David Olasemo CRJ 204 Margaryan 11/17/2023

The state and federal government needs to take lead on the migrant crisis so that something by the mayor can be done about the crime, rental, and financial situation in Carpenter Avenue of the Northern Bronx. Crime has increased significantly compared to last year. Landlords and tenants are unable to reach a consensus, as landlords need to secure profit, and maintenance costs, while tenants need rent that doesn't eat up most of their income. All in all, because of the terrible decisions, and indecisions of elected officials, New Yorkers are losing residents, and those who can't afford to leave are going to continue suffering.

Around Carpenter Avenue, there is a good amount of homeless people walking around, and it's been like this for some years, unfortunately. Depending on where you walk at night, you may stumble upon a homeless person, doing what is known as "shooting up". A good amount of them don't even go to the local shelter, because even they have their facilities packed to the brim. But mind you, motels are being used to house migrants. With the migrants recently getting working papers, their lives can improve, while the lives of homeless people either stay the same or just get worse, especially with the winter coming up. With the Mayor cutting funding from all city agencies to patch up the situation, homeless assistance that's needed extremely has to be put on hold, like all the other New York City essentials.

Pierina Sanchez, a Bronx Council Member for the Committee on Housing and Buildings, "strongly" urged the Bronx Board of Rent to adopt a freeze, citing how tenants have been disproportionately affected by rising rents and incomes that haven't kept pace. Not everyone can afford the rent hikes, as a good number of renters are on fixed income. In fact, around Carpenter Avenue, there has been a new building that has been constructed, and the minimum salary required for someone looking for a one bedroom apartment, is a little more than \$75,000. According to Forbes, the national average salary is \$59,428. Below that level would be poverty. How can a family on a fixed income of even \$60,000 be able to afford a one-bedroom apartment without cutting extreme corners?

Crime has risen since last year. According to Compstat, assaults have increased around Carpenter Avenue, which is also in the vicinity of the 47th precinct. There were nine reported grand larcenies last year, and as of today, about 29, which is a 222.2% increase. Misdemeanor assaults have increased from 12 to 14. Petit larceny has increased from 24 to 35. With more NYPD cops leaving the job, the ones currently on the job are working long hours and forced overtime, which is just driving them to leave more, in addition to the anti-police sentiment from the public.

It's obvious that the state and federal government need to take over the migrant crisis, because prominent members of the city government of New York have their hands tied. It's almost as if declaring New York City as a "sanctuary city", when regular residents can't afford to live here, without living in fear or just being robbed. Not to mention possibly being passed over if you're homeless.

https://www.thecity.nyc/2023/06/05/rent-guidelines-board-stabilization-hike-hearing-bronx-hostos/

https://www.forbes.com/advisor/business/average-salary-by-state/#:~:text=Average%20Annual%20Salary%20Across%20the,Average%20annual%20salary%20nationwide%3A%20%2459%2C428.