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Member of Assembly  
69<sup>TH</sup> Assembly District

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ALBANY

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June 3, 2008

Mayor Michael Bloomberg  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg,

I write today about an important public safety issue that resonates strongly in my assembly district. Last week's crane collapse at 335 E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street has again drawn attention to the desperate need for increased and more effective oversight of Department of Buildings operations.

Neighbors of the massive-scale construction sites along Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues between West 97<sup>th</sup> and West 100<sup>th</sup> Streets have expressed their heightened concerns. At one of these sites, 808 Columbus Avenue, mistakes by project engineers and Department of Building inspectors led to the collapse of a retaining wall and the evacuation of hundreds of residents. In light of a complete lack of communication from DOB following the collapse, and the release of a report that raised more difficult questions than it answered, the source of these fears can be understood.

It has come to my attention that a crane working at the 808 Columbus Avenue site is the same type of crane involved in the East 91st Street collapse. This crane looms over hardworking New Yorkers at a site with a history of violations and gross public safety failures. I must insist that you not only shut down but also DISMANTLE the Kodiak crane at 808 Columbus Avenue, revoke all Kodiak crane permits citywide, and shut down all cranes currently in operation until the safety of every construction worker and citizen can be assured.

Unfortunately, events such as the crane and retaining wall failures strongly undermine the public's trust in the ability of DOB to protect them and effectively manage large-scale construction projects. It is time to begin restoring the public's faith in this crucial city agency.

Thank you for your attention to this important public safety issue.

Very truly yours,

Daniel O'Donnell  
Assembly Member

DOD/sms