SL GREEN REALTY CORP

Form DEF 14A April 20, 2007 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant O

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

Check the appropriate box:

o Preliminary Proxy Statement

o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

x Definitive Proxy Statement
o Definitive Additional Materials

o Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

SL GREEN REALTY CORP.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

No fee required.
Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

April 16, 2007		
Dear Stockholder:		
You are invited to attend the annual meeting of stockholders of SL Green Realty Corp. This year s meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Grand Hyatt New York Hotel, Park Avenue at Grand Central Terminal, 109 East 42nd Street, New York, New York.		
The attached proxy statement, with the accompanying formal notice of the meeting, describes the matters expected to be acted upon at the meeting. We urge you to review these materials carefully and to take part in the affairs of our company by voting on the matters described in the accompanying proxy statement. We hope that you will be able to attend the meeting. Our directors and management team will be available to answer questions. Afterwards, there will be a vote on the matters set forth in the accompanying proxy statement.		
Your vote is important. Whether you plan to attend the meeting or not, please complete the enclosed proxy card and return it as promptly as possible. If you attend the meeting, you may continue to have your shares of common stock voted as instructed in the proxy or you may withdraw your proxy at the meeting and vote your shares of common stock in person. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.		
Sincerely,		
Stephen L. Green		
Chairman of the Board		

SL GREEN REALTY CORP.	
420 Lexington Avenue	
New York, New York 10170-1881	
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCK	HOLDERS
	to be held on May 24, 2007

The 2007 annual meeting of stockholders of SL Green Realty Corp. will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., local time, the Grand Hyatt New York Hotel, Park Avenue at Grand Central Terminal, 109 East 42nd Street, New York, New York. At the annual meeting, stockholders will vote upon the following proposals:

- 1. To elect one Class I director to serve until the 2010 annual meeting of stockholders and until his successor is duly elected and qualified;
- 2. To ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007;
- 3. To authorize and approve our amended and restated 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan in order to increase the number of shares that may be issued pursuant to such plan;
- 4. To authorize and approve articles of amendment and restatement of our Articles of Incorporation in order to (i) increase the number of authorized shares of common stock and (ii) make various ministerial changes to our current Articles of Incorporation; and
- 5. To consider and act upon any other matters that may properly be brought before the annual meeting and at any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Any action may be taken on the foregoing matters at the annual meeting on the date specified above, or on any date or dates to which, by original or later adjournment, the annual meeting may be adjourned, or to which the annual meeting may be postponed.

Our Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 20, 2007 as the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. Only stockholders of record of our common stock at the close of business on that date will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be available at the annual meeting and for ten calendar days prior to the annual meeting, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., local time, at our corporate offices located at 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10170-1881. You may arrange to review this list by contacting our Secretary, Andrew S. Levine.

You are requested to fill in and sign the enclosed form of proxy, which is being solicited by our Board of Directors, and to mail it promptly in the enclosed postage-prepaid envelope. Any proxy may be revoked by delivery of a later dated proxy. In addition, stockholders of record who attend the annual meeting may vote in person, even if they have previously delivered a signed proxy.

By Order of our Board of Directors

Andrew S. Levine Secretary

New York, New York April 16, 2007

Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, please complete, sign, date and promptly return the enclosed proxy card in the postage-prepaid envelope provided. For specific instructions on voting, please refer to the instructions on the proxy card or the information forwarded by your broker, bank or other holder of record. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote in person if you wish, even if you have previously signed and returned your proxy card. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote in person at the meeting, you must obtain a proxy issued in your name from such broker, bank or other nominee.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

i

	Page
<u>QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING</u>	1
Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?	1
What is the purpose of the meeting?	1
What constitutes a quorum?	1
What vote is needed to approve each proposal?	2
Can I change my vote after I submit my proxy card?	2
How do I vote?	2
How is my vote counted?	2
What other information should I review before voting?	3
Who is soliciting my proxy?	3
PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	4
Information Regarding the Nominee and the Continuing Directors	4
Biographical Information Regarding Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors	6
The Board of Directors and its Committees	7
Director Compensation	9
PROPOSAL 2: RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING	
<u>FIRM</u>	11
Fee Disclosure	11
Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures of our Audit Committee	12
AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT	13
PROPOSAL 3: APPROVAL OF OUR AMENDED AND RESTATED 2005 STOCK OPTION AND INCENTIVE	
<u>PLAN</u>	15
Summary of the Provisions of Our Amended and Restated 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan	15
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences	19
PROPOSAL 4: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF OUR ARTICLES OF	
<u>INCORPORATION</u>	21
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE MATTERS	23
Corporate Governance Guidelines	23
Director Independence	23
Code of Business Conduct and Ethics	23
Audit Committee Financial Expert	24
Communications with our Board of Directors	24
Whistleblowing and Whistleblower Protection Policy	24
Director Attendance at Annual Meetings	24
Identification of Director Candidates	24
Executive Sessions of Non-Management Directors	25
Disclosure Committee	25
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	26
Compensation Discussion and Analysis	26
Compensation Committee Report	32
Summary Compensation Table	33
Grants of Plan-Based Awards	34
Outstanding Equity Awards	35
Option Exercises and Stock Vested	37

Pension Benefits	37
Nonqualified Deferred Compensation	37
Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control	37
Equity Compensation Plan Information	53
Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation	57
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT	58
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	59
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS	60
Policies and Procedures With Respect to Related Party Transactions	60
Cleaning/Security/Messenger and Restoration Services	60
<u>Leases</u>	61
Management Fees	61
Management Indebtedness	61
Brokerage Services	61
Gramercy Capital Corp.	62
OTHER MATTERS	67
Solicitation of Proxies	67
Stockholder Proposals	67
Householding of Proxy Materials	67
Other Matters	68
APPENDIX A AMENDED AND RESTATED 2005 STOCK OPTION AND INCENTIVE PLAN	A-1
APPENDIX B ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT	B-1

ii

SL GREEN REALTY CORP.

	420 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10170-1881
PROXY STATEMENT	
FOR 2007 ANNUAL MEETING OF ST	TOCKHOLDERS

to be held on May 24, 2007

We are sending this proxy statement and the enclosed proxy card to our stockholders on or about April 16, 2007 in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of SL Green Realty Corp. for use at the 2007 annual meeting of stockholders to be held on Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., local time, the Grand Hyatt New York Hotel, Park Avenue at Grand Central Terminal, 109 East 42nd Street, New York, New York, or at any postponement or adjournment of the meeting.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?

If our records show that you were a stockholder of our common stock at the close of business on March 20, 2007, which is referred to in this proxy statement as the record date, you are entitled to receive notice of the meeting and to vote the shares of common stock that you held on the record date. Each outstanding share of common stock entitles its holder to cast one vote for each matter to be voted upon.

What is the purpose of the meeting?

At the annual meeting, you will be asked:

- to vote upon the election of one Class I director;
- to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007;
- to authorize and approve our amended and restated 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares that may be issued pursuant to the plan;
- to authorize and approve articles of amendment and restatement of our Articles of Incorporation in order to (i) increase the number of authorized shares of common stock and (ii) make various ministerial changes to our current Articles of Incorporation; and
- to consider and act upon any other matters that may properly be brought before the meeting and at any adjournments or postponements thereof.

What constitutes a quorum?

The presence, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the total number of outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at this meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the meeting. As of the record date, there were 59,180,818 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting.

What vote is needed to approve each proposal?

The affirmative vote of the holders of record of a plurality of all of the votes cast at the meeting at which a quorum is present is necessary for the election of the Class I director. The affirmative vote of the holders of record of a majority of all of the votes cast at the meeting at which a quorum is present is required for the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm, approval of our amended and restated 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan and the approval of any other matters properly presented at the meeting for stockholder approval. The affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all the outstanding shares of our common stock is necessary to approve the proposed articles of amendment and restatement of our Articles of Incorporation. We will treat abstentions as shares that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum. With respect to the proposal to amend and restate our Articles of Incorporation, abstentions will have the effect of a vote cast against the proposal. With respect to the other proposals, abstentions do not constitute a vote for or against, will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on such proposals. Broker non-votes, or proxies from brokers or nominees indicating that such broker or nominee has not received instructions from the beneficial owner or other entity entitled to vote such shares on a particular matter with respect to which such broker or nominee does not have discretionary voting power, will be treated in the same manner as abstentions for purposes of the annual meeting. None of the proposals, if approved, entitle stockholders to appraisal rights under Maryland law or our Articles of Incorporation.

Can I change my vote after I submit my proxy card?

If you cast a vote by proxy, you may revoke it at any time before it is voted by:

- filing a written notice revoking the proxy with our Secretary at our address;
- signing and forwarding to us a proxy with a later date; or
- appearing in person and voting by ballot at the meeting.

If you attend the meeting, you may vote in person whether or not you have previously given a proxy, but your presence (without further action) at the meeting will not constitute revocation of a previously given proxy.

How do I vote?

We request that you complete, sign, date and promptly return the accompanying proxy card in the enclosed postage-prepaid envelope. You may also attend the meeting in person and vote in person. If your shares of common stock are held by a broker, bank or other nominee (i.e., in street name), you will receive instructions from your nominee, which you must follow in order to have your shares of common stock voted. Such stockholders who wish to vote in person at the meeting will need to obtain a proxy form from the broker, bank or other nominee that holds their shares of common stock of record.

How is my vote counted?

If you properly execute a proxy in the accompanying form, and if we receive it prior to voting at the meeting, the shares of common stock that the proxy represents will be voted in the manner specified on the proxy. If no specification is made, the common stock will be voted for the election of the nominee for the Class I director named in this proxy statement, for ratification of our Audit Committee's selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007, for approval of our amended and restated 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, for approval of the proposed articles of amendment and restatement of our Articles of Incorporation and as recommended by our Board of Directors with regard to all other matters in its discretion. It is not anticipated that any matters other than those set forth in the proxy statement will be presented at the

meeting. If other matters are presented, proxies will be voted in accordance with the discretion of the proxy holders. In addition, no stockholder proposals or nominations were received on a timely basis, so no such matters may be brought to a vote at the annual meeting.

What other information should I review before voting?

For your review, our 2006 annual report, including financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, is being mailed to you concurrently with the mailing of this proxy statement. You may also obtain, free of charge, a copy of our 2006 annual report on our website at http://www.slgreen.com. The information found on, or accessible through, our website is not incorporated into, and does not form a part of, this proxy statement or any other report or document we file with or furnish to the SEC. You may also obtain a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which contains additional information about our company, free of charge, by directing your request in writing to SL Green Realty Corp., 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10170-1881, Attention: Investor Relations. The 2006 annual report and the Annual Report on Form 10-K, however, are not part of the proxy solicitation material.

Who is soliciting my proxy?

This solicitation of proxies is made by and on behalf of our Board of Directors. We will pay the cost of the solicitation of proxies. We have retained Morrow & Co., Inc. at an aggregate estimated cost of \$5,500, plus out-of-pocket expenses, to assist in the solicitation of proxies. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by mail, our directors, officers and employees may solicit proxies personally or by telephone.

No person is authorized on our behalf to give any information or to make any representations with respect to the proposals other than the information and the representations contained in this proxy statement, and, if given or made, such information and/or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized and the delivery of this proxy statement shall, under no circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date hereof.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors currently consists of five members and is divided into three classes, with the directors in each class serving for a term of three years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The term of one class expires at each annual meeting of stockholders.

At the annual meeting, one director will be elected to serve until the 2010 annual meeting and until his successor is duly elected and qualified. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has recommended Edwin Thomas Burton, III to our Board of Directors as a nominee for election to serve as a Class I director. This nominee is currently serving as a Class I director. Following the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, our Board has nominated Edwin Thomas Burton, III to serve as a Class I director. Our Board anticipates that the nominee will serve, if elected, as a director. However, if the nominee is unable to accept election, proxies voted in favor of the nominee will be voted for the election of such other person or persons as our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may recommend to our Board.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote **FOR** the Nominee.

Information Regarding the Nominee and the Continuing Directors

The following table and biographical descriptions set forth certain information with respect to the nominee for election as a Class I director at the 2007 annual meeting and the continuing directors whose terms expire at the annual meetings of stockholders in 2008 and 2009, respectively, based upon information furnished by each director.

Name	Age	Director Since
Class I Nominee Director (term expires in 2010)		
Edwin Thomas Burton, III	64	1997
Class II Continuing Directors (terms to expire in 2008)		
Marc Holliday	40	2001
John S. Levy	71	1997
Class III Continuing Directors (terms expire in 2009)		
John H. Alschuler, Jr.		