



March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The State is leading the nation in its response to this unprecedented public health crisis by adopting aggressive measures to reduce density in our cities and stop the spread of coronavirus/ COVID-19. With 100 percent of the non-essential workforce and quarantined individuals required to stay home, we must ensure that housebound New Yorkers have safe environments free of unnecessary and disruptive and potentially harmful construction.

There is a building located at 220 east 26th Street in our districts with approximately 90 units, which are mostly occupied and rent stabilized. The landlord is doing work in vacant units that is creating serious health problems for the residents, which include seniors and families with young children. The residents have made a complaint to the NYC Department of Buildings. As of March 24th, at least one tenant has communicated that she believes she has the coronavirus and is self-isolating as a precaution.

There is a huge difference between new construction and work in occupied buildings that is not fixing essential services for those residents. These tenants and thousands of tenants we have told to stay home need help from the state to limit construction in occupied buildings to just maintaining essential services during this crisis. 220 East 26 Street is just one of countless construction sites where non-essential work is placing residents, construction workers, and other members of the public in danger.

We are calling on you to issue an executive order prohibiting non-essential residential construction in occupied buildings from taking place while executive orders are in effect mandating that the majority of New Yorkers are required to stay in their homes.

We look forward to hearing back from you soon. Our constituents are at risk every day while construction goes on and they are forced to stay inside during this outbreak.

Thank you for the consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Harvey Epstein', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Harvey Epstein  
Assemblymember, District 74

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Liz Krueger'.

Liz Krueger  
Senator, District 28

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gale A. Brewer'.

Gale A. Brewer,  
Borough President, Manhattan