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Mayor Fulop Announces Administration to Move Forward with Consolidation of Jersey City Incinerator Authority into Department of Public Works to Approve Accountability and Reduce Costs at Next Council Meeting

This is the Second Autonomous Agency Fulop Administration has Worked to Eliminate; Merger Increases Efficiency of Operations and Would Save as Much as \$1.5 Million Annually

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that the administration will move forward with the consolidation of the **Jersey City Incinerator Authority (JCIA) into the Department of Public Works**, a measure that will **increase accountability and efficiency** while saving taxpayers as much as \$1.5 million annually. The merger would be the second autonomous agency that the Fulop Administration has worked to eliminate, fulfilling a campaign promise to reduce duplicative services and provide greater transparency in government operations.

“We are moving forward with our campaign promise to reduce duplicative services by eliminating costly autonomous agencies,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “As we saw last week with the arrest of four JCIA employees, this agency clearly demands greater oversight. This will not only save the taxpayers significantly, but will also create greater accountability and transparency.”

At the City Council meeting next week, the administration will introduce an ordinance to consolidate the JCIA into the DPW for first reading. The administration will then present the merger to the Local Finance Board this month for approval at the state level. Once approved, the City Council would vote to adopt the consolidation, following the same process taken last year when **the Fulop Administration consolidated the Jersey City Parking Authority into the Department of Public Safety**.

In November, the **Parking Authority was abolished and consolidated into the Department of Public Safety saving the city \$750,000 annually** while greatly reducing duplicative services and costs and increasing oversight of operations and personnel.

(more)

The Jersey City Incinerator Authority provides many similar services to the Department of Public Works including snow removal, garbage removal, and street and vehicle maintenance. As personnel and equipment are already housed in one facility, the physical consolidation would be a seamless process.

Based on initial analyses, savings from the merger of the JCIA into the DPW are estimated to be as much as \$1.5 million annually. **As the JCIA is almost entirely funded by local property taxes, this savings will be a direct benefit to taxpayers.**

Examples of redundant or duplicated functions that would be consolidated through the merger include automotive and fleet management repairs and maintenance; administration (including finance, purchasing, audit, insurance, legal services); operations support; building demolition; and roll-off container services.

“The administration holds government offices and agencies to the highest standard in terms of integrity and service, and this merger is in step with that mission,” said **Mayor Fulop**.

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