

State Senator Velmanette Montgomery



Assemblymember Tremaine Wright

## <u>Call to Action:</u> <u>Tell Governor Cuomo</u> <u>Sign the Adjoining Construction Notification Bill!</u>

We are asking for your support to get the Adjoining Construction Notification Bill (S4519-A / A5823-B) signed into law. This bill would require the New York City Department of Buildings (NYC DOB) to provide written notification to adjoining property owners when an application for approval of construction is submitted to NYC DOB. It has been delivered to Governor Cuomo and awaits his signature.

The legislation would also require NYC DOB to provide proof of such insurance and a copy of the permit to owners of adjoining property thirty days before construction, or demolition work begins except in the event that emergency work is authorized.

The Adjoining Construction Notification bill was introduced after a building collapse in the community several years ago. The engineers and contractors were unaware of several significant story vertical cracks, although they were visible to the tenants. As a result, the appropriate precautions were not followed and the building collapsed, leaving several people injured and fourteen homeless. Prior notification required by this legislation would have prevented this incident from occurring.

For brownstone homeowners and property owners of older buildings, a neighboring construction or renovation project can cause substantial and expensive property damage. They are often at a loss on what to do and who to contact to get repairs made. This legislation will empower them with information necessary to pursue damages and get needed repairs done.

The Governor has until Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> to sign or veto this bill. We urge you all to call (518) 474-8390 or <u>e-mail</u> Governor Cuomo and ask him to sign this important piece of legislation into law!