

Proposal for Wrought Iron Gate at Front Stoop of 433 Columbus Avenue

My name is Therese Sellers. I am representing the 433 Columbus Avenue Condominium Trust, which is composed of the owners of the four residential units in our building and restaurant (Anchovies) on the ground floor.

The front steps of our building are flanked on either side by two restaurants: Giacomos and Anchovies. The fronts of the two restaurants come all the way out to the bottom of our steps and slightly beyond. Customers waiting for tables at Giacomo's often use our steps as a place to sit and wait. People also use our steps as a place to relax and smoke cigarettes. A security camera that we installed in the fall of 2017, captured a sexual encounter at the top of our stairs. We have found used condoms there too. On another occasion, a drunk from the bar used our front steps to access the low roof of the restaurant. We view this as a liability risk.

As I come and go from my building, it is common to find people using our steps as if they were a public bench. They often express inconvenience at having to get up to let me go by. After I pass, they resume their places.

We propose installing a low, wrought iron gate at the bottom of our steps. The gate would not be locked, but would send a message that this is private property.

Photos included in presentation:

1. Picture of our front stoop
2. Picture of our stoop with people sitting there
3. Design sketch of proposed iron gate



