

AFFIDAVIT OF Daniel Weinberg

CITY OF NEW YORK     )  
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STATE OF NEW YORK    )

I, Daniel Weinberg,, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I, Daniel Weinberg, live at 252 56th Street in the borough of Brooklyn, New York .
2. I am in my third year as an undergraduate at New York University, currently in the New York University– Gallatin School of Individualized Study, studying advocacy.
3. Throughout my academic career here since 2003 , I have spent a lot of time in Washington Square Park, sitting on the benches, the raised ledges around the fountain, and the steps of the fountain itself, reading, eating, alone and socializing with fellow classmates, friends, and dates. I also take advantage of the above areas to enjoy the musicians and performers in the park. Even though I am now living outside of the Village area for the first time, I still frequent the park several times a week.
4. When it is too hot outside, the shade from the canopy of trees provide some relief.
5. The plan for the park says that many trees will be cut down and most of them will be replaced with grass. I know that the proposed grass to fill the park will not provide the same benefits to the local ecology as the large existing trees can and currently do. Grass also does not usually provide shade from the sun. Trees are especially and exquisitely needed now when we face a global warming crisis, and when the City often issues warnings about a high level of respiratory-problem-inducing particles in the air.
6. The community has never been asked what destiny they would prefer for the park. Frequenters of the park and neighborhood residents alike, when I speak with them, see no reason for the park to be remodeled when there are renovations and matters of upkeep that the Parks Department has neglected for 30 years. I have attende a few student meetings the last few weeks at which many students have expressed outrage that park will be so radically changed,
7. I am also perturbed that New York University has contributed \$1 million to the project, which clearly goes against the interests and wishes of myself and many of its own students, in that they will have much fewer surfaces to rest their weary bodies, and scramble through unnecessary construction equipment and persons for the coming several years. And we will have less places to rest when the redesigned park is

complete.

8. The park should be left as it is, for the most part - perhaps cleaned and refurbished a bit, but a redesign and consequential upheaval of the local community is completely unnecessary and unwanted. In a city of glass towers that reproduce like vermin, let us have this one bastion of history.

  
Daniel Weinberg

Dated:  
New York NY

Notary:

Sworn before me on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2006

