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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 28th, 2016

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Mayor Fulop Announces Email Application Process to Begin Selection of Interim 'Ward F' Council Person

Interested Individuals Can Send Resume & Cover Letter for Consideration; Community Members & Leaders Also Asked to Submit Recommendations as Community Endorsement will be Heavily Weighted

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that the city has set up an email application process to seek resumes for interested candidates to fill the Ward F council seat, which will be vacated at the end of December as Councilwoman Diane Coleman assumes the elected office of County Register.

"Strong leadership and a strong partner in Ward F is vital to continuing the progress we are making to bring investment, jobs and services to the area," said **Mayor Fulop**. "We know that the Ward F community understands their community best, which is why we want to hear directly from them on their recommendations on who should serve on the council as we will be strongly weighing community support as we make this appointment."

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and their resume to: wardfcouncil@jcnj.org by Dec 15th, 2016, following which interviews will be held with prospective candidates. The city is also asking Ward F community members and leaders to submit recommendations for qualified council candidates via the email address as community input will be heavily weighted. The clear and transparent process follows the one put in place following the recent vacancy in Ward B, which included an email submission and interviews.

An appointment would be on an interim basis until the next municipal election is held next November for a new four-year term. To be eligible for the seat, one must be a registered voter in Ward F and must have lived in the Ward for at least one year prior to the appointment.

Investing in Ward F and bringing much-needed city services to the ward has been a focus of the Fulop administration, and the Council appointment is critical to continuing that mission. Over the past three and a half years, the administration – in partnership with the council – have hired an additional 200 police officers and added foot patrols and implemented community policing in the ward. Earlier this year, ground was broken on a \$20 million City Hall Annex at the HUB, that will bring nearly 300 city employees to the area to catalyze further economic development and provide foot traffic to small businesses and restaurants in the area.

(more)

The Fulop administration has worked hard to bring private investment dollars to Ward F in an effort to encourage redevelopment. Late last year, the Fulop administration brought a new retail bank, Investors Bank, to the HUB after more than five years of no bank at the shopping center in the heart of Ward F. And this past spring, the Fulop administration cut the ribbon on Berry Lane Park in the Bergen-Lafayette area a nearly \$40 million, 17.5 acre park, the largest municipal park in the City.

This year, the Jackson Hill Redevelopment Plan was presented by the administration and adopted by the City Council. The new Redevelopment Plan, developed with comprehensive community input, lays out a roadmap for attracting residential and commercial development along the 2.4-mile long commercial corridor connecting McGinley Square to Greenville, including Monticello Avenue and MLK Drive.

Ward F covers about five square miles in the heart of Jersey City, extending roughly from Bergen Avenue east to the Hudson River and from roughly Woodlawn and Stegman on the south side up to Montgomery Street and Columbus Avenue to the north. Liberty State Park is included in Ward F, as is the city's new flagship park, Berry Lane. The ward's population is nearly 39,000. For more information on the Ward's boundaries and demographic composition, please visit the Ward Map on the City's website.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at jenniferm@jcnj.org or 201-376-0699. ////