

Finalization of federal funds will bring \$29.5 million to the New York area to prevent a radiological/nuclear attack in or around New York City

Washington, DC – TODAY, Reps. Peter King (R-NY) and Steve Israel (D-NY) announced \$29.5 million in federal funding from the Department of Homeland Security for the “Securing the Cities Initiative” in New York. The finalization of these funds will continue to support the program, which is designed to prevent a radiological or nuclear attack on high-risk metropolitan areas.

"Seven years after 9/11, we know that New York City is still the number one target for terrorists. We also know that al Qaeda would like nothing more than to get their hands on a nuclear or 'dirty bomb' and detonate it in one of our cities. Simply put, the stakes could not be higher," said Rep. King. "Today's funding announcement is a victory for securing the New York region from the unthinkable. I commend DHS and the NYPD for coming together on this vital program and I look forward to making sure the security of New York remains a top priority."

"The attacks New York and Washington, DC endured on 9/11 showed us how vulnerable our cities can be. Seven years later, our enemies continue to look for ways to attack us. Among the most dire scenarios – the detonation of a radiological or nuclear weapon in one of our cities," said Rep. Israel. "The Securing the Cities Initiative is a crucial part of our ongoing efforts to make New York and other major American cities more secure. I applaud the NYPD and Department of Homeland Security for making this initiative happen."

New York City is the first site for the initiative. The award will go to the New York City Police Department and include the participation of Nassau and Suffolk counties, as well as regional state authorities, the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey, and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The funding was included in the FY2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act, which was signed into law on December 26, 2007. Rep. King is the Ranking Member on the Homeland Security Committee. Rep. Israel serves on the House Appropriations Committee.