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Mayor Fulop Commits to Empower Jersey City Residents; Forges Collaboration with The Citizens Campaign

JERSEY CITY- Mayor Steve Fulop and The Citizens Campaign today announced a new collaboration aimed at empowering Jersey City residents to bring their talents, energy and ideas to the city government with the goal of developing a new force of citizen problem-solvers actively building a better Jersey City.

Mayor Fulop has made increasing citizen leadership in City affairs a top priority in his administration. Working with The Citizens Campaign, residents will be educated about evidence based problem solving and constructive ways to get results that benefit their city.

“I know the strength of Jersey City lies in our people,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “This new collaboration with The Citizens Campaign draws on this strength to involve a broad range of residents in big challenges that face our City.”

“We are excited to be working closely with Mayor Fulop in a comprehensive effort to empower Jersey City residents to work with the Mayor to find best practices and evidence-based solutions to improve their community,” said **Harry Pozycki**, founder of The Citizens Campaign.

Over the course of the next year, The Citizens Campaign will work with the City of Jersey City and its non-profits, religious organizations and businesses to provide the tools, training and expert support that facilitates positive problem solving and constructive engagement. Planned activities include:

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- **A Jersey City Call to Service Summit** keynoted by Mayor Fulop and featuring experts from The Citizens Campaign to educate residents about their opportunities to serve on City boards and commissions, participate at city council & school board meetings, and how to research and identify evidence-based best practices for their neighborhood and the community-at-large.
- **Mandatory Leadership & Ethics Training** for current board & commission members facilitated by The Citizens Campaign and its Law & Policy Task Force. There are more than 150 individuals that serve on powerful boards and commissions that have a direct impact on development, environmental issues, education, and public safety. The training will focus on leadership development, as well as a review of the legal and ethical standards members are expected to follow.
- **Impact Jersey City** - The Citizens Campaign will provide ongoing support to Jersey City community stakeholders in identifying issues and best practice solutions. This includes outreach and empowerment trainings for potential citizen leaders identified by non-profits, religious organizations and academic institutions, businesses, and citizen groups.
- **Open JC** – The Office of the Mayor has begun working with Open JC, a local group of tech experts, to increase online access to public records. The Citizens Campaign has pledged to bring to bear its expertise to make Jersey City a beacon for open government.

The Citizens Campaign has developed a robust set of tools and trainings that serve to empower citizens, as well as a broad network of law and policy experts to serve as coaches and teachers.

Already, several Jersey City residents have benefited from The Citizens Campaign trainings and left their mark in the city – including passage of Pay-to-Play Reform and Redevelopment Reform; and service on Jersey City Boards & Commissions.

The Citizens Campaign is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to empowering citizens to get results on the issues they care about.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////