



Meenakshi Srinivasan
Chair

Sarah Carroll
Executive Director
scarroll@lpc.nyc.gov

1 Centre Street
9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

+1 212 669 7902 tel
+1 212 669 7797 fax

Lester Siegal
Unit Head
The Community Board Unit
Office of Management and Budget
255 Greenwich Street, 7th Floor
New York NY 10007

August 25, 2017

Dear Mr. Siegal:

This is to confirm that The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) will participate in the upcoming FY 2019 Manhattan Budget Consultation scheduled for September 13, 2017.

As requested, enclosed is LPC's Budget Statement. In addition, to facilitate productive dialogue with community representatives, I will be representing the agency at the borough consultation along with the following staff:

Gardea Caphart, Budget Director

Mr. Caphart is responsible for overseeing the agency's financial functions, including managing the agency's budget, conducting financial analysis, and serving as the agency's liaison to the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of the Comptroller.

Amber Nowak, External Affairs Coordinator

Ms. Nowak serves as liaison to the general public regarding the agency and its work, coordinates testimony from private individuals, civic and neighborhood groups interested in the LPC process, and is the primary liaison between the city's 59 Community Boards and the agency.

I can assure you that the staff listed above and I are fully prepared to discuss LPC's goals and funding decision process, and answer district specific budget questions representatives of the Manhattan Community Boards may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah Carroll".

Sarah Carroll
Executive Director

LPC'S BUDDGET STATEMENT

The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) is responsible for protecting New York City's architecturally, historically, and culturally significant buildings and sites by granting them landmark or historic district status, and regulating them after designation. The commission is comprised of a panel of 11 members who are appointed by the Mayor and supported by a staff of approximately 70 preservationists, researchers, architects, historians, attorneys, archaeologists, and administrative employees. There are more than 36,000 landmark properties in New York City, most of which are located in 141 historic districts and historic district extensions in all five boroughs. The total number of protected sites also includes 1,398 individual landmarks, 119 interior landmarks, and 10 scenic landmarks.

LPC's FY 2018 adopted budget is \$6.28 million which comprises \$5.69 million in City funds and \$595,983 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Of the overall budget, 86% is allocated to personnel services (PS) and 14% is allocated to other than personnel services (OTPS).

The agency's total head count is 81 including 73 full time positions and 8 part time positions. There are, presently, a total of 70 staff members -- 64 full time staff and 6 part time staff. This administration has been very supportive and has approved 9 new positions (5 full-time and 4 part-time) for LPC since 2014. The total staff has increased by 13% since 2014 and is now higher than it has been since the early-1990s.

Of the CDBG funding, about 80% is allocated to personnel supporting critical community development-related functions; while about 20% or approximately \$115,000 is allocated for our Historic Preservation Grant Program. Our Grant Program provides modest grants to low and moderate-income homeowners and not-for-profit organizations to restore or repair the facades of their landmarked buildings. In FY 2017, the Program awarded three grants: two residential grants were in the St. George/New Brighton Historic District on Staten Island, and the Crown Heights North III Historic District in Brooklyn; and the

one not-for-profit grant was awarded to the Lewis H. Latimer House Museum, an individual landmark in Flushing, Queens.

LPC has also been actively pursuing more transparency, in part by using digital technology and our website to provide timely information on the Commission's work. Last May we launched a new Permit Application Search feature that provides the status of all permit applications; -- this complements our earlier feature that provides presentation material and decisions on all full commission actions. This past month, we created a new internal database that will assist in monitoring the review of applications and improving the efficiency of our permit process.

Last October we introduced a new website, to search and browse the City's archaeological artifacts, making New York City the first municipality in the US to host a digital archive dedicated to its extensive archaeological collection.

More recently, we created an interactive three-dimensional historic district model with building-level data and photographs for Morningside Heights as both an informational tool for stakeholders as well as an educational and fun feature for everyone. And finally, in January the agency received an approximately \$50,000 grant from the New York Community Trust to support the Historic Building Data Project. LPC is currently working on a robust GIS-based database with searchable building-by-building information on each of the 36,000 buildings and sites under its purview, which will be publicly released later this year.