



August 11th, 2023

Commissioner Basil Seggos
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
4740 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101

Dear Commissioner Seggos:

Thank you for taking the time to visit Jacob Riis Houses on Tuesday, June 13th with us and representatives from our offices. We appreciate you finding time in your busy schedule to meet with us and the tenant leaders about their concerns.

We want to follow up on a few things we discussed at the walkthrough to ensure appropriate information is communicated to the residents:

- What is the timeline for remediation? When will hiring be conducted for a contractor, when will remediation begin, and when will the project be completed?
- What is the timeline for cementing the basement at 1223-1225 FDR Drive?
- You expressed a willingness to aid residents who would like to be tested for possible arsenic poisoning and/or heavy metal contamination. Has DEC coordinated with DOH to make this possible and what are the next steps?
- You pledged to advise NYCHA to test the pipes and cement the floors across Riis Houses. What is the timeline to make that request and how can we support it?
- We agree with you that 100% transparency is what we need to address the long-term issues at Riis Houses. What is the status of the posted multilingual signs at Riis and multilingual information on the webpage?
- You expressed a willingness for DEC to make an informational video about the remediation process. What is the status of this project?

- You agreed that the lawns surrounding 1115 FDR Drive and 1141 FDR Drive needed reseeded so that residents can be protected from potential leakage. What is the timeline for this project?

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with us and we hope this letter serves as a helpful recap of our meeting and outlines some next steps for this project. We look forward to hearing back from your office within the next two weeks.

Sincerely,



Harvey Epstein

District 74 Assemblymember



Carlina Rivera

District 3 Councilmember



Dan Goldman

Member of Congress (NY-10)



Brian Kavanaugh

District 27 State Senator