



Rick D. Chandler, P.E.
Commissioner

March 30, 2016

Cynthia Stallard
Assistant General Counsel
cstallard@buildings.nyc.gov

David Rosenberg
Marcus Rosenberg & Diamond LLP
488 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022

280 Broadway
7th Floor
New York, NY 10007
www.nyc.gov/buildings

212 393 2772 tel
212 566 3843 fax

Re: Congregation Shearith Israel
8 West 70th Street
Block 1122 Lot 37
Job No. 12132919

Dear Mr. Rosenberg,

The New York City Department of Buildings (the "Department") is in receipt of your letter, dated February 25, 2016, addressed to Commissioner Rick Chandler, Manhattan Borough Commissioner Martin Rebolz, and Chief Construction Inspector Calvin Warner regarding the proposed project at 8 West 70th Street, Job # 121328919 (the "Project"). Your letter was referred to this office for response.

In your letter, you indicate that Landmark West! submitted a Zoning Challenge in June 2015 related to this Project. You also indicate that Alan Sugarman, Esq. submitted a Zoning Challenge related to this Project. After reviewing these Zoning Challenges, the Department issued objections for the job on October 9, 2015. On December 10, 2015, the Department issued a notice of intent to revoke based upon the October 9, 2015 objections. In response, we are informed that the applicant submitted a request to the Board of Standards and Appeals ("BSA") for a letter of substantial compliance. BSA has not yet responded. To ensure that work does not proceed until the October 9, 2015 objections are resolved, on March 30, 2016, the Department issued a notice of intent to revoke and ordered the owner and applicant to stop all work on the Project immediately.

In your letter, you allege that Department personnel are improperly communicating with parties representing the owner and applicant of the Project. Neither the New York State Public Officers Law, nor the Public Zoning Challenge Rule, requires the Department to give the public notice of meetings or communications between job applicants and Department staff. There is also no public right to be present or participate in such meetings or communications.

As requested, enclosed with this letter are documents (a) through (d) described in your

letter. Also enclosed, please find a copy of the March 30, 2016 notice of intent to revoke and stop work order.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Stallard
Assistant General Counsel

cc: Rick Chandler, Commissioner
Thomas Fariello, First Deputy Commissioner
Martin Rebholz, Borough Commissioner, Manhattan
Scott Pavan, Borough Commissioner, Development HUB
Calvin Warner, Chief Construction Inspector
Mona Sehgal, General Counsel
Felicia Miller, Deputy General Counsel