



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF

Landmarks Preservation Commission On Proposed Amendments to the Landmarks Preservation Commission Rules

New York Passive House Inc. (NYPH) is an organization of design, construction and associated professionals for the promotion and advocacy of a healthy, comfortable and energy efficient built environment through implementation of the international Passive House Standard.

NYPH strongly urges the Landmarks Preservation Commission to implement the proposed revisions to the LPC Rules. Simplifying the approval process will preserve our historic landmarks, while contributing to New York City committed goal to reducing greenhouse gas reduction of 80% by 2050.

Historic buildings and historic districts represent a long term carbon challenge and require increased attention to building enclosure construction and the installation of insulation, airtightness, thermal bridge free construction and high performance windows. NYPH strongly supports the proposed changes to improve energy efficiency and clean energy upgrades to historic landmarks, especially:

1. Increased staff-level authority for window replacements. NYC has already many high quality and high performance window options and executed landmark retrofits to demonstrate compliance.
2. We strongly support the proposed change to allow Staff-level approval for the highly efficient simulated double-hung windows used in passive house construction.
3. We endorse to adjustments to the visibility requirements for mechanical equipment which will facilitate high-performance HVAC equipment such as heat pump systems and fresh air energy recovery ventilation units.

NYPH strongly urges the Landmarks Preservation Commission to implement the proposed Rules immediately. Improved energy efficiency is the most important measure to preserve our historic landmarks and make our historic buildings resilient and for the future.

Sincerely,

Andreas Benzing
President, New York Passive House