



## **Rep. Nadler Urges Senate to Pass NSA Reforms After Elections**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), a veteran member of the House Judiciary Committee, sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell calling for a vote on the Senate version of the USA Freedom Act, a bill that contains many important bipartisan reforms to the National Security Agency's (NSA) domestic surveillance programs.

"We have the first chance in more than a decade to finally place some real limits on the sweeping, unwarranted – and at times unlawful – government surveillance that many of us have fought against for the past several years. The Senate version of the USA Freedom Act contains vital reforms that are supported by a broad coalition that ranges across the political spectrum. We must move to pass it into law and not waste this opportunity for real reform," said Congressman Nadler. "Immediately following the midterm elections, I urge the Senate to pass the updated USA Freedom Act. In two overwhelming votes, the House of Representatives has shown its support for NSA reform and I hope the Senate will follow suit."

## **Rep. Nadler Supports Funding for the Protection of Critical Infrastructure**

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Governor Cuomo announced that \$4.4 million will be awarded through three grant programs to protect critical infrastructure, increase rescue team capabilities, and bring tactical response team capabilities in line with the state standards.

The funding, administered by the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, will support three key areas of proactive defense. The 2014 Critical Infrastructure Grant Program will provide \$435,000 in funding to protect critical infrastructure, the 2014 Technical Rescue and Urban Search and Rescue Grant Program will award \$2 million to increase technical rescue team capabilities, and the Tactical Team Targeted Grant Program will provide \$2 Million in funding to assist with the standardization of tactical teams statewide and bring them in line with the

Congressman Jerrold Nadler said, "As we saw on September 11, 2001 and its horrific aftermath, the heroism of our first responders, including New York police and firefighters, has no bounds. I have long fought for greater funding of our emergency services, and I commend Governor Cuomo for his support of these much-needed funds. This money will go toward up-to-date equipment and training to further improve the New York Fire Department's response to catastrophic events and acts of terrorism. I will continue to fight to make sure that our first responders have the best resources to keep New York safe."

## **Rep. Nadler Applauds \$70 Million in Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects**

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced approximately \$70 million in awards to fund 68 bicycle, pedestrian and multi-use path transportation projects in New York. The projects, funded by the Federal Highway Administration and which leverage a total investment of \$103.7 million, will promote walking and biking, and boost tourism and economic development opportunities in dozens of communities across the state.

The projects include the addition of accessible sidewalks, improved pedestrian access to public transportation services, construction of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities and the preservation and conversion of abandoned railroad corridors for trail use.

Congressman Jerrold Nadler said, "New York's pathways and public transportation system have been drawing people to our city for more than 100 years. Such a wide range of travel options allows New Yorkers to experience a high quality of life, fostering a sense of local community while still remaining connected the rest of our great city. The new trails and pathways that will be built will ensure New Yorkers and our visitors continue to explore New York. I have long fought for greater funding for local walkways and bike paths, and I commend Governor Cuomo for his support for these worthwhile projects."

## **Rep. Nadler Reacts to News of Ebola Patient in New York**

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10) issued the following statement on the news of a patient admitted to Bellevue Hospital in New York City who has tested positive for the Ebola virus.

"I have been in close contact with city, state, and federal officials about the patient testing positive for the Ebola virus in Bellevue Hospital. At this time, the Governor's and the Mayor's offices have informed me that the patient has been quarantined and is being well cared for," said Congressman Nadler. "I have been advised by the New York Department of Health that anyone who has visited a country affected by the outbreak, and developed a fever within three weeks, should seek medical care right away. It is also important that we put public health first and for everyone to understand that the staff at the hospital will not ask anyone about their immigration status and that all patients will be seen regardless of their ability to pay."

## **Rep. Nadler Urges HUD to Develop Rules for Reverse Mortgages in Co-op Buildings**

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Nadler, joined by Senator Schumer, State Senator Hoylman, Assemblymember Glick and City Councilmember Johnson, called on HUD Secretary Julian Castro to develop rules to allow reverse mortgages in co-op buildings under the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) program.

"Such reverse mortgages would enable seniors to purchase existing co-op units, which tend to be much more affordable than newly built condo or market rate rentals... We welcome the opportunity to discuss HUD's specific concerns and we urge HUD to work with co-op boards and lenders to find solutions to these issues and extend HECMs to co-ops."

The letter also urges swift action by HUD, giving the example of the needs of residents of West Village Houses. As the letter notes, "The majority of West Village Houses renters who sought homeownership financial counseling and assessment could not afford to buy their units because they are seniors on fixed incomes. Being

able to use reverse mortgages under the HECM for Purchase program would prevent many of them from losing their long-time homes. Time is of the essence for West Village Houses renters...and for thousands of current senior citizen co-op owners struggling to make ends meet."

## **Rep. Nadler Welcomes Funding to Prevent Domestic Violence**

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that New York is receiving more than \$4.3 million for programs that serve domestic violence victims across the state. The funding is provided through the Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, which supports the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs to prevent domestic violence. It also provides immediate shelter and support services for all victims of domestic violence and their children, as well as specialized services for underserved populations throughout the state.

"Too many families experience violence at home, and my administration has made it a priority to help New Yorkers break this cycle of abuse," Governor Cuomo said. "This funding will support proven programs that are designed to help victims and combat the problem of domestic violence all across this state."

Congressman Jerrold Nadler said, "In Washington, I have fought to increase funding for federal programs to address domestic violence, and I am pleased that these critical resources are helping New York families seeking immediate shelter and support services. must do more to combat domestic violence at its source, and I will continue to work with government officials, advocates, and all others who share this goal."

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