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** Press Release **

Jersey City Moves Forward on Construction for Skate Park, further Transforming Berry Lane Park into State-of-the-art Recreational Facility

Funded by a Tony Hawk Foundation Grant, Premier Skate Park will be largest in Jersey City

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop and the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency (JCRA) announce the scheduled start of construction on the Berry Lane Skate Park, funded by the Tony Hawk Foundation, scheduled to break ground this fall. The skate park will be the largest in Jersey City at nearly 12,000 square feet, and will be the first poured-in-place concrete skate park in Hudson County and one of the first in New Jersey.

“As we continue to shape Berry Lane Park into the City’s premier park, the skate park will provide an additional safe, free space for our community to enjoy,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “We are honored Tony Hawk chose Jersey City, acknowledging all we have to offer here and adding another layer to our investment in the Bergen-Lafayette area. Throughout the planning and design process, local skaters have been involved and consulted with City officials to best meet the standards our local residents are looking for.”

With construction set to begin this fall, completed by TSIVIKOS Enterprises Inc., the skate park is expected to open to the public by spring. Construction will also start on a new pavilion which will include an outdoor patio space, a concession stand, public bathrooms, and locker rooms. The Tony Hawk Foundation uses a selective process to choose locations nationwide to invest in building high quality, public skate parks.

“It’s exciting to see a skate park among the many amenities at Berry Lane Park. We’ve seen skate parks across the country really bring youth together to enjoy this sport they love, and we’re excited to see that happen in Jersey City, as well,” said **Miki Vuckovich, Executive Director of the Tony Hawk Foundation**.

Incorporating funding from the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund Grant, plans for one of New Jersey's largest state-of-the-art skate parks include: a lay back bank, hipped quarter pipes, a roller, A-Frame ledge combo, split level A-Frame with gap, three-stair rail, bump to ledge, kicker gap, flat rail over gap, clam shell, quarter pipe extension, pump bump, and will feature a backyard bowl at a 6-foot maximum depth with a 3,600 square foot circumference.

“Berry Lane Park has been transformative for the City’s West Side and this skate park will additionally enhance this transformation,” said **Diana Jeffrey, Executive Director of the JCRA**. “It’s great timing as skateboarding has just been introduced as an Olympic sport; Berry Lane Park will now be the ideal location for someone that wants to compete.”

Berry Lane Park, located in the Bergen-Lafayette neighborhood, consists of 17 acres of property that was once a brownfield of former rail facilities, junk yards, and auto repair shops. With the transformation under this administration, the park now boasts an array of recreational features such as a playground, splash park, exercise stations, basketball courts, tennis courts, a baseball field, a soccer field, open space, and more.

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