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Residents say no to Chelsea Market hotel

Added by admin on June 15, 2011.

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BY WINNIE McCROY | Citing overdevelopment, an ad hoc group of concerned Chelsea residents and community block associations came together at the Community Board 4 meeting on June 1 to oppose Jamestown Properties' plan to build a hotel on top of Chelsea Market. The project, which would need a zoning variance from the City Planning Commission, includes a 250-foot tower of office space on the western end of the market and a 150-foot glass hotel on the eastern end.

"As co-president of Save Chelsea, I'm opposed to it because it is, in one word, overdevelopment," said Justin Hoy. "We're not opposed to development. In 2009, after years of work, we rezoned the Tenth and Eleventh Avenue corridor and a million square feet was added for new development. We also preserved several structures, and one of those was Chelsea Market."

"Now, the Atlanta-based Jamestown Properties proposes to overturn the Chelsea Plan...[to] transform one of the most popular historic buildings in Chelsea into an overshadowed base for glass and steel towers," added Save Chelsea co-president Lesley Doyel. "A glance at the rendering of the proposed towers dwarfing Chelsea Market is sufficient to characterize the Jamestown proposal: To add hundreds of thousands of square feet of glass and steel to the existing structures is not development, it is overdevelopment."

In order to begin building, Jamestown Properties must seek a zoning variance from the City Planning Commission and the City Council that would include them in the Special West Chelsea Zoning District. In exchange, they will give the city \$17 million dollars toward preserving the High Line — a plan which the city has already committed to, despite the lack of a dedicated flow of funds for the project. Hoy said he also believed the project would need a full Uniform Land Use Review Procedure to be conducted before it could proceed.

Shane Kavanagh, a spokesperson for Jamestown Properties, said, "We are in the initial stages of the community engagement process and we are confident that we will come up with a plan that continues to preserve Chelsea Market as a treasured resource and has the support of the community."

"They're already overbuilt. They've built their envelope on the space, and they want to be a part of the West Chelsea District, which conveniently allows the High Line to get 17 million dollars. It corrupts the whole idea of the High Line," said Michael Levine, a Chelsea resident who lives in the Caledonia, close to Chelsea Market. "The developers were the ones who wanted to tear it down, and now they will be able to build up if they get to be part of this district. It's just greed."

Levine echoed other local residents' objections to the overcrowding they believe the hotel will

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cause. He said that while he was originally drawn to the location because of the market, "The success has gone too far, and now they want to build on that literally with two massive towers. Why should they be allowed to change the zoning just to build these towers?"

"It's hard to even use the Market like we used to," Levine bemoaned. "The idling of four houses lined up on Tenth Avenue, the tours going through it; it feels like it's not meant for here anymore. It's a glitzy place that's meant for tourists. The balance is off."

It rained on their parade, but they danced on Elizabeth Street, a representative for the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation. We got the ball rolling; How Pr. 40 fight brought us Hudson River Park

Market before they're allowed to build on the State and New York. From splintered piers to fancy park of today, we've come a long way

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upzone a block already zoned to a fairly high density, which already generates a cacophony of colors brings harmony at Governors Island Holi Hai celebration

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"What is the community going to get from this? Are they going to get more housing, or more space?" asked Jasper. "They're going to get more crowds, more high-end tourists, and the only benefit is to the realtor. It's not to the benefit of the community. In fact, they are actually funding the neighborhood."

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Erick Smith

says:
April 18, 2013 at 3:45 am
About "Residents say no to Chelsea Market hotel" whatever you shared here seems to me pretty outstanding and informative. Thanks dude



Hotel Bangladesh

says:
July 19, 2013 at 7:34 am
You are really able to get thanks because your effort is appreciative. I am pleased to allocate of "Loews Hollywood Hotel" because I don't have better ideas about this hotel and now I am clear. Thanks

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says:
February 7, 2018 at 7:27 pm
[...] Residents say no to Chelsea Market hotel (June 15, 2011) [...]

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