

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAJOR ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT POLO GROUND TOWERS

A major electrical upgrade is set for Manhattan's Polo Grounds Towers under a \$3.4 million contract recently awarded by the Board of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA).

The new electrical system is the latest step to end problems that have plagued Polo Grounds Towers since August 2002 when feeder cables providing power to the development failed due to overloading.

Temporary emergency generators were used to supply adequate power to the complex while four existing transformers were replaced. However, the new transformers did not increase available power to the development. To overcome the problem, Con Ed provided four new sets of feeder cables -- one for each building -- to replace the damaged two lines. Since then NYCHA has installed four additional transformers and new switchboards to control the updated power supply which will more than double the current to each building than was formerly available.

Stasi/Dallas Electrical Contracting, Inc. was awarded the contract which is expected to take one year to complete, once work begins. Under the contract, a new transformer building will be built and Con Ed underground vaults and feeder cables will be extended to each of the four buildings.

"This is a major undertaking that will provide enough power to Polo Grounds Towers so our residents can live without the interruptions they have had to endure in the past," NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez said. "These upgrades will ensure sufficient power for future decades," he added.

Polo Grounds Towers, completed June 30, 1968, consists of four, 30-story buildings with 1,616 apartments housing an estimated 4,207 residents. The 15.15-acre complex is bordered by Frederick Douglass Boulevard, Harlem River Drive and West 155th Street.

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