



October 19, 2021

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Hon. Sarah Carroll, Chair
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street, 9th floor
New York, NY 10007

Hon. Melanie LaRocca, Commissioner
New York City Department of Buildings
280 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Hon. Carlina Rivera
City Councilmember, 2nd District
254 East 4th Street
New York, NY 10009

Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
One Centre Street, 19th floor South
New York, NY 10007

Re: Former P.S. 64/Charas-El Bohio, 605 East 9th Street, Manhattan

Dear Mayor de Blasio, Chair Carroll, Commissioner LaRocca, Councilmember Rivera, and Borough President Brewer:

We write again regarding our grave concerns about the status of 605 East 9th Street. We have not seen any substantive improvements in the condition of the building, nor have work permits been filed to improve them, since a full vacate order was issued in February 2019, noting exposed structural steel members which lack fire-proofing.

In light of the recent approval for the demolition of 28 West 130th Street, we write to again urge that the City step in to repair and seal the building, and bill the owner for the work, to prevent a similar tragedy from taking place here.

As you know, the building has been left open to the elements for years. More recently, trespassers have gained access to the building on multiple occasions, where they have been seen lighting fires, using axes and other heavy equipment, sitting on unstable parapets and standing on

unstable window cornices. Objects have fallen from the building, and conditions have gotten bad enough that neighboring buildings were forced to evacuate due to the danger, conditions which are not likely known to the explorers and vandals who visit the site.

Recent media reports have documented pooling water in the basement, and large numbers of dead birds in the interior, which are serious public health hazards.

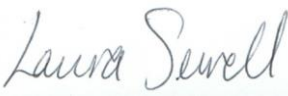
The owner has clearly not met his obligation to maintain and preserve this landmarked building. We are very concerned that, at this point, lack of action on the City's part may help lead to increasing and more severe harm, for both the building and the community.

The current situation has been going on for years now, with no improvement and no substantive change in actions on the part of the owner. More of the same will only lead to the continued deterioration of the landmarked building, and possibly irreversible damage or destruction. We thus urge the City in the strongest of terms to step in and make necessary repairs to the building immediately before it's too late.

Sincerely,



Andrew Berman
Executive Director
Village Preservation



Laura Sewell
Director
East Village
Community Coalition



Richard Moses
President
Lower East Side
Preservation Initiative



Carolyn Ratcliffe
President
9BC Block Association

Cc: NYC Department of Health
Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation
Assemblymember Harvey Epstein
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
U.S. Senator Charles Schumer