



STEVEN M. FULOP  
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

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MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 11, 2014

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***Mayor Fulop, Jersey City Employment & Training and the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey Partner on Affordable Housing Conference; “A Housing Vision for Our Community” is the first Affordable Housing Conference in Hudson County***

**JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that the City of Jersey City is partnering with the Jersey City Employment and Training Program (JCETP) and the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey to host the City’s **first ever Affordable Housing Conference, “A Housing Vision for Our Community,”** from **8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, September 18, 2014, at New Jersey City University, 2039 John F. Kennedy Blvd.**

“Our administration has developed the first real policy that creates affordable housing opportunities throughout the city,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “As we continue to develop the city, we will ensure that residents have access to quality affordable housing as this is instrumental in creating a strong, productive community.”

The conference will seek to address the affordable housing issue facing Jersey City as well as so many municipalities across the country – particularly in light of rising real estate prices and declining federal funds to support subsidized housing programs.

Last year, the Fulop administration implemented **Jersey City’s first Affordable Housing Trust Fund policy** that establishes a criteria for and **incentivizes the development of affordable housing throughout Jersey City**, particularly in areas where affordable housing has been under developed.

The affordable housing policy also creates an independent project application checklist and review committee for the distribution of funds, thereby ensuring a transparent process.

“Housing is a cornerstone of productive living,” said **JCETP Director, Jim McGreevey**, “Mayor Fulop is committed to providing accessible housing for the entire community. The conference will examine how we can improve these efforts.”

**(more)**

(2)

Leaders from federal, state, and city agencies in addition to policy experts from Princeton, Columbia and NYU along with local developers who have knowledge and expertise in the development of affordable housing will be attending. The discussion will focus on the issues Jersey City and the State of New Jersey face in preserving and creating homes that are affordable as well as the best and most feasible practices the city can implement moving forward to support Jersey City residents.

“We’re honored to partner with Jersey City to explore ways the City can create more affordable homes,” said **Staci Berger, president and chief executive officer of the HCDNNJ**. “This conference can be a model for communities in our state, as they work to meet the needs of their residents.”

Individuals interested in attending the event should RSVP at <http://housing.jcetp.us> or call Lisandra Reyes at (551) 222-4335.

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

“A Housing Vision for Our Community:”  
Jersey City Affordable Housing Conference

New Jersey City University, 2039 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Jersey City, NJ  
September 18, 2014

## Conference Overview

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### SPEAKERS

#### Keynote Speaker

**Kathryn Wylde**

President and CEO, Partnership for New York City

#### Keynote Luncheon Speaker

**Sheila Crowley**

President and CEO; National Low Income Housing Coalition

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#### Moderators and Panelists

**Joseph Alpert**

President, The Alpert Group

**Vishaan Chakrabarti**

Marc Holliday Associate Professor of Real Estate Development; Director, Center for Urban Real Estate, at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation; Principal, SHoP Architects

**Arnold Cohen**

Senior Policy Coordinator, Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey

**Richard E. Constable, III**

Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

**Sean Closkey**

President, TRF Development Partners

**Christopher Garlin**

Principal, RCG Development Group, LLC & RCG Consulting, LLC

**Adam Gordon**

Staff Attorney, Fair Share Housing Center; Fellow, NYU Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy

**Holly Leicht**

Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Brian Loughlin**

Zoning Board Commissioner, City of Jersey City; Adjunct Assistant Professor at Columbia University in the City of New York

**Alan Mallach**

Senior fellow of the National Housing Institute

**Anthony Marchetta**

Executive Director, New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency

**Frank Mazza**

Program Director, Hudson County Reentry Program

**Stuart Portney**

President, the Metro Company

**Daniel O'Flaherty**

Professor, Columbia University

**John Restrepo**

Director of Housing and Community Development, Garden State Episcopal Community Development Corporation

**Max Weselcouch**

Director of the Moelis Institute for Affordable Housing Policy at the NYU Furman Center

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**AGENDA**

**Panel 1: “The State of Housing in Jersey City” (9:30-10:30am)**

The panel will begin with a presentation of data and analysis about Jersey City’s housing and demographics for various neighborhoods. The panelists will discuss the two themes of the conference: (1) the lack of income-diversity across Jersey City’s various neighborhoods, even as neighborhood conditions improve in many areas; and (2) the unavailability of affordable housing to lower-income residents who remain disproportionately rent-burdened. This panel will discuss the issues Jersey City faces in addressing the needs of its residents and developing and will propose potential solutions for developing and maintaining affordable housing as part of the City’s overall development strategies.

**Keynote Speaker: Kathryn Wylde (10:30-11:00am)**

**Panel 2: “Building Income-Diverse Neighborhoods with Affordable Housing” (11:00am-12:00pm)**

Cities across the country are experiencing a resurgence; more people are living and working in cities, and Jersey City is no exception. In recent years, Jersey City has experienced tremendous growth. More than 20 residential buildings are currently under construction, which will add thousands of new residential units. However, much of this development has been restricted to a few neighborhoods. This panel will discuss the challenges cities like Jersey City face in maintaining affordable housing options as prices rise in stronger housing markets and in extending new development and the economic benefits that these developments can bring, to weaker markets, and will offer some potential solutions.

**Lunch (12:00-12:30pm)**

**Keynote Luncheon Speaker: Sheila Crowley (12:30-1:00pm)**

**Panel 3: “Providing Housing for Low-and Very-Low Income Residents” (1:00-2:00pm)**

Without an adequate, habitable and long-term, affordable housing stock, cities cannot support their diverse populations including those who are low-income and most in need of a safe and reliable place to call home in order to succeed and reintegrate into society, this includes families, veterans, those who are unemployed, disabled, and the formerly incarcerated. This panel will discuss the issues cities like Jersey City face in providing housing to low-and very-low income populations and will offer some potential solutions.