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City Council to Hear Public Comment on \$180 Million Purchase of Bayfront Site at Special Meeting

The Council is Seeking Comment on the Purchase and Redevelopment of the West Side Property Slated for Largest Mixed-Income Development in City's History

JERSEY CITY – The **Jersey City Council** will meet for a special meeting on Wednesday, June 20th in advance of a vote that will determine the future of the City's Bayfront property and provide over 1,400 affordable units for Jersey City residents, making it the largest mixed-income development in the City's history. The Council will solicit public comment on a plan that would authorize the City to purchase of the 95-acre property on the Hackensack River from Honeywell, as a way to control the future development of the site and to ensure it includes a large number of affordable units. Through this purchase, Mayor Steven Fulop expects that the development of the \$180 million property will serve as a national model of mixed-income development facilitated by city government.

"We have a grand vision for the future of Jersey City's West Side, one that is lively, inclusive and affordable to all," said Mayor Fulop. "This is a major investment for our City, and we view it as a rare opportunity to guarantee that this project is done with all of our residents in mind. We are excited to take the next step in this transformational project that will be a model of smart and inclusive development throughout the nation."

The City Council has called for a special meeting on Wednesday, June 20th at 6:30pm in the City Hall Council Chambers to allow resident feedback on this large-scale plan in advance of a vote on this matter, which will be on the next Council agenda. The meeting is open to the public.

The site at the center of Monday's meeting has been in flux for the past several year, first going through a major contamination cleanup by Honeywell in the early 2000's, and then coming to an agreement with the City in 2008 for a large-scale residential development to occupy the land post remediation. If approved, the City will bond \$180 million to purchase the land and built necessary infrastructure, after which they will partner with developers who will construct the mixed-use complex.

The City has worked closely with Jersey City Together, a chapter of the statewide New Jersey Together, who has advocated for the affordability and inclusivity of the future West Side development.

"When developers look at Bayfront, they see mega-profits and luxury housing. When we look at this land -- which we fought for 30 years to clean up -- we see an unprecedented opportunity to build a beautiful, inclusive community where Jersey City residents of all incomes can afford to live and raise their families. The mayor has put this bold proposal forward as a vehicle for achieving that vision. We have a long road ahead, but the city's current proposal - the public purchase of and infrastructure investment in the property - is precisely the kind of big and courageous thinking we need," said Jersey City Together in a statement.

The Fulop Administration has continued to prioritize affordable housing throughout Jersey City. In addition to pushing for inclusivity and affordability on large developments such as this, Mayor Fulop has worked to provide affordable units to seniors and veterans as well. During the past five years, the Fulop Administration has created or preserved more housing than any administration in the City's history.

All media inquiries should be directed to Hannah Peterson at HPeterson@jcnj.org or 732-881-1209.