



Village Independent Democrats
26 Perry Street
New York, New York 10014

Hon. Bill DeBlasio
Mayor
New York City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Mayor,

Village Independent Democrats, one of the most progressive and prestigious political organizations in New York, protests the conversion of a health-care facility at 45 Rivington Street to a high-end condominium.

We are question the circumstances that led to the loss of 219 beds dedicated to the care of the elderly and infirm, and endorse the attached resolution drafted by Downtown Independent Democrats. It calls on the City of New York to explain why it lifted the deed restriction on a property dedicated to the public good and how a private developer made a huge profit on it.

This is not the first time our city has lost a critically needed health facility to real estate interests. But the involvement of city agencies makes this transaction particularly disturbing.

We demand that the transaction be halted immediately so that it can be properly investigated. If malfeasance is discovered, we want legal action taken. Most importantly, we want to see the creation of a new health-care facility, of equal or better size and quality, to replace the one that was lost.

To prevent future "insider" machinations that favor powerful private interest and erode trust in government officials and agencies, we are seeking legislation to compel the City of New York to create a publicly available online database of properties with deed restrictions and to require public notice in advance of any consideration of the lifting of deed restrictions.



We hope and expect that you will look into the matter of 45 Rivington Street, and that you can assure us that our government operates with the transparency that our citizens deserve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Nadine Hoffmann
President
Village Independent Democrats

