February 8, 2010

Honorable Amanda Burden Chair City Planning Commission 22 Reade Street New York, NY 10007

Re: Riverside Center

Dear Chair Burden,

It is our intention that the Riverside Center project proposed for the Upper West Side of Manhattan be an unparalleled example of urban design, one that attracts visitors, serves the needs of local residents and businesses, and contributes to the highest possible quality of life for all of our constituents, now and for generations to come.

Accordingly, Community Board 7 is pleased to present the attached statement of Core Principles and Key Recommendations for the improvement and modification of the pending Riverside Center application. We recognize that the application may be certified in Spring 2010, and that ULURP will provide for full community comment and participation. The attached document is meant to offer a community perspective, as context for the application process, *prior to certification*.

Because of the significance and history of the Riverside Center project, Community Board 7 has engaged in extensive analysis and dialogue about the project over the past 2-3 years. Although the attached document does not address all of the planning, design and policy issues raised by the application, it distills community concerns into a roadmap of essential elements. The Core Principles and Key Recommendations were endorsed by the full Board by a vote of 38-4 on February 2, 2010.

We are grateful for the dialogue and support already provided by the staff of the Department of City Planning and we appreciate your consideration of this statement. We look forward to continued collaboration as the review process moves forward.

Very truly yours,

Mel Wymore

Chair

Ethel Sheffer

Chair, Riverside Center Working Group

250 West 87th Street New York, NY 10024-2706 *Phone:* (212) 362-4008 Fax:(212) 595-9317 Web site: nyc.gov/mcb7 e-mail address: office@cb7.org Honorable Amanda Burden February 8, 2010 Page Two

cc:

Richard Barth, Executive Director, DCP
Edith Hsu-Chen, Director Manhattan Office, DCP
Adam Wolff, Deputy Director, Manhattan Office, DCP
Adam Meagher, Manhattan Office, DCP
Gary Barnett, President, Extell
Donna Gargano, Senior Vice President, Development, Extell
Paul Selver, Kramer Levin
Kenneth Lowenstein, Bryan Cave
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
Anthony Borelli, Director of Land Use, MBPO
Brian Cook, MBPO
Council Member Gale Brewer
Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal
State Senator Tom Duane