



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

**SCOTT M. STRINGER**  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

## **A Roadmap to a New York University Campus Plan**

### **Introduction:**

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In the fall of 2006, a group of community groups, local elected officials and representatives from New York University (NYU), convened the Community Task Force on NYU Development to discuss NYU's growth and its impact on surrounding communities. Over subsequent meetings, the group discussed the need for the University to develop a comprehensive campus plan that balances respect for the community with the University's needs. In August of 2007, the Task Force drafted the following guiding principles for that campus plan.

The principles focus on the areas of urban design, quality of life, sustainability, community planning process and accountability. Each guiding principle is designed to become a chapter in a greater campus plan that the Task Force is committed to developing with the University.

Accompanying the planning principles is a letter of support from NYU President John Sexton. In adopting these principles the University is committing to proactively working with the community in advance of development, and to negotiating with the community through future conflicts, should they arise. The University recognizes that these principles are the first step to realizing a comprehensive campus plan that not only addresses the University's long term needs, but allows for a transparent community based planning process.

Over the coming months, the Task Force will work with NYU on developing each planning principle into a fully realized policy that promotes respect for neighborhood character through an open, community based planning process.

## **Planning Principles:**

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- **Establish criteria for development within the existing NYU footprint in the University's campus core and the surrounding neighborhoods that would prioritize**
  - Identifying opportunities to decentralize facilities and actively pursuing these opportunities;
  - Contextual development that is sensitive to building heights, densities and materials;
  - Reuse before new development; and
  - Consider mixed use facilities that complement Manhattan's mixed neighborhoods, particularly in regard to ground floor uses.
  
- **Identify solutions to maximize utilization of existing assets by consulting with the community on:**
  - The types of facilities that can be decentralized from the Village campus core and surrounding neighborhoods and cultivating locations outside these areas;
  - Preferences for appropriate places for vertical additions
  - Encouraging programmatic and scheduling efficiencies: and
  - Opening new and re-envisioning existing recreational spaces to better serve both the student population as well as the community at large.
  
- **Make thoughtful urban and architectural design a priority by:**
  - Respecting the limitations of the urban environment, including the impact on New York City's infrastructure;
  - Improving the quality of open spaces; and
  - Actively soliciting, utilizing and implementing input from the community in the design process.
  
- **Support community sustainability by:**
  - Preserving existing diverse social and economic character through the support of community efforts to sustain affordable housing and local retail;
  - Exploring the utilization of ground floors of buildings for community-oriented uses such as local retail, gallery spaces for local artists, non-profit users and other providers of community services; and
  - Generating a tenant relocation policy for legal, residential tenants, in the event that construction or conversion necessitates the relocation of tenants.
  
- **Respect the community's existing quality of life including but not limited to:**
  - Taking measures to mitigate effects of construction such as: noise, dust, work hours; sound mitigation for mechanical equipment; and construction staging;
  - Reaching out early and often for community consultation related to major construction;
  - Creating a website for ongoing constructions; and
  - Committing to a community-oriented public process for reviewing NYU's proposed projects and developments.

## List of Endorsees:

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➤ **Members of the Community Task Force on NYU Development:**

Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer  
New York University  
Congressman Jerrold Nadler  
Councilmember Alan J. Gerson  
Councilmember Rosie Mendez  
Councilmember Christine C. Quinn  
State Senator Martin Connor  
State Senator Thomas K. Duane  
State Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick  
State Assemblymember Brian P. Kavanagh  
Manhattan Community Board 2  
Manhattan Community Board 3  
American Institute of Architects  
Carmine Street Block Association  
Coalition to Save the East Village  
The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation  
NoHomanhattan.org  
The SoHo Alliance

➤ **Other Endorsees:**

The Greenwich Village-Chelsea Chamber of Commerce  
NoHo NY BID  
Village Alliance BID