

To: Ricardo Cervantes, DSI Director
FR: Kristin (Murphy) Dawkins, Citizen

8-8-13 10 a.m.

Dear Mr. Cervantes,

We met last night at the District 5 meeting regarding the wall and "art park" or "peoples' park" at 680 Wells St.

You asked for a copy of the email I read in my statement dated Oct 27, 2006 from Bob Kessler to Dave Thune referencing Tom Riddering's observation that "most" of the retaining walls are "soundly built and do not pose a danger and should be allowed to remain in place." (I hand-believer!)

Also, FYI, contact info for

(over)

the City Engineer who participated in the inspection tour that October led by Sherri Pemberton, recently retired from PED:

Darold McMahon
Civil Engineer, PED
266-6612
632 5129

I hope that the City will demonstrate a degree of flexibility and re-think this matter. Not one citizen spoke against the park last night; no one has been hurt in its 12 years of existence; it is truly unique and beloved by neighbors. Let's put a real handrail along the stairway, remove unsafe ornamentation (and/or re-install safely), test the walls and host a "grand re-opening" to celebrate our collaboration with photo ops for all.
Please.

Thank you,
Murphy Dawkins
651-307-3496

Copy obtained from
Murph Dawkins
651-307-3496

mike

From: "Dave Thune" <thune@comcast.net>
To: "mike" <mikegrealish@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2006 9:21 AM
Subject: Re: Arjo's wall

FYI

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

From: Bob Kessler
To: Dave Thune
CC: Steve Wagner, Dick Lippert, Thomas Riddering
Date: Friday - October 27, 2006 8:51 AM
Subject: Re: please stop action on park demolition

Hey Dave,

LIEP and NHPI are only dealing with ancillary conditions as requested by PED. Tom Riddering says that most of the retaining walls are soundly built and do not pose a danger and should be allowed to remain in place.

There is a tent, some debris, and a dangerous garage structure all on private property that we have issued orders on.

That's the extent of our involvement at this point.

Bob

----- Original Message -----

From: mike
To: Dave Thune
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006 11:19 PM
Subject: Re: Arjo's wall

Dear Dave, Thanks for this response to the situation on Wadena St. I've forwarded it to Leslie and the D5 board and will make some calls to see if we can take a position at our board meeting next Tuesday (7:00 at the library, on Greenbriar 2 blocks south of Maryland.)

Those of us familiar with this amazing sculpture garden, myself included, agree it's not only a wonderful work of art but a valuable asset for the whole Lower East Side community. I may suggest a D5 gathering at the bottom of Wadena. We could even invite the taco trailer and eat tacos, smoke cigarettes and evaluate the garden. - Mike

----- Original Message -----

From: Dave Thune
To: mikegrealish@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2006 9:53 PM

I understand that somehow coincidental with the recent pioneer press article about R Joe Adams' park and public sculpture the city has leaped into action to save us from something or other, possible imagined.

This location is just off the fringe of ward 2 but is also within district 5 which dan and I share.

What I have heard is that the park is about to be fenced off. dismantled and otherwise removed. I would