



Hon. Marquis A. Harrison
Chairperson
Minah Whyte
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor New York, NY 10027
T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215
Website: <https://cbmanhattan.cityofnewyork.us/cb10/>

April 10, 2025

Sarah Carroll, Chair
Landmarks Preservation Commission
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Carroll,

On behalf of Manhattan Community Board 10, I am pleased to express our strong support for the Metropolitan Museum of Art's proposed project that includes the replacement of the Lila Acheson Wallace (LAW) Wing and associated landscaping improvements in Central Park. We understand that the project requires approvals from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and the New York City Public Design Commission, and we strongly advocate for its advancement.

The Met's vision for the new Tang Wing, presented by the Met project team in collaboration with Frida Escobedo Studio and Beyer Blinder Belle architects, is a vital enhancement to the museum's infrastructure. The Tang Wing is designed with a three-story base and stepped fourth and fifth floors that minimize visibility from within Central Park while maintaining harmony with the existing Met building complex. Its celosia screen, constructed from Indiana limestone, will provide both texture and transparency, ensuring that it complements the park's natural beauty and significantly improving the visual connection between the Met and Central Park.

This project addresses several critical needs:

1. **Optimal Gallery Space:** The new design will provide adequate space for showcasing the Met's outstanding collection of modern and contemporary art, enhancing visitor experience and engagement.
2. **Sustainability Improvements:** The new Tang Wing will replace the failing envelope of the LAW Wing, reducing energy consumption by 45% and improving the museum's sustainability efforts.
3. **Enhanced Accessibility:** The design will improve visitor circulation and wayfinding, making the museum more accessible for all visitors, including those with mobility challenges.

Additionally, the landscape plan proposed by the Central Park Conservancy aligns beautifully with the design principles of Frederick Law Olmsted, the original landscape architect for Central Park. It will replace lawn areas adjacent to the Tang Wing with a thoughtful selection of canopy and multi-stem trees, conducive shrubs, and the inclusion of new pathways that ensure ADA

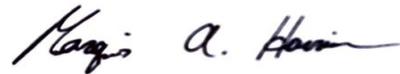
accessibility from Fifth Avenue to the Great Lawn. The planting of 40 to 50 new trees will more than adequately replace the 13 trees that will be removed, thus preserving the park's ecological balance.

Manhattan Community Board 10 believes that this project will preserve the legacy of the Met while also ushering in a new era of engagement with contemporary architecture. The innovative design and landscaping improvements will enhance not only the experience of museum visitors but also that of Central Park enthusiasts.

Manhattan Community Board 10 voted unanimously during the April General Board on April 4, 2025 to support this project with 34 Yes, 0 Recusals, and 0 Abstentions. We urge the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Public Design Commission to consider our resolution favorably ahead of the upcoming hearings. This project will be a significant enhancement to our community and a milestone in the continued evolution of the Met.

Thank you for your commitment to this transformative initiative.

Sincerely,



Marquis A. Harrison
Board Chairperson
Manhattan Community Board 10



Daniel Paterson
Transportation, Landmarks & Preservation Committee
Manhattan Community Board 10