November 4, 2010

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Ordinance that amends City of Boston Code Section 9-11.4 “Security in Elderly/Handicapped Housing Developments” and Section 11-1.7 “Crime Prevention Surveys.”

These sections of the City of Boston Code ensure that security measures in elderly/handicapped housing developments are inspected every three (3) years to make sure they are satisfactory. These sections originally required that the crime prevention surveys be completed by “certified crime prevention officers.” When these sections were enacted, the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council provided crime prevention training courses to certify officers. The Training Council, however, has since evolved into a much smaller agency which no longer offers training in the field of crime prevention. To ensure that these surveys continue to be completed efficiently and effectively, I request that these ordinances be amended to allow officers other than “certified crime prevention officers” complete these surveys.

I urge your Honorable Body to act favorably upon the amendments without delay.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CBC SECTION 9-11.4 “SECURITY IN ELDERLY/HANDICAPPED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS” AND SECTION 11-1.7 “CRIME PREVENTION SURVEYS.”

Section 1. City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter IX, § 9-11.4(a) is hereby amended by striking out the phrase, “a certified crime prevention officer from” in the second sentence of the third paragraph to read as follows:

Following the hearing, the Commissioner shall approve or modify the security plan consistent with the recommendations of the crime prevention survey and the security needs articulated by tenants. In reviewing the adequacy of the plan and reaching a decision thereon, the Commissioner shall consult with a certified crime prevention officer from the Boston Police Department, as provided for in subsection 11-1.7 of the City of Boston Code, as amended. The Commissioner’s approval or modification shall be in the form of a written decision, and shall be furnished to all affected parties within ten (10) days of the hearing date.

Section 2. City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter IX, § 9-11.4(b) is hereby amended by striking out the phrase, “a certified crime prevention officer from” in the first sentence of the ninth paragraph to read as follows:

In reviewing the adequacy of the plan and reaching a decision thereon, the Commissioner shall consult with a certified crime prevention officer from the Boston Police Department, as provided for in subsection 11-1.7 of the City of Boston Code, as amended. Such approval or modification shall be in the form of a written decision and shall be furnished to all affected parties within ten (10) days of the hearing date.

Section 3. City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter XI, § 11-1.7(a) is hereby amended by:

(i) striking out the phrase, “one or more certified crime prevention officer(s)” in the first sentence of the fourth paragraph and replacing it with the word “personnel”; and
(ii) striking out the last sentence of the fourth paragraph which states, “such personnel shall be certified by the Criminal Justice Training Council or a similar body as being properly qualified to carry out crime prevention surveys” to read as follows:

The Police Commissioner shall designate personnel to assist the Commissioner of the Inspectional Services Department in the assessment of the adequacy of security plans, as provided for in subsection 9-11 4 and 9-12 3 of the City of Boston Code, as amended