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**Community Board 6 Votes by Overwhelming Margin to Call Upon
Department of City Planning and City Planning Commission to
Act on East River Fifties Alliance Rezoning Proposal**

On Wednesday, February 10th, Manhattan's Community Board 6 (CB6) passed by an overwhelming majority a resolution that calls upon the Department of City Planning and City Planning Commission to act on the rezoning plan submitted by the [East River Fifties Alliance's](#) (ERFA) for the residential neighborhood referred to as the East River Fifties (the area between 52nd and 59th Streets east of First Avenue).

The plan, which was filed by ERFA and co-filers [Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer](#), Council Members [Ben Kallos](#) and [Dan Garodnick](#), and [State Senator Liz Krueger](#) with the Department of City Planning (DCP) on January 21st, is one of the most sweeping community residential rezoning plans in City history. It would restrict supertowers and out-of-scale development while providing affordable housing.

CB6 addressed both a specific megatower proposed by a developer for 428-432 E 58th St and the broader implications of that development. In the resolution, CB6 asks the City Council to consider actions – including the possibility of a “city-wide moratorium on all super-tall towers” – that would allow it to study the impact of the proposed tower before it's built; requests a meeting with the Department of City Planning and the Manhattan Borough President's office as soon as possible to discuss out-of-context building heights and other considerations; lauds the rezoning for promoting contextual development; reiterates its approval of lowering building density and urges DCP to expedite its response to ERFA's pre-application for rezoning.

“Community Board 6 passed a resolution reaffirming its support of rezoning the Sutton Place neighborhood to a lower density, in response to community concerns, and requested that the Department of City Planning take prompt and timely action on the Pre-application Statement filed by the East River Fifties Alliance. The resolution passed with overwhelming support among CB6 board members,” said Terrence E. O’Neal, Chair of CB6’s Land Use & Waterfront Committee.

“We are thrilled that CB6 has not only reiterated its support for rezoning the area to reflect community concerns, but called on City Planning to move swiftly in reviewing and acting on ERFA's proposal. At a time when supertall buildings and other massive developments threaten to dwarf our neighborhoods and make them unlivable, we feel that our zoning plan provides a vital opportunity for reasonable and contextual development, in addition to affordable housing, while preserving the unique character of our community,” said Alan Kersh, President of ERFA.

“I share the concerns of Community Board 6 and the East River 50s community: we must find an answer to how development of this scale and density negatively impacts neighborhoods like this one, and how the city should respond to the impact of supermassive developments on open spaces and communities,” said Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer, one of the plan’s applicants. “New development will remain a fact of life in Manhattan for the rest of our lifetimes, but we must plan it with care and a focus on our neighborhoods’ need for light, air, infrastructure, and affordable housing,” she added.

"Our community is striking back against supertowers that are wildly out of context with their surrounding area. We have developed a thoughtful plan that will put an end to out of scale development in this neighborhood, and the support of Community Board 6 has been critical to making this process a success," said Council Member Dan Garodnick, who co-filed the plan with City Planning.

"Manhattan Community Board Six's recent resolution in support of rezoning parts of the Sutton area is a vital step in our fight against superscrapers in residential neighborhoods," said Council Member Ben Kallos, an applicant of the plan. "I hope the Department of City Planning gives careful consideration to the Community Board's resolution when reviewing the zoning proposal. This resolution reaffirms the community's support of the rezoning proposal and I am grateful to CB6 for their leadership on this topic and for protecting the future of our neighborhoods," he continued.

"Community Board 6 has made clear yet again that this community does not want unbridled development of super towers filled with empty apartments for billionaires. Such inappropriate development overwhelms our infrastructure and drastically alters the character of our neighborhoods. What we need is community-based planning that lays a foundation for rational growth and allows the affordable housing New Yorkers demand," said State Senator Liz Krueger, one of the plan’s co-applicants.

Read the [entire resolution here](#).

The complete plan can be found on ERFA’s website (www.erfa.nyc).

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About ERFA: The East River Fifties Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization comprised of residents, community organizations, condominiums and co-ops formed to reform New York City’s zoning laws to prevent out-of-scale development and to better protect the residential character of the “Far East Fifties” in Manhattan.