DOT, maintenance of the 15-20 foot-tall retaining wall is the responsibility of the property owners

Reservoir Oval East would also be the responsibility of these properties According to DOT, the cost of installing the missing sidewalks on



Reservoir Oval East is in desperate need of sidewalks

### 4

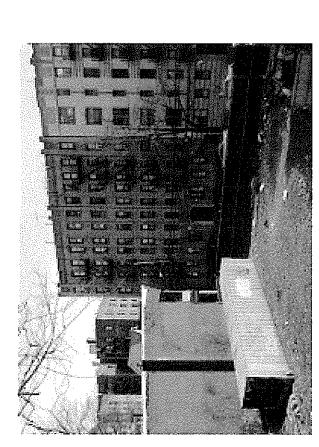
# The concerns were dismissed on the basis of inaccurate information

Response to Comment 14:

...no projected or potential development sites were identified in this area...

Response to Comment 15:

"The existing development in the area consists mostly of detached houses ranging from one to two stories...



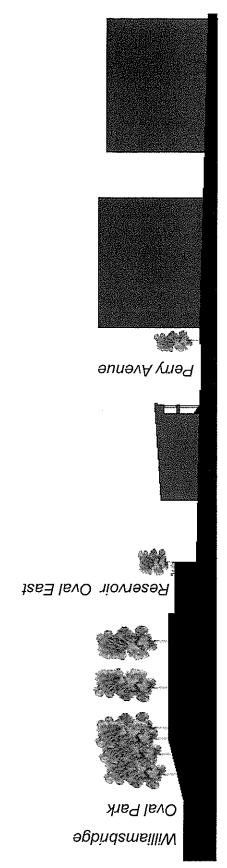
### Shown on the left is Block 3343, Lots 135 and 136

This vacant property is an obvious development site

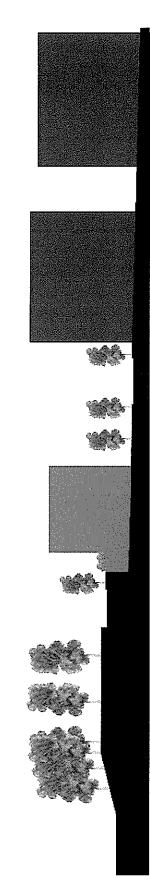
Other adjoining properties are developed to half their allowed density under current zoning

The area is currently a mix of midrise apartment buildings and 2+ story homes

### The Choice



on Reservoir Oval, and deteriorating, century-old houses with illegal conditions Downzoning - locks in the dark backyards below the street, missing sidewalk



Allow appropriate development on this handful of lots – creates more useful open space, sidewalks on Reservoir Oval, and new apartments that fit into the neighborhood context

### The Details

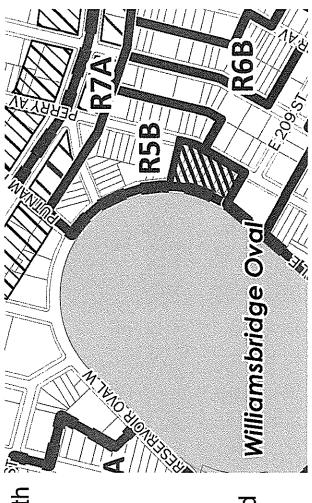
The action should be approved, with the modification of excluding the following handful of properties:

**Block 3343** 

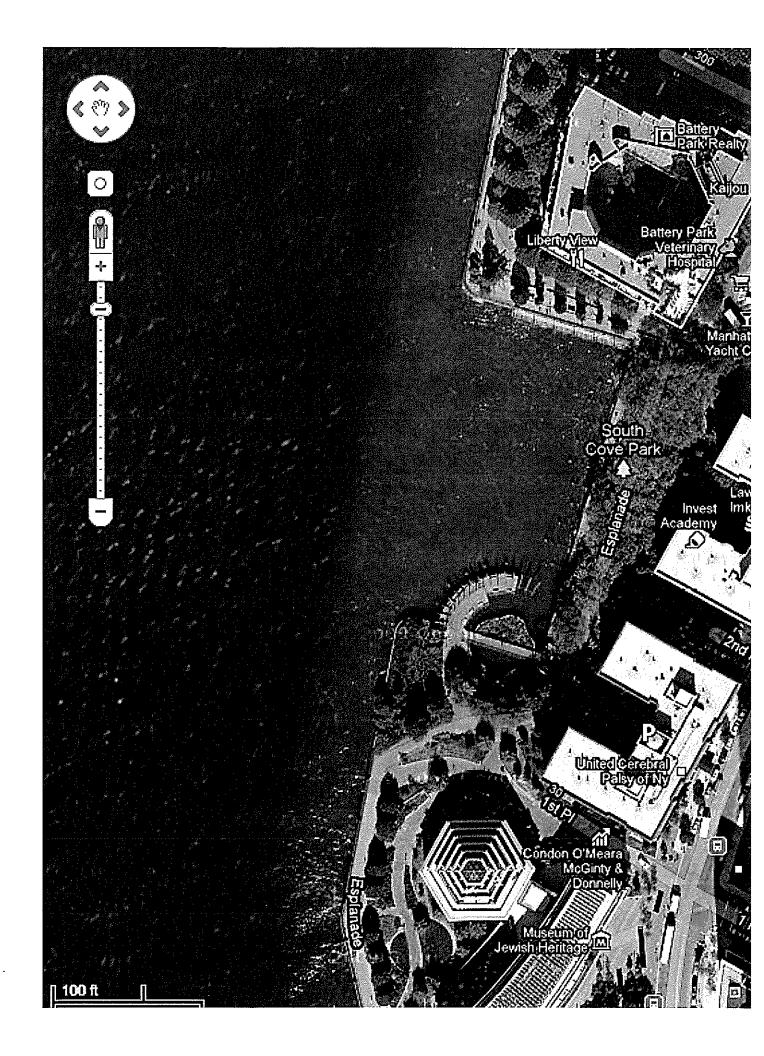
Lots 133 through 136,

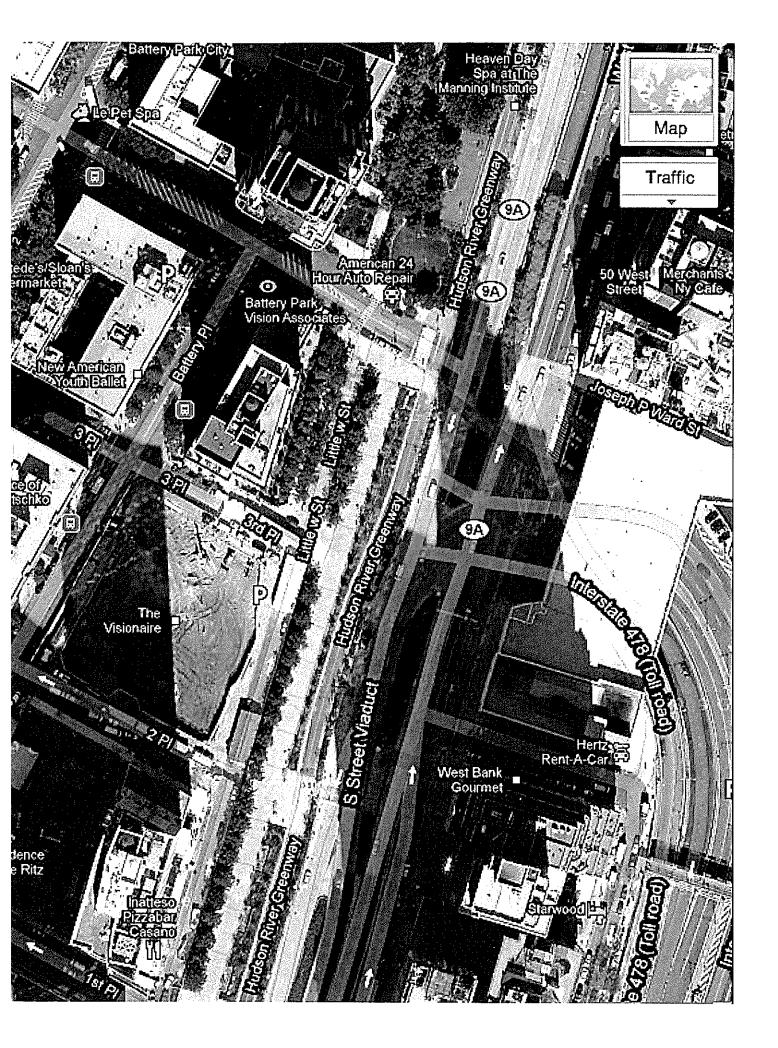
Lots 138 through 144, and

Lot 146



If the existing R7-1 zoning is not the most appropriate zoning to foster desirable development in this small area, the Department of City Planning should study the issue in adequate detail when it returns to Community Board 7 to rezone the rest of Bedford Park and Norwood





### Re: Columbia University's Modification Application no. 100339 ZAM

To Members of the New York City Council Land Use Committee:

We, the undersigned organizations and residents of Inwood, are writing to express our opposition to Columbia University's (CU) application requesting authorization to modify the location, area and minimum dimension requirements of Sections 62-822(a) and 62-50 for a proposed athletic facility at Baker Field. CU proposes to construct a 47,700 square foot sports facility, the Campbell Sports Center, and waterfront zoning regulations require CU to allocate 15%, or 181 thousand square feet, of the lot area to waterfront public access. Columbia seeks a modification that would provide a small fraction of this area to the public and claims that they are providing a functionally equivalent benefit. For reasons discussed below, we strongly believe that the modification fails to provide equivalent public use and enjoyment of the waterfront, and is inferior to what Columbia is obligated to provide under the letter of the law and we urge you to reject their application, accordingly.

Columbia proposes to compensate for the diminished public access area by providing a 23 thousand square foot public access area (i.e. the "Boathouse Marsh") and giving to the City a dock that Columbia built, and has been using, on public land for more than fifty years. The gift of the dock would be subject to a "Dual Use Agreement," between Columbia and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), which would give Columbia priority-access to the dock during certain periods. To our knowledge, this Dual Use Agreement has not been finalized and thus it is impossible to assess its value, and the value of Columbia's proposed modification, as is necessary to evaluate whether the modification should be approved. The value of the dock for public access is further undermined by the lack of storage facilities and other amenities (e.g. bathrooms), that would make community use feasible.

There have been a number of town hall meetings on this proposal and Inwood residents have unanimously expressed the opinion that the proposed modification is unfair to the community. In response to this concern, Columbia publicly committed to signing a legally binding and enforceable Community Partnership Agreement that would provide the community with access to other, related benefits at Baker Field. Despite months and months of discussion, a first draft of this agreement was provided to the community on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (five days ago). The majority of commitments in this agreement are so vague as to be of negligible value. Over 500 residents have signed on to a set of reasonable community proposals, which is attached, that indicate the types of benefits that would be satisfactory, but Columbia has thus far responded to very few of these requests.

Given the existing uncertainty around the details of Columbia's proposed modification, as well as its failure to make good on its promises to the community, we respectfully request that you vote against the proposed modification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

#### **Inwood Community Organization:**

Advocates for Inwood, Manhattan

### **Inwood Community Residents:**

**Gail Addiss** 

Jose Breton

**Nelly Cardero** 

Kimberly Chin-Griffin

**Amy Cooper** 

Bettina Damiani

Evelyn Espinal

Erika Espinal

Rene R. Espinal

Angel Figueroa

**Ruth Figueroa** 

Martha Granger

Selina T. Greene

Richard Herrera

Johanna Herrera

Emilia Herrera

Julia Hrysenko

Melissa Juniewicz

Andrea Kornbluth

Julio Lithgow

Kayla Lithow

Carolyn Lopez

Claudia Lynch

Paola Martinez

Rachel Menth

Roger Meyer

Luna Montaivo

Taina Montalvo-Teller

Adeline Oka

LaiMing Pak

Amy Lee Pearsall

Peg Quisenberry

Lynn Rickett

**Edie Ricks** 

Susan Ryan

Migdalia Santos

Inger Tilsen-Breton

Gina Vergel

Jessica Wells-Hasan

# Susan Ryan - TESTIMONY FOR CU BAKER FIELD EXPANSION April 5, 2011

## **Testimony before Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises**

It has been said that Columbia University realizes that there are several Title I schools in the neighborhood surrounding the Baker Field Sports Complex. It has been said that though Columbia University finds that information compelling they are not really in the business of "adopting schools" or "taking schools under their wing" and "Columbia can't compel it's faculty to do programs with these schools", etc. It's even been suggested that Columbia doesn't necessarily owe these schools anything.

Here is my response: I would like to call the Committee's attention to the usage of land directly across the street from CU Baker Field on the east side of Broadway, specifically Block #2215/Lot#831. On this location are two Title I schools, PS18 & PS278. Both schools serve children in Kindergarten through eighth grade. Between the two schools there are almost 1000 children, 95% of whom are Hispanic and 70% of whom qualify for free lunch, so these are poor children of color.

There is currently an ongoing investigation about the environmental safety of the schools because they are sited over a known petroleum contaminant plume that is being created by contaminated groundwater flowing underneath the schools. According to a letter written on January 25, 2000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation by the President of Long Island Analytical Laboratories – the contamination under these schools is migrating from a property adjacent to the schools, a property where a former gas station once stood. That property is currently owned by NY Presbyterian Allan Hospital - Columbia University. This means that Columbia University owns the land that is the source of the contamination of these two Title I schools serving almost 1000 poor children of color.

We've been asking for access to Baker Field Sports complex for these schools and others but to say that the schools haven't been granted access might not be entirely accurate. I mentioned PS278. PS278 is allowed onto Baker Field once a year when they do a walk-a-thon fundraiser for cancer research at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian - Columbia University Medical Center.

So just to get this straight, Columbia University's land is polluting the land that these two schools are on, and the poor children of color in those schools actually raise money for Columbia University.

In an article in the UFT's newsletter, PS278 Principal Maureen Guido said that one important reason for holding the walk-a-thon is to encourage children to be sensitive to the needs of others because, "Even though we're a Title I school, it's important for us to have children think about others who are not so fortunate,"

So to Columbia University I pose the following question:

Your land pollutes the land these children's schools are on *and* you take their money and still somehow you don't think you owe these children anything?

I beg to differ.



"TOMORROWS ANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS TODAY"

Ms. Jennifer Rommel NYSDEC Hunters Point Plaza 47-40 21st L.I.C. New York 11101

January 25, 2000 ·

3ch Path Back

Re: West 219th Street

Dear Ms. Rommel:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation dated January 21, 2000 regarding the above referenced site, LIAL has discussed the matter of installing the three (3) additional groundwater monitoring wells as per your recommendation to further delineate the contamination with my client as well as the New York City Board of Education which is the potential lessee of the property. I have tried to reach you several times via telephone during the past couple of days, as has Ms. Longendycke of NYCBE to discuss the matter further.

During our conversation you expressed concern regarding the exact location of the former gasoline service station that was identified in the Phase I report completed by ACS Environmental of Brooklyn, and further raised the possibility that the service station may have been located on my clients property, and therefore requiring additional investigative work to delineate the area of contamination.

After careful review of the site maps, groundwater data, the sub-surface investigation report and the Phase I report showing the exact location of the former service station as well as the Sanborn maps confirming the exact location of a Auto Filling Station, Auto Repair, Auto Parts, and a Auto Wrecking establishment on the adjacent corner, LIAL is confident that the contamination found on my clients property is a result of a offsite release that has migrated onto the subject property. Enclosed is a hard copy of the Sanborn Maps for your file. Due to the high cost of the newly proposed scope of work and given the amount of expenditure that my client has already incurred, we are reluctant to comply with your request.

LIAL respectively requests that your department review its files regarding my client's property as well as the adjacent property identified as the former service station in the Phase I report completed by ACS. All indications point to the former service station as the source of the gasoline contamination found on my client's property. There must be records regarding the underground bulk petroleum tank closure reports for the service station on file with your office, my client would like copies of any documentation regarding this site you may have. My client is considering legal action against the current property owner where the service station was located in attempt to recover some of the cost associated with this investigation.

S Gross who ocons it now Columbia

In an attempt to expedite this matter and satisfy your departments concerns my client is willing to install one (1) micro well inside the building identified as the Cee Gee space in attempt to clarify the status of any tanks that may be abandoned in place. Furthermore, my client is willing Geoprobe several locations along the Northeastern property boundary to help further delineate the source of the contamination. However, I must emphasize the urgency of my client to close this matter and would greatly appreciate if you would assist in expediting the closure of this investigation.

Perhaps we can arrange a mutually agreeable time in which all parties involved can meet to further discuss a more practical and cost effective way to proceed. Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience to schedule a meeting.

Best Regards,

Michael Veraldi, President

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AROUND THE UFT

#### For one of their own

PS/MS 278, Manhattan, walkathon

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 29, 2009



"We really come together as a community for this cause," says Klein (far right). Walking with him and the kids are teachers Jaime Dragoon (at banner) and Ed Peskie (rear).

people in Manhattan's PS/MS 278 school community held their very own march against breast cancer on Oct. 8. Students, staff, administrators and parents turned out for their annual walkathon at nearby Baker Athletic Field for reasons dear to their heart, according to Chapter Leader Robert Klein. PS/MS 278, which opened in 2004, also goes by another name: The Paula Hedbavny School. At the time it was to the staff's best knowledge the only school named after a New York City teacher. Hedbavny was a beloved special education teacher who lost a 14-year battle with breast cancer in 2003. "Our principal petitioned to name the school after her," said Klein, who was a colleague of Hedbavny's. They honor her further by the walkathon, which raises funds for cancer research at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian. Principal Maureen Guido said that another reason for holding the walk is to encourage children to be sensitive to the needs of others. "Even though we're a Title I school, it's important for us to have children think about others who are not so fortunate," Guido said. "What better way to do that than with a heathy walk?" And walk they did, K-5 kids in the moming and the older kids in the afternoon, all proudly wearing their white-and-blue T-shirts, thanks to the sponsorship of Con Edison.





11 Park Place, #701 New York, NY 10007 212.721.7996 www.goodjobsny.org

### Testimony from Good Jobs New York Bettina Damiani, Project Director

# Before the New York City Council Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises

RE: Application no. N 100339 ZAM submitted by Columbia University

Good morning Chairman Weprin and Council Members. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today regarding Columbia University's application permitting it to expand its Athletic Facilities, also known as the Baker Athletic Complex.

New York City officials spent significant time and energy negotiating with Columbia University as it planned an expansion of its main campus in Manhattanville. But sadly it seems none of those efforts are paying off in Inwood where the University wants to build a five story building at its athletic facilities. Though Columbia University has not proposed using Eminent Domain for this project (arguably one the largest leverage points in the Manhattanville expansion), it does not mean the community should be shortchanged by a application that asks for *a reduction* in local benefits, i.e. access to the waterfront.

As I understand it, this application would permit the University to build on its site any building as long as it stayed within zoning regulations. This would further silence the community's voice in any future development that may negatively impact the neighborhood.

In addition, two issues central to the work of Good Jobs New York are not addressed in the proposed agreement:

- The lack of public information about the costs and benefits of this project is troubling. In fact, it's unclear why officials would permit an amendment to move forward when the costs and benefits (literally in dollars and cents) have not been made public and the community has such reservations about the weak, unenforceable agreements made by Columbia. Not knowing the fiscal benefits of this project to the city or the University leaves the community and elected representatives negotiating blindly. Our elected representatives are expected to maintain, or even raise the bar of equitable and transparent development, not diminish it.
- We are pleased to see the University's commitment to sustainably by promising to achieve LEED Silver status. However, the lack of promises for local hiring, job training is simply baffling. Language carefully crafted in the Manhattanville agreement in this area included promises to pay employees living wages and referred to Project Labor Agreement with local unions. Why can't this language be included in an agreement for the Inwood community?

Until the University and local elected officials can determine the true costs and benefits of this proposal and negotiate in good faith with the community for an enforceable agreement, this committee should reject this application.



# **Community Board 12M**

711 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street – New York, NY 10032 Phone (212) 568-8500 Fax (212) 740-8197 <u>ebsmith@cb.nyc.gov</u> / www.nyc.gov/mcb12

Pamela Palanque-North, Chair Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

April 4, 2011

Hon. Mark Weprin
Chair
Subcommittee on Zoning & Franchises
City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Council Member Weprin:

I am writing in response to testimony given by Susan Ryan at the meeting of the Subcommittee on Zoning & Franchises held on March 15, 2011 concerning Columbia University's Baker Field project.

Ms. Ryan is mistaken on the various points she raised concerning Community Board 12-Manhattan:

- 1) She says that the Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) "was not released to the community in a meaningful fashion" between June and September of last year. The fact of the matter is that Community Board 12's committees do not meet during the summer, which I believe is true for virtually every community board in the city, and therefore the Baker Field project was not under discussion at the board during this period.
- 2) She says that "the normal procedure" is for our Health and Environment Committee to review projects with an EAS. That is not true. Such projects are reviewed by our Land Use Committee, and environmental concerns about the project were raised at its meetings and incorporated into the resolution it proposed to the full board.
- 3) She says that members of the community asked the chair of the Health & Environment Committee to hold a meeting to review this project and furthermore that I, as chair of the board, asked him to do so "on two separate occasions" but that "still he didn't do it." I have no reason to believe that the former is true since the chair of this committee has always been responsive to community requests. I can say without any qualification that I never asked him to hold a meeting regarding this project. If I had asked him to do so, I do not believe it would have been necessary to ask him a second time.

1) Finally, Ms. Ryan asserted that the Community Board failed to pass a resolution regarding this project last October due to the fact that seven members could not vote because of conflicts of interest. (Five of us have part-time jobs with the university; in my case, I teach in one of Columbia's programs.) However, one could also argue that with only 26 members eligible to vote at that meeting, it should have been relatively easy to obtain only 14 yes votes to pass a resolution. As it turned out, the resolution only received 13 yes votes and failed because it did not have a majority in favor.

I would appreciate your cooperation in reading this letter into the record of your meeting on April 5, 2011 to correct the misstatements that were made at your last meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela Palanque-North

c: Hon. Leroy G. Comrie, Jr., Chair, City Council Land Use Committee

Hon. Robert Jackson Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez



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# **Community Proposals for Baker Field Expansion**

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To: Columbia University, local representatives

Over the past two years, Columbia University has met with elected officials, Community Board 12, and others to move forward on plans to expand athletic facilities at Baker Field. Because the proposed project is located on waterfront property, NYC zoning regulations require Columbia to set aside 15% of its land for public waterfront access. Citing current conditions at Baker Field, Columbia has received approval from the NYC Department of City Planning to modify this requirement. With this modification, Columbia is planning to provide a fraction of the required 15% through a proposed project called the Boathouse Marsh. Columbia has agreed to provide some benefits for the community in connection with this project and address community concerns about the impact that the construction and the new facility will have on quality of life in the area.

Several proposals have been discussed, but with a final City Council vote on the issue scheduled for next week, we need to advocate for stronger benefits for the community. The following proposal was compiled with input from various sectors of the Inwood/Washington Heights community, and has been submitted to Columbia and our local elected representatives. We ask that you join us in supporting this proposal, and in asking that Columbia act as a good neighbor and a good citizen of the community.

Community Proposals for Baker Field Expansion 3.30.11

Education

Goal: Expand educational programs for local public school children

- Work with Inwood Community Services and similar local community based organizations to implement afterschool and summer youth employment programs. Specific proposals include:
- o Elementary Age Afterschool: Four Holiday Program Afternoons (between 12 noon and 4pm) during which our 235 elementary aged participants (K to 5th grade) can engage with ICS staff in field games on Baker's Field complex including but not limited to relay races, team (ultimate) Frisbee, teeball/baseball, soccer and American football. Holiday Programs operate during weeks school is not in session. Days and times would be mutually agreeable between Inwood Community Services and Columbia University
- o Middle School Age Afterschool: Four school day program afternoons (between 3pm and 6pm) during which our 125 middle school aged participants (6th to 8th grade) can engage with ICS staff in track races as well as team sports including but not limited to football, softball/baseball, soccer and American football. Days and times would be mutually agreeable between Inwood Community Services and Columbia University o ISPY Summer Camps: Two summer afternoons (between 12noon and 4pm) during which our 235 campers (K to 5th grade) can engage with ICS staff in field games on Baker's Field complex including but not limited to relay races, team (ultimate) Frisbee, tee ball/baseball, soccer and American football. Days and times would be mutually agreeable between Inwood Community Services and Columbia University o Summer Youth Employment Program: ICS would place at least 10 ICS summer employment participants (aged 14 to 24) in Columbia University's various athletic programs and/or physical plant opportunities during the summer. Youth will work 22.5 hours a week at no cost to Columbia University for approximately six weeks (dependent upon funding). ICS will develop a worksite agreement with Columbia University in which the days, times, and specific participant requirements (ages, experience level, skill sets, etc.) will be requested by the University.
- Work with existing Columbia programs to expand the educational opportunities for students at local Inwood schools. Possibilities include working with the Double Discovery Center at Columbia University (DDC) whose mission is to provide academic assistance to students typically underrepresented in higher education, particularly those from the communities surrounding Columbia University. DDC would facilitate educational and enrichment programs for Inwood students. Programs would take advantage of the educational opportunities presented by the Boathouse Marsh, Inwood Hill Park, and the Baker Field Sports Complex. Potential subject areas include Environmental Sciences/ Earth and Environmental Engineering Studies at Columbia's Earth Institute and Sports Medicine at Columbia's Orthopedics Dept. of Columbia's School of Sports Medicine.
- (CU Action Plan: Involve school children in the creation of the Boathouse Marsh and create opportunities for ongoing environmental education related to the presence of the Boathouse Marsh and its environmental aspects).
- Provide a five-week Environmental Science summer program for local high school

students. Inwood Hill Park and Baker Field is a site of ecological importance and is the last salt marsh in Manhattan. A summer environmental science program will provide opportunities for professors, graduate students, and undergraduate students in programs related to environmental science (i.e. the Department of Earth and Environmental Science) to teach local students about the unique environmental aspects of parkland in their own neighborhood. Hands-on academic opportunities are invaluable in exposing students to areas of study and potential careers.

• Create an environmental service learning project related to the restored fresh/salt water marsh for high school students with at least two hours of instructional and/or fieldwork time on a weekly basis.

(CU Action Plan: Create an environmental service-learning project related to the restored fresh/salt water marsh that will include local school children).

- Work in partnership with CHALK (Choosing Healthy & Active Lifestyles for Kids) to provide programming, including access to Baker Field Sports facilities once a week for local DOE Title I schools.
- In local DOE Title I schools that have no Physical Education staff or Physical Education curriculum, CU will work in partnership with graduate programs such as the Teachers College School of Movement Science and Education or the Teacher's College Specialization in Curriculum and Physical Education to create opportunities for program development and fieldwork in local public schools. Create opportunities for graduate students obtaining K–12 New York State teacher certification in physical education to work in local schools. Local DOE Title I Schools include PS/MS18, PS/MS278, PS98, PS366/Washington Heights Academy, Muscota New School, Amistad, IS52, IS218, PS152, PS178

#### Waterfront access

Goal: To facilitate real access to the waterfront for local children and adults

• Community Boathouse: Provide capital money for the construction of a community boathouse for local residents of Inwood and Washington Heights. CU's gifting of the dock to the City will be meaningless without facilities that enable the public to make use of the dock. A storage facility or boathouse from which people can transport small boats to the water, store boats, stage community programs, and use basic amenities is critical to realizing any benefit the community would receive from this gift. Given the decreasing budgets of most City agencies, it is not likely that DPR will take on the cost of building a boathouse or any storage facility. A community boathouse would improve social equity and environmental justice in the area by creating opportunities for the public to access the water and enjoy recreational and educational opportunities.

- Create and fund a local crew club for both age-appropriate children and adults in the local community. Local clubs such as the one at Swindler's Cove are prohibitively expensive upwards of \$1,000.00 per year.
- CU crew team members, coaches, and volunteers will work with local public school children to provide at least 10 hours per week of "learn to row" and similar programming activities.

(CU Action Plan: Develop an annual Learn to Row or other water safety program for children from Washington Heights and Inwood (consistent with University policy).

#### Access to Facilities

- Track: Expand hours of access to the track and provide weekend access.
- Community Space: Provide at least 20 hours of community meeting space per month (Action Plan: Columbia is offering one community meeting/month subject to availability).
- Pool: Allow local residents access to use of the Uris Pool for a nominal annual fee for off peak hours; Alternatively, offer "family swim" or similar programming on one weekend day per week for four hours to local residents.
- Tennis
- o Allow local residents to pay ½ the hourly rate listed on website for use of facilities during off peak hours.
- o Make a substantial donation to the public tennis courts at Inwood Hill Park to resurface the courts to meet USTA standards.
- o Make a donation to The Washington Heights Tennis Association (WTA), a year-round tennis program in the public courts in Inwood Hill Park and at CU's Dick Savitt Tennis Center. This program has an enrollment of nearly 300 children (215 summer; 75 winter) and has created nationally ranked pro tennis players, and many of their students have gone on to win college scholarships. WTA would like to expand its summer and winter programs but lacks funding to do so.
- Make a donation to the Student Athlete Fund. Inwood LL's mission is to create healthy, successful, responsible model citizens through their yearly baseball programs. The strategy for achieving its mission is to offer year round programming and support that stresses excellence, personal accountability, physical conditioning and training.

### Scholarships

• Provide 60 scholarships instead of the proposed 19 in the action plan, with the

understanding that more summer camps or classes may have to be created to accommodate this need. With 10 Title I schools within a mile of Baker Field, the need for recreational and athletic opportunities for the local public school children is great.

- Add at least one more recipient to the Dyckman Institute scholarship program, bringing the annual total from four to five.

  Employment
- Wages & Benefits: During the project term, pay all CU Project Employees a Living Wage (as defined in Manhattanville CBA). Provide the same health insurance benefits to CU Project Employees as it provides to other CU Employees in similar positions.
- Project Workforce: Make good faith efforts toward a goal to have the construction workforce composed of 50% M/W/L over the life of the project. CU will aspire to increase the stated workforce goal with the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York.
- Provide pre-apprenticeship programs for local residents to facilitate training and employment opportunities.

### Perimeter Design, Lighting, Bicycle Access

- Implement the same high design standards for the perimeter of the Baker Field Campus along 218th St. and both sides of Broadway used in the proposed new park including a master planting plan; fence and gate replacement; new signage and site lighting. The rear of the soccer stadium bleachers on Broadway adjacent to and north of Campbell Building will be made more secure by the use of lighting, planting, fence replacement, and a security alert system that includes continuously monitored surveillance cameras.
- Install remote control lighting at Wien stadium. The field lights shall be directed onto the playing field and away from the residential buildings to eliminate light spill. The switching shall be redesigned to facilitate turning off the lights when the students leave the field but no later than 10:00 P.M.
- Boathouse Marsh: Provide bike racks for 20 bicycles at the park entrance in addition to the minimum of five required by the DCP. Integrate into the entrance area of the Campbell Building for student and community use.
- As 218th St. is an integral section of the heavily used city-wide bicycle route, ensure the unencumbered use of the marked bicycle routes on 218th St. by the design and use of bus, car and truck drop off within its property.
- Work with DPR to provide security for the area adjacent to the dock that will be open to the public. Currently, CU plans to provide security only at the Boathouse Marsh.

Construction Related Impacts

• Meet with local residents prior to and regularly during construction to inform them of plans to address construction related impacts (including noise, traffic, Integrated Pest Management, remediation activities) and to address community concerns that may arise.

### Monitoring and Enforcement

- Commit to clear monitoring and enforcement provisions to ensure compliance with the terms of the legally enforceable agreement; Make available data and personnel sufficient to evaluate progress and compliance.
- Community Advisory Council (CAC): The CAC will foster transparency and accountability for each of CU's commitments and work with CU to monitor implementation of the agreement. The CAC will also serve as a forum through which residents of Inwood and Washington Heights can share information and resources. The CAC will consist of community members from Inwood and Washington Heights representing a broad range of community sectors including business, community and faith based organizations, parents and teachers associations, elected officials, and local civic groups. The CAC will work with the Assistant Vice President for Government and Community Affairs and other CU administration to disseminate information for University-Community programming and other available community resources. (CU Action Plan: Regular Engagement with the Community: Columbia and the community share a desire to strengthen relationships and partnerships to advance the mutual needs of the community and University).

Sincerely,

The Undersigned

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The <u>Community Proposals for Baker Field Expansion</u> Petition to Columbia University, local representatives was **created by Inwood/Washington Heights Residents and written by Andrea Kornbluth** (inwoodpetition@yahoo.com). This petition is hosted here at <a href="https://www.PetitionOnline.com">www.PetitionOnline.com</a> as a public service. There is no endorsement of this petition, express or implied, by <a href="https://www.artifice.inc.">Artifice, Inc.</a> or our sponsors. For technical support please use our simple <a href="https://www.artifice.inc.">Petition Help</a> form.

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260 Alison Ritz	10034
259 Thelvia Bonano	10463
258 James M. Addiss	10034
257 gAIL ADDISS	10034
256 Marc Calcano	10040
255 Bertha Lopez-Orman	10034
254 Jane Buckley	10034
253 Helena Rincon	10033
252 Esdras Santana	10040
251 Antonio Gonzalez	10463
250 Julie mcgarvey	10040
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248 James Cosby	10034
247 Anna Lee Campbell	10033
246 John Cavicchi	10034
245 LUIS ALVAREZ	10034
244 Diane Ninos	10034
243 Evan Bialostozky	10040
242 Daniela Cocco	10034
241 Marna Nape-Spiotta	10033

	240 Amy Hopson	10040
	239 claudia lynch	10034
	238 Anca Stoicea	10003
	237 Nancy Schumacher	10034
	236 Pamela Greengarten	10034
	235 Sara Kotzin	10033
	234 Amelia Roraback	10033
	233 GUY COOPER	10034
	232 Lynne Doherty Herndon	10033
	231 Kwasi Akyeampong	10458
	230 J. Ernest Aguilar	10034
	229 Gary Bartunek	10034
	228 Amelia DeRosa	10034
	227 fulvia cassarino	10034
	226 Marion Walter	58504
•	225 Claudia Gimenez	11420
	224 Ingrid Price	10034
	223 Holly Oddo	10034
	222 Bettina Damiani	10034
	221 Jay Rabinowitz	10034
	220 Elizabeth Clancy	10034
	219 Elizabeth Brown	10034
	218 Tara Kapoor	10034
	217 Esperanza Gomez-Gribben	10034
	216 Cecile Weiland	10034
	215 Morry Jaffe	10034
	214 Rosanna Tavarez	91602
	213 Anna Rozenberg	10033
	212 Robert Illes	90403
	211 Nancy Cashman	10034
	210 Angelo Ortiz	10034
	209 m willis	10034
	208 Joe Williams	10033
	207 Loretta ODonnell	10034
	206 S. Pyle	10034
	205 Daniel Irizarry	10034
	204 Laura Butler	10034
	203 Francisco Rodriguez	10040
	202 Domingo Carvajal	10040
	201 Danilo Liz	10040
	200 Carlos Castillo	10040

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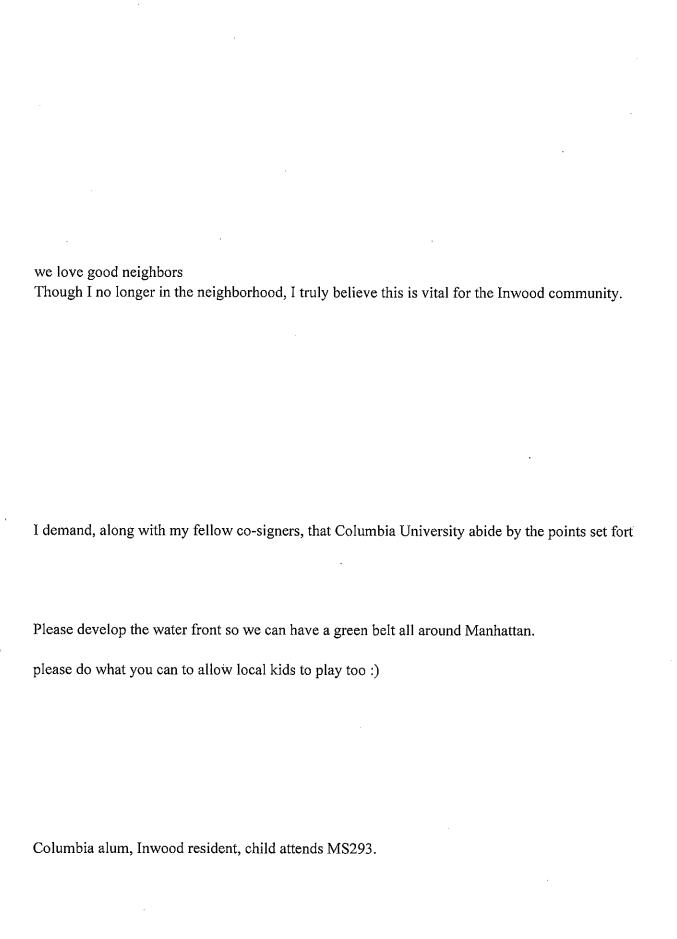
19	99 Augusto Payano	10040
19	98 Apolinar Matos	10040
19	97 Antonio Gutierrez	10040
19	96 Amanda Vasquez	10040
19	95 Alfonso Tejada	10040
19	94 Rachel Castillo	10029
19	93 Alfonso Lopez	10040
19	2 Rudy Nunez	10032
19	1 Evelyn Fernandez	10033
19	00 Troy Rinker, Jr.	10040
18	39 Melissa Casasnovas	11096
18	38 Jonathan Ellers	10034
18	37 I. Estrella	10034
18	36 Julie Ludwick	10034
· 18	35 Rosalind Collado	10033
18	34 Tamara Ewoldt, Inwood resident and organizer of Inwood	10034
	33 Ryan McPartland	10034
18	32 Altagracia Alfonso	10040
18	31 Daniel Grunes	10034
18	30 Alicia Zanelli	10040
17	9 grace Oboma-Layat	10040
17	78 Grecia Tesalona	10040
17	77 Alexandra Herrera	10040
17	6 Gretchen Mergenthaler	10034
17	75 Vern Calhoun	10034
17	74 Celines Pimentel	10034
17	73 Alba Cesar	10040
17	72 Catherine Ponte	10040
17	1 Akbar Herndon	10033
17	70 Katherine Steinbach	10034
16	59 Edgar Figueroa, MD, MPH	10034
16	8 Karie Brown	10040
16	7 Janet Gillespie	10034
16	66 Louisa Wang	10033
16	55 Ana Manrique	11221
16	4 Rebecca de Guzman	10031
16	3 Celso Gonzalez	10040
16	2 Jeff Stettner	10034
16	1 Seth Barrish	10033
16	0 megan	10032
15	9 Juan A. Perez	10040

158 Shannon Park	10034
157 Miguel Castillo	10039
156 Nandy Tatis	10034
155 Eudardo Hoepelman	10034
154 Rik Walter	10034
153 Miguel Pena	10034
152 Eligio Reynoso	10033
151 Melissa Juniewicz	10034
150 maria blanco	10040
149 Lucilo Gutierrez	10033
148 Tomas Castillo	10033
147 Karen Jolicoeur	10034
146 Edgar Tejada	10033
145 Ruth Dodziuk-Justitz	10034
144 Tracie Higgins	10034
143 Deyanira Merccado	10032
142 Lisa DellAquila	10034
141 Roberto Colon	10032
140 William kunz	10034
138 julio belliard	10034
137 Kelli King	10034
136 Elvin Soto	10033
134 Georgina Sanchez	10033
133 Genevieve Chavez	10034
132 Karen kunz	10034
131 Augusto Payano	10032
130 Anna Szymanski	10034
129 Reyna Nandy	10032
128 Miguel Palacio	10032
126 Inger Tilsen-Breton	10034
125 Gary Bernstein	10034
124 carin melain	10034
123 Helen Amanda Sullivan	10034
122 Aniana Gerardo	10029
121 Guillermo Cardenas	10025
120 Anthony Lopez	10040
119 Olga Fedorova	10034
118 Cristian Diaz	10032
117 Laura Fois Bosley (General Director, UP Theater Co.)	10034
116 Abelardo Ramirez	10029
115 Roberto Castillo	10024

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73 Cristina Cruz-Calderon	10034
72 Andrea Martinsen	10040
71 Emilia Herrera	10034
70 Carolyn Lopez	10034
69 Danielle Strauss	10034
68 Jose Breton	10034
67 Noelia Duran	10034
66 Maritsa Poros	10034
65 Anna Boelens	10034
64 Jessica Wells-Hasan	10040
63 Nancy J. Martinek	10034
62 Adeline Oka	10040
61 Melissa Rice	10034
60 Richard Herrera	10034
59 Cathy Cabrera-Figueroa	10034
58 Katharine Mora	10463
57 Elizabeth Keenan-Penagos	10034
56 Nupur Johri	10040
55 amanda rivera	10032
54 Peter Bracey	10034
53 C Litherland	10034
52 Florence Bracey	10034
51 Richard Walter	10034
50 Erin Colligan	10034
49 Margaret Peeler	10034
48 Adam Salvitti Gucwa	10034
47 Jacki Goldhammer, Friends of Indian Road Playground	10034
46 Ruru Rusmin	10034
45 Amy Westerby Swenson	10034
44 Robert Sauté	10040
43 Pik-Kam So	10034
42 Jonathan Stenger	10034
41 Jerold Towber	10037
40 Carolina Pichardo	10040
39 Amy Cooper	10033
38 Robert Stuart	10034
37 Emily Rees	10034
36 Keith Snyder	10034
35 LaiMing Pak	10034
34 Kelly Sawatsky	10034
33 Zoya Kocur	10034

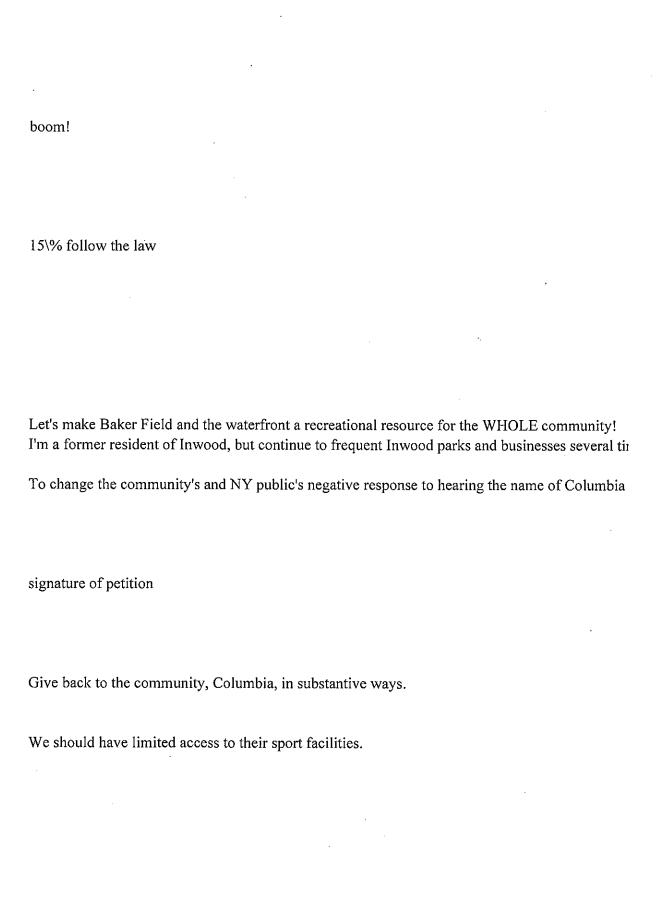
32 Juan Moreiras	10034
31 Amy Lee Pearsall	10033
30 Mark Granger	10040
29 Zaida Grunes	10034
28 Maritza Diaz	10034
27 Stacey Calcano	10040
26 Jonathan Spencer	10034
25 Jennifer donato	10463
24 Max Pollak	10040
23 Mary Illes	10040
22 Melique Williams	10040
21 Jane Dunning Broadbent	10033
20 Martha Granger	10034
19 Rachel Menth	10034
18 Taina Montalvo-Teller	10040
17 Angel Figueroa	10034
16 Roger Meyer	10034
15 michelle monclova	10453
13 JoAna Swan	10032
12 Paola Martinez	10040
11 Lyana Fernandez	10034
10 Naomi Fink	10023
9 Rose Fox	10034
8 Kimberly Chin-Griffin	10034
7 Rachel Figueroa Levin	10034
6 Amanda J. Monier	10034
5 Susan Ryan	10034
4 Andrea Kornbluth	10033
3 Mino Lora	10032
2 Roberto Mercedes	10040
1 Paola	10040



	I agree with one of the early signers regarding the blight on the east side of Broadway and would
·	As a Columbia alum, and Inwood parent I see a great opportunity for partnership through these p
,	I would add that traffic is a major issue during football season; why not turn the hospital parking
	I have had many positive interactions with Columbia U, including wih athletics and this is a grea
	Don't build that UGLY building on the corner of 218 and Broadway - hideous structure!!
	Our children deserve your consideration.
	require Columbia to start working with the community to make Baker Field a good neighbor return public land to NYC parks
	take more time to consider

Amazing! I would love	e to volunteer for the	ne youth programs!	•	
		,		
I woulld like to add tw	o points to the abo	ve list: 1) a bike and	l pedestrian walkw	ay around the nor
I woulld like to add tw I am a student - School	o points to the abo of Continuing Ed	ve list: 1) a bike and ucation - and woud	l pedestrian walkw like Columbia to b	ay around the nor e considered a go
I woulld like to add tw I am a student - School	o points to the abo of Continuing Ed	ve list: 1) a bike and ucation - and woud	l pedestrian walkw like Columbia to b	ay around the nor e considered a go
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I am a student - School	of Continuing Ed	ucation - and woud	like Columbia to b	e considered a go
I am a student - School	of Continuing Ed	ucation - and woud	like Columbia to b	e considered a go

I am an Inwood resident and CU grad student. This is fair and ethical. Please consider it.
Columbia is a terrible neighbor.  Please leave the waterfront for neighborhood residents.
Columbia needs to be responsive to the needs of the neighborhood!  Mark Levine rocks
The Community is a priority,our children, residents and neighbors.Let our running,and sports tea
The kids in our local schools need more outdoor programs!.
Schools are always needed
I would like to see Columbia U become a part of the neighborhood as opposed to an enclave with



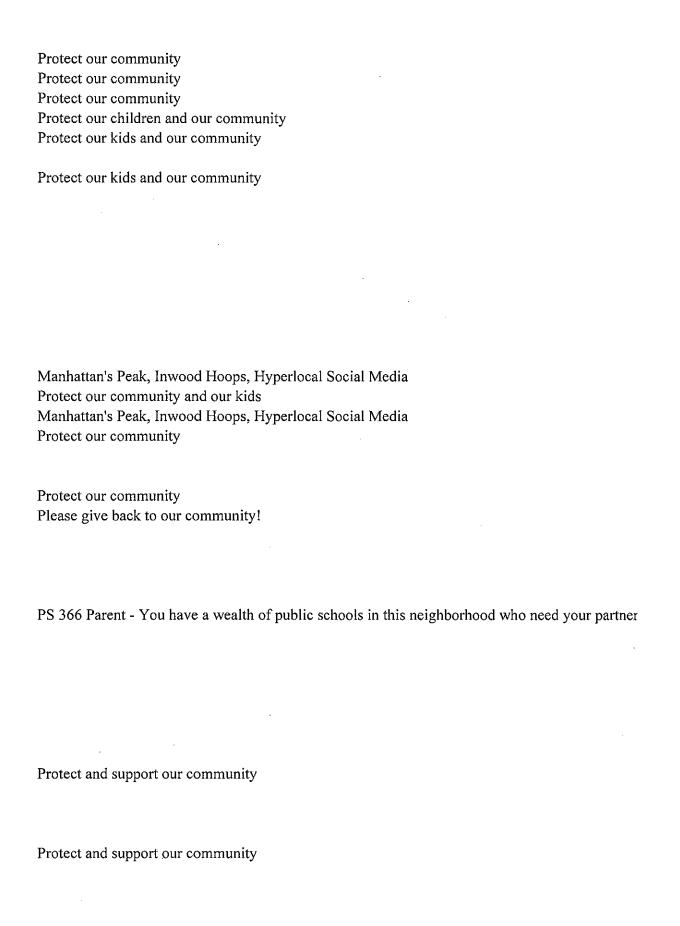
Columbia Alum '11
If you are taking from the community, you should be willing to give back.
Stop the inhuman and greedy land grab. Nature is NOT replaceable!
Please make Columbia accountable to the Inwood Community
Education = Freedom I support this petition, please add me to email updates nothing wrong with being a good neighbor
CU's plan provides more meaningful access to facilities than we currently have. my apartment overlooks baker filed, the lights, the inlet. we use inwood park and want to support

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Give dogs waterfront access.  I'm a local community organizer and affordable housing developer  PS 278 Parent  I believe Columbia should be held to the normal 15% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!  Many of these improvements will throw gasoline on the gentrification fire that everyone has been			
I'm a local community organizer and affordable housing developer  PS 278 Parent  I beleive Columbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!			
I'm a local community organizer and affordable housing developer  PS 278 Parent  I beleive Columbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!			
I'm a local community organizer and affordable housing developer  PS 278 Parent  I beleive Columbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!			
PS 278 Parent  I beleive Columbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!	Give dogs wa	terfront access.	
I beleive Columbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol  Please stop!!!	I'm a local coi	mmunity organizer and affordable housing developer	
Please stop!!!	PS 278 Parent	t	
Please stop!!!	I beleive Colu	umbia should be held to the normal 15\% requirement, for the public's continued tol	
	71		
Many of these improvements will throw gasoline on the gentrification fire that everyone has been	riease stop!!!		
Many of these improvements will throw gasoline on the gentrification fire that everyone has been			
	Many of these	e improvements will throw gasoline on the gentrification fire that everyone has beer	

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Be a good neighbor, Columbia.

Protect and support our community

Protect and support our community

Protect and support our community

Board Member of UP Theater Company, in Inwood.

Protect and support our community

Protect and support our community

This impacts more than just the present-- please put the community, that i love so much, and its b

Protect and support our community

Protect and support our community

The 218th St. option for bicycles is still not ideal - there should be bike & pedestrian access to the

protect and support our community

Protect and support our community

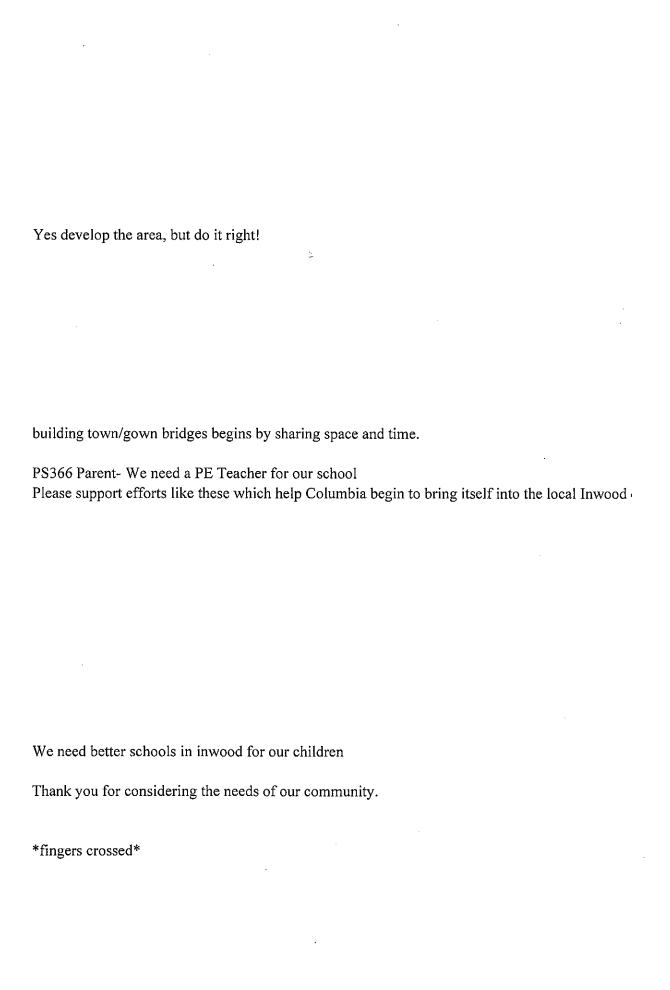
Protect and support our community Protect and support our community

Protect our kids and our community

Protect our kids and our community
Protect our kids and our community
P.S. 278 Parent and member of Friends of Indian Road Playground

Protect our community
Defend our community

Stop Columbia



	Barnard '00
	Muscota Parent Association President, Friends of Indian Road Playground, and founder of Yes V
·	And please don't take up all our parking spaces! Curb your private bus use! All of these things g
	These ideas would be incredible additions to the neighborhood.  Columbia's record in the good-neighbor department doesn't need another tarnishing. Do the right

I believe that you should reconsider your construction project and locate it on the north-east corn
Friends of Indian Rd. Playground (FIRP)
i am against this landgrab and would like to look out for the well-being of our environment and c I would hope the attached proposed petition would be considered
Student & education activist
PS366 parent, Member of AIM (Advocates for Inwood Manhattan)

h in this petition. I demand that elected officials support this petition.

like to see that area developed. Also, as a SENIOR in the area I would like to see the track of	open 1
roposals.	
lot into a multi-level structure that could accomodate fans; we like having Colombia as a neg	ighbc
t opportunity to more closely intertwine the needs of the University and the local community	<b>,</b> !

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ms grow with the flow of Columbia. nin the neighborhood

	·		
mes a week. I work in a school in Marble		•	and
University, do something positive and m	ajor for Inwood by	acting on our proposals.	
University, do something positive and m	ajor for Inwood by	acting on our proposals.	
University, do something positive and m	ajor for Inwood by	acting on our proposals.	
University, do something positive and m	ajor for Inwood by		
University, do something positive and m			
University, do something positive and m			

erance of defacing (and maintaining) the cliff face with the huge "C"	which we all must stare at. §
1 complaining about, but I'm sure there's a happy medium. I am parti	cularly in favor of any and al
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lling to "give back" in some way. Thank you.

n the community.

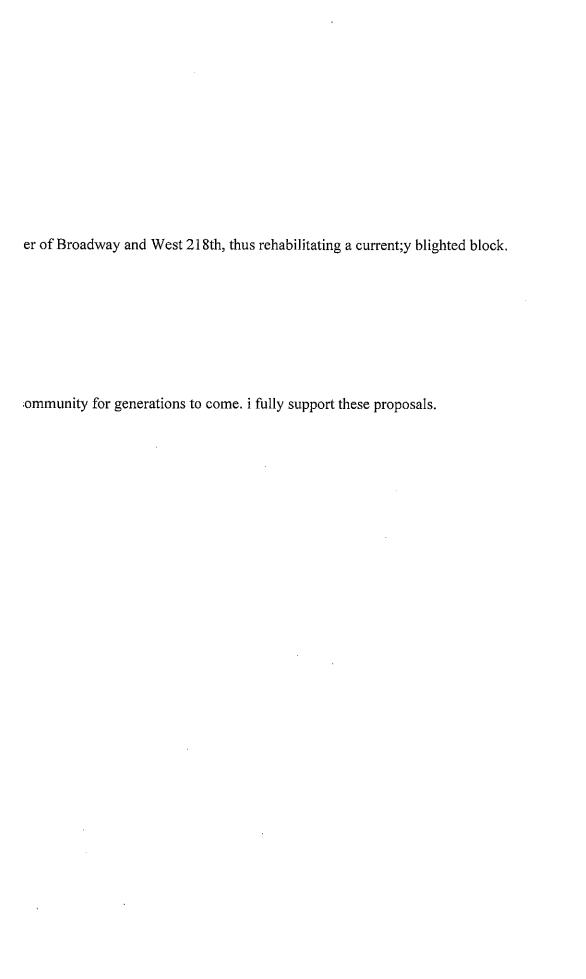
ship and support

est interests at heart.

e waterway all around the island.

community.

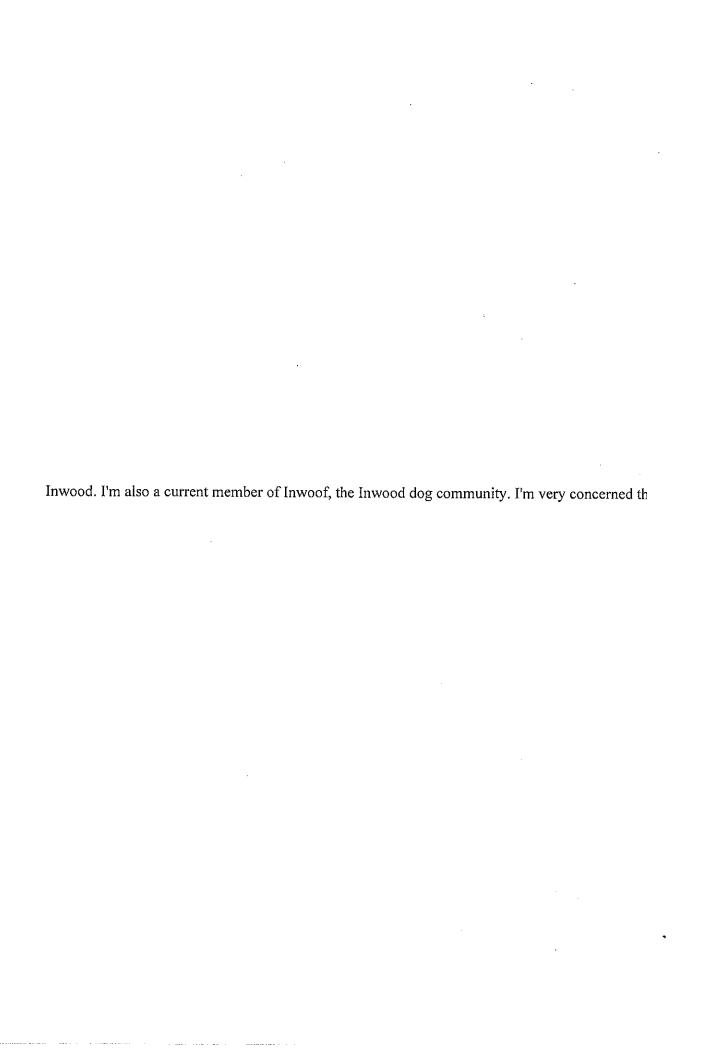
Ve Can Inwood
eatly impact our neighborhood. Thank you!
thing.





or but they don't necessarily play nice lately.

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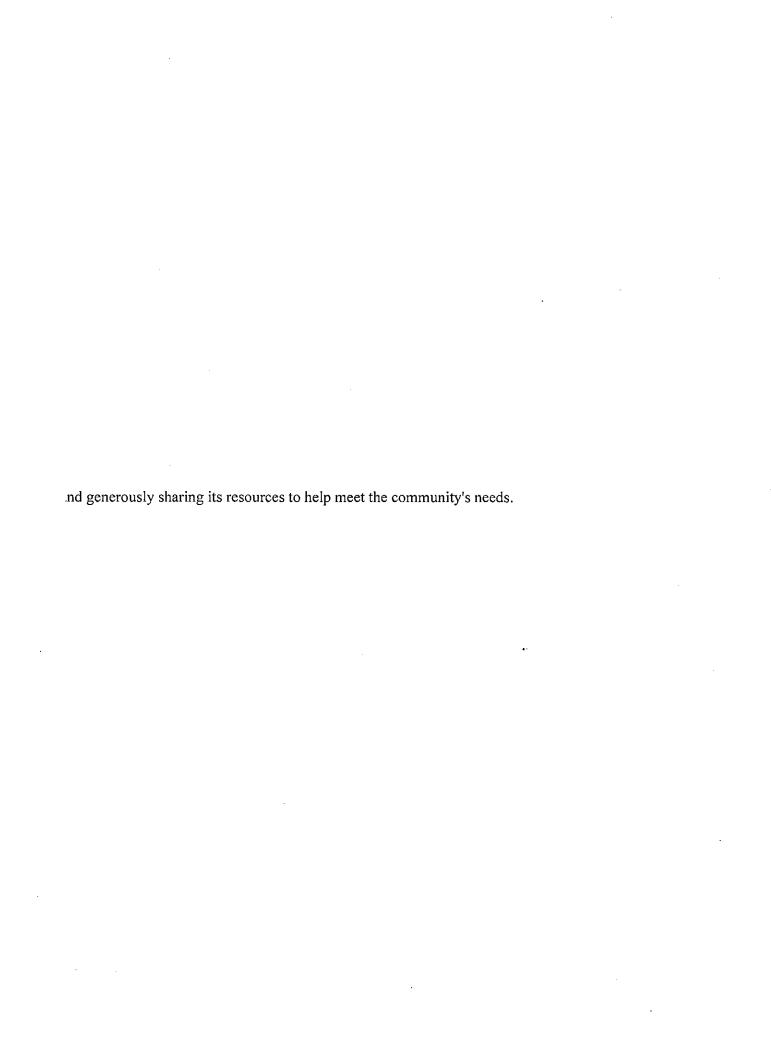
	·			
Shame on them in fact for no	ot embracing the goal	of community giveb	ack - 15\% is a minimum	ı s <del>t</del>
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et in the law, they could	have considered co	mplying, and then mayb	e just maybe going a	little m
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