Testimony of Hazel N. Dukes, President
NAACP New York State Conference
Regarding NYU’s 2031 Expansion Plan
Community Board 2 Meeting

My name is Hazel Dukes and I am the president of the NAACP New York State Conference. The NAACP is one of the oldest, boldest, most effective and most respected civil rights organization in the Nation. The NAACP New York State Conference has played a pivotal role in moving the agenda for freedom and equality forward under the leadership of dynamic State Conference Presidents, each of whom addressed many critical issues during their tenure.

I am writing to testify in support of the NYU Core plan within NYU 2031. NYU’s 16,000 employees and 40,000 students provide the economic lifeblood for Greenwich Village and we believe this expansion will provide a much needed boost to the economy – not only in the Village, but the entire City.

The university estimates that its $6.2 billion plan would generate an additional 2,400 jobs every year for the next 20 years, more than $490 million in economic output and nearly $27 million annually in city taxes over the next 20 years. The project will benefit New York City’s economy while helping to continue to attract the leaders of tomorrow.

We believe that all voices should be heard throughout this process; however we hope that opponents will not stop the great benefit NYU’s proposal will bring to Greenwich Village and the rest of the City.

Thank you for taking our comments into consideration.