

**STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR CUOMO DIRECTING THE NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO INVESTIGATE MANHATTAN STEAM PIPE
EXPLOSION**

"Early this morning, a steam pipe explosion in Manhattan brought the Flatiron district to a halt and disrupted the morning of thousands of New Yorkers and businesses. First responders provided immediate assistance and thankfully only minor injuries were incurred.

"Immediately following the explosion, I deployed Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner Roger Parrino, Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker and Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon to the scene along with expert personnel from the Departments of Environmental Conservation, Public Service and State Police to ensure that the situation was contained and to assess what State resources may be required.

"As the response continues, I am directing the Department of Public Service to conduct a full investigation into the cause of this explosion and determine whether any utility activities contributed to it. In conjunction with that investigation, the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Labor are standing by to assist in asbestos testing, assessment and with the disposal of contaminated material.

"I want to thank all the first responders and staff who swiftly arrived at the scene to ensure the safety of New Yorkers and who have been working tirelessly to help get the neighborhood moving again."

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