



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

330 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 26<sup>th</sup> floor New York, NY 10036  
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**BURT LAZARIN**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Hon. Fredrick Bland, Vice Chair  
Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Municipal Building, 9th floor  
One Centre Street New York, NY 10007

**Re: Mulenberg Branch Library, 209 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Elevator and HVAC Upgrade**

Dear Vice Chair Bland:

On the recommendation of its Chelsea Land Use Committee, Manhattan Community Board No. 4 (CB4), at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 6, 2018, voted, by a vote of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote, to recommend approval of an application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) for alterations to the Muhlenberg Branch Library located at 209 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, subject to the condition that any portion of the HVAC unit that is visible from the street be painted a color that minimizes its visibility.

The Muhlenberg Branch, designated as a Landmark in 2001, has been an important component of the Chelsea community since its opening in 1906 as the eleventh branch library in Manhattan funded by a gift to the City by Andrew Carnegie. Over the past several years, CB4 has prioritized the funding needs of the library in its annual capital budget requests. We are, therefore, pleased to know that the elevator and HVAC system upgrades are underway.

The new HVAC unit will replace the older one on the roof and, because it has a slightly greater height, a small section will be visible from the intersection of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Seventh Avenue. As shown in the attached sightline illustration, the visible portion of the unit is *de minimis* and will only be seen from one vantage point at street level. The applicant has stated its intention to paint the HVAC unit a color that will make it less visible. CB4 recommends approval of the application conditioned upon fulfillment of that intention.

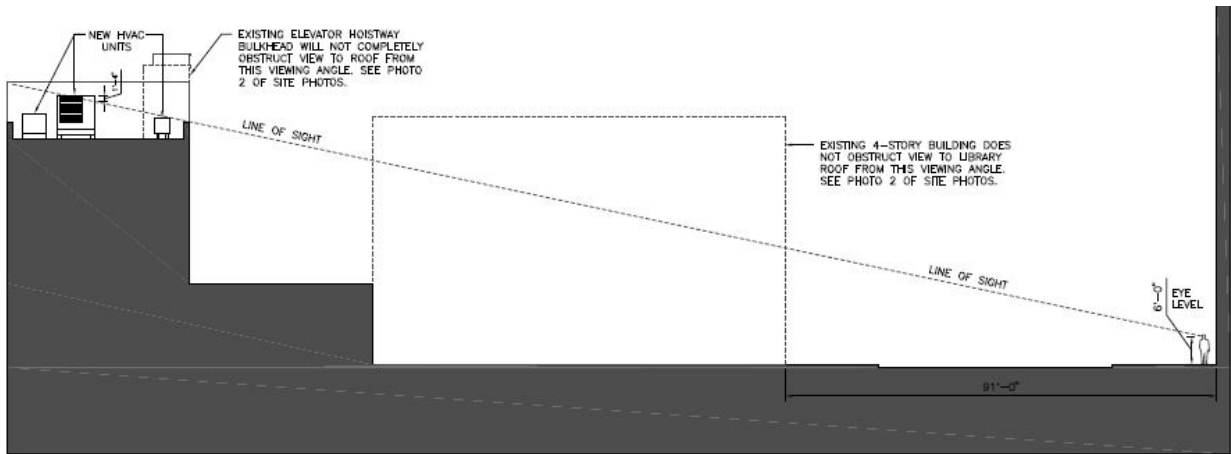
Sincerely,

Burt Lazarin  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4

John Lee Compton, Co-Chair  
Chelsea Land Use Committee

Betty Mackintosh, Co-Chair  
Chelsea Land Use Committee

CC: Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, City Council  
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President



1 SIGHTLINE FROM INTERSECTION OF WEST 23RD STREET AND 7TH AVENUE  
 SHE-12 SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"