



NEWSBEAT...

Newsletter from the Office of
Senator Bill Perkins

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New York State Senator Bill Perkins says...

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Increased crime rates in NYC Public Housing sparks outcry from elected officials, community, and tenant leaders

Enough is enough! was the chant from Senator Bill Perkins (D) joined by other elected officials, NYCHA tenant and community leaders from all over their districts who were assembled in front of Martin Luther King, Jr. Towers on Sunday afternoon, February 13, 2011. The group represented thousands of NYCHA residents fed up with living with escalating crime rates in public housing.

“Though a recent Daily News article from January 18, 2011 highlighted Martin Luther King, Jr. Towers as showing a significant increase in crime, all of the developments in our districts including MLK Towers have been experiencing a rise in crime and lack of security in and around their buildings” said Senator Perkins (D – 30th Senatorial District, Harlem, Washington Heights). “Today we join together to say enough is enough and call on NYCHA and the Mayor to respond to this growing public safety crisis.” Perkins continued.

...murders up 18 % in NYCHA buildings citywide...

A story posted on NY1.com last month reported that police statistics show murders up 18 percent in NYCHA buildings citywide with 73 people killed in 2010 up from 62 people killed in 2009. It goes on to report that 309 people were shot in New York City Housing Authority buildings in 2010, up by 22 percent.



Senator Bill Perkins stands with NYCHA tenants during Press Conference at Martin Luther King Jr. Towers addressing dramatic increase in crime - citywide (to the right of Senator Perkins is Leona Shoemaker, 2nd Vice-President of the Martin Luther King Jr. Towers Tenant Association and to her right is NY Senator Jose Serrano Jr.

In a recent meeting convened by Senator Bill Perkins, his colleagues and tenant leaders from 19 developments in Northern Manhattan tenants voiced numerous safety concerns including the frequent shootings, lack of security cameras, broken doors and people in and around public housing living in fear. Across the board they all shared in common that they were fed up and that a stop has to be brought to this crisis.

In a letter sent last week from Senator Bill Perkins, his colleagues and NYCHA tenant leaders, the group calls on NYCHA to meet with them immediately to address their concerns and come up with concrete solutions to the ongoing problems

with safety and crime facing the residents in public housing and the surrounding community. “While we want the City to take action now we also want to make sure they do not further victimize the residents and community members by harassing our young people and the citizens that live in and visit public housing with arbitrary stop and frisks and arrests. We need a comprehensive well planned strategy that includes policing with sensitivity to the majority of the residents in our community that abide by the law” said Perkins.

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