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Jersey City Launches Year of Energy to Promote Use of Renewable Energy and Sustainability Throughout 2018

Yearlong Initiative will Further Increase Public Education Around Clean Energy and Strategies to Reduce Jersey City's Carbon Footprint

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** has announced 2018 as the Year of Energy for Jersey City, which will include a variety of initiatives, events, and programming designed to increase use of renewable energy, reduce carbon and other emissions from energy production, improve the energy efficiency of City operations, and help residents conserve energy and reduce their carbon footprint. The initiatives will work across City departments to mainstream sustainability across all City operations and decision-making.

“At a time of federal inaction to fight climate change, it is vital for cities to take the lead on sustainability, and Jersey City is no exception,” said Mayor Fulop. “Finding bold new ways to reduce our carbon footprint and reduce energy usage is key to moving our city forward.”

The Year of Energy initiatives will support the entire Jersey City community in understanding where the City’s energy comes from and what individuals can do to make their energy choices more sustainable. As part of this effort, the City is undertaking a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and fleet inventory in partnership with Sustainable Jersey and the PSEG Institute for Sustainable Studies at Montclair State University. The City has also launched a new website: www.jcmakeitgreen.org which will house information about the City’s sustainability initiatives as well as educational information about sustainability issues such as energy.

The Year of Energy is building on the success of the City’s 2017 Year of Water campaign, which raised awareness around water infrastructure and conservation. Year of Water initiatives helped the Jersey City community better understand how the city’s stormwater system operates, what green infrastructure is, and what individuals can do to help improve stormwater management throughout the city. Some of these initiatives included the green infrastructure demonstrations around City Hall, the adopt-a-catch-basin program, and the Imagine a Day Without Water event.

The Year of Energy effort will be led by the City’s new Office of Sustainability, which is dedicated to finding ways to improve the sustainability of the City’s operations, raise public awareness of sustainable practices and issues relevant to Jersey City, and implement sustainable policies. The office will be working on areas such as water, energy, transit, and development that will improve the City’s long-term sustainability in environmental, economic, and social terms.

Throughout the year, the City will roll out various initiatives as part of the Year of Energy. If you would like to find out more and get involved, please visit www.jcmakeitgreen.org

Year of Energy is part of a multi-year strategic sustainability effort, preceded by 2017: Year of Water and to be followed by 2019: Year of Sustainable Neighborhoods.

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