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RESOLUTION:

CIVITAS & Manhattan Community Board 11 Re-Zoning Initiative (February 2010)

- Whereas,** the mission of CIVITAS is to foster, mobilize and coordinate civic concern in the community of Manhattan's Upper East Side and East Harlem. To that end, CIVITAS seeks to promote, preserve and protect residential neighborhoods that are lively and livable.
- Whereas,** CIVITAS is a union of citizens dedicated to improving neighborhood quality of life in the Upper East Side and East Harlem since 1981.
- Whereas,** CIVITAS promotes urban planning, zoning and land use policies that are sensible and sensitive to residential life in our neighborhoods.
- Whereas,** CIVITAS supports environmentally sound development, vibrant retail activity at street level, uncluttered sidewalks and access to good public transit.
- Whereas,** CIVITAS opposes overbearing towers that are non-contextual and cut off light and air from surrounding buildings and the sidewalk below.
- Whereas,** CIVITAS commissions urban planning studies, speaks out at public hearings, issues reports and keeps its members informed on current issues impacting on urban life, including traffic congestion, historic preservation, zoning variances, water quality and public access to parks and the waterfront.
- Whereas,** Manhattan Community Board 11 is the City of New York agency representing the Manhattan neighborhood of East Harlem.
- Whereas,** Manhattan Community Board 11 has an important role in initiating and reviewing planning, land use and zoning matters, the City budget, municipal service delivery and many other advocacy matters relating to the welfare of East Harlem.
- Whereas,** Manhattan Community Board 11 welcomes the support of CIVITAS in the continuing the process of encouraging more appropriate zoning in East Harlem.
- Whereas,** Manhattan Community Board accepts the assistance of CIVITAS, a community-based non-profit organization, to advise the Board through its zoning committee.

Whereas, when the neighborhood east of Lexington Avenue was rezoned in 2003, the NYC Department of City Planning promised to take a second look at the remainder of the neighborhood, Lexington Avenue and west, between 96th and 142nd Street.

Whereas, among the Zoning Committee's goals are: rezone areas that are R-72, especially public housing lots, create opportunities for affordable housing and encourage appropriate height limits and contextual zoning in mid-blocks and on avenues.

Be it Resolved that, Manhattan Community Board 11 in partnership with CIVITAS has formally begun the process of studying those sections of the district outside the 2003 rezoning area with the goal of developing a new rezoning proposal.