



Wm. Patrick Madden
Mayor, City of Troy

Office of the Mayor
City Hall
433 River Street
Troy, New York 12180

Phone: (518) 279-7130
Fax: (518) 270-4546
mayorsoffice@troyny.gov

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Dear neighbor,

Last Friday we had an in-person meeting with representatives from Harbour Point Gardens (HPG) including their legal counsel. At that meeting we expressed our disappointment with the lack of progress to date but, more importantly, we again clearly outlined the steps they need to take to allow residents to move back in. It seems that was a useful conversation. Yesterday, our Building Code Department met on-site with, among other representatives, their engineer, and had substantive discussions about the information we need from him.

At that site visit we were able to clear five units for re-occupancy. That's an important step forward. Additionally, the engineer is aiming to have permit drawings to us by Friday. We will prioritize that review in an effort to keep the positive momentum.

Please understand that we are prioritizing the violations that are keeping you out of your homes—those related to your immediate health and safety. Less serious code violations will continue to be pursued without interfering with your occupancy.

This week's milestone is one step of a larger process, and we are grateful for all you have done thus far to actively participate in it. While it may sometimes feel like calling a helpline is in vain, I assure you that we have brought your remarks, photos and even video to meetings we have held with Code Enforcement, the property owners and their counsel. Your stories have helped us illustrate the need for them to act on deficiencies and have made it easier for my Office to facilitate progress to this point.

I am terribly sorry for what you have had to endure these past four weeks. For 30 years, I served as the executive director of a nonprofit that works equitably to build more pathways to safe, affordable housing. I am no stranger to the difficulties of being housing insecure and for so many families to be here through no fault of your own must add doubly to your frustration, which is why in every meeting I am guided by the lens of, "how does this help our families safely get back home?" If we don't think it will help you, we don't do it.

From the beginning, we have been clear and consistent with HPG about what they need to do to make their apartments safe. I will continue to be your voice in this process, and I encourage you to continue reaching out to my office with your questions, concerns or updates.

I know this is a difficult and confusing time, but know that I am focused on this and here to help.

Warm regards,

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