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Administration to Present to City Council Lease Agreement for City Hall Annex at the HUB; \$14 Million Project will Bring 250 City Employees and Hundreds of Residents and Visitors to the Area Encouraging Additional Development and Investment

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that the administration will present to the City Council at their meeting next week a lease agreement for a **\$14 million state-of-the-art City Hall Annex at the HUB** on Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, which will pave the way for construction to begin later this year.

The annex, which will be built by Brandywine through a public private partnership with the City and the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, will be named **The Martin Luther King Jr. City Hall Annex** and will house city offices that require visits from the public such as the Department of Housing, Commerce and Economic Development and the Department of Health and Human Services. There will also be a Mayor’s Office at the HUB Annex in addition to the one at City Hall.

“Our administration has made a commitment to invest resources into Ward F and the areas of the City that were previously overlooked,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “We believe the City Hall Annex at the HUB will bring even more potential shoppers and diners to the community. With City offices housed here, there will be more foot traffic spurring an increased demand for more services and retail business which will lead to additional investment and development.”

Construction of the City Hall Annex at the HUB allows the City to move municipal offices from rented properties to this new City-owned building thereby providing taxpayers a significant savings. The City will no longer rent properties, but rather will own the annex at the completion of the 25-year lease with Brandywine. During the period of the lease, the City’s payment will be less than the rent payments today, saving the City and taxpayers money.

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The Department of Public Safety and the Jersey City Employment and Training Program are moving into renovated space at the HUB later this fall. As the new Department of Public Safety Department will be housed here, the Public Safety Director, the Police Chief, and the Fire Chief will personally work in the Annex and be readily available to respond to the community's needs.

The City Hall Annex will be located next to a Light Rail station and mass transportation, which today some city offices are not close to, thereby making it easier for the community to access city services. Ample parking will be available for all who visit the HUB, both employees and residents seeking municipal services.

The City has had initial meetings with community leaders and will hold additional community meetings for feedback on the building and redevelopment of the HUB area, which includes plans for at least 300 new mixed-income residential homes. The JCRA has also issued a Statement of Interest for a leasing opportunity to Proposals to bring a bank back to the HUB.

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