

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302 P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



MAYOR OF JERSEY CIT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** July 21, 2014

**Contact: Jennifer Morrill** Press Secretary 201-547-4836 201-376-0699

## Mayor Fulop to Testify Before U.S. Senate's Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development Chaired by Senator Menendez; Mayor to Focus on Jersey City as Model for Transit-Oriented Development

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop will testify before the United State Senate's Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22nd, 2014, about Jersey City's success story of transit-orient development and urban revitalization as a national model for transportation planning and investment.

U.S. Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Chairman of the Subcommittee and a champion for transportation investment, invited Mayor Fulop to speak during tomorrow's session, "Building Economically Resilient Communities: Local and Regional Approaches," focusing on transit-oriented development, livable communities, and investment in transportation infrastructure.

Senator Menendez, who is from Hudson County, was a driving force behind the creation of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail and continues to advocate for transportation funding for Jersey City and Hudson County.

During his remarks, Mayor Fulop will illustrate how Jersey City is a model for transit-oriented development that can be used by cities and suburban areas around the country. Specifically, the Mayor will demonstrate how development around existing mass transit, such as the PATH system, and the creation of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail, has served as a catalyst to revitalize Jersey City, spur residential and commercial development, and create tens of thousands of new jobs.

"As the trend of urbanization continues, our economic prosperity will come to depend even more heavily on our ability to move large numbers of people in and out of urban centers quickly," **Mayor Fulop** will testify. "This means direct federal investment in transportation infrastructure, and empowering the local communities to make those investments.

(more)

Investment, however, is only half of the equation; policymakers on the federal, state and local level need to reimagine the way we plan our cities and how we catalyze their growth, both in terms of population and economic activity. It's really very simple: by connecting people to opportunities, we unlock powerful cultural and economic synergies."

Mayor Fulop will also address the need for federal funding to extend the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail into Bergen County so the full vision of the plan can be realized, sparking economic investment in Bergen County and continuing the growth of Hudson County and Jersey City.

In addition to Mayor Fulop, speakers include Mr. Joseph A. Calabrese, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority and Mr. Lee Gibson, Executive Director, Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County.

As the Chairman of the Senate Banking Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, which has jurisdiction over mass transit, Senator Menendez helped pass MAP-21, a bipartisan surface transportation bill that will protect and create over 3 million jobs, including over 50,000 in New Jersey. The Senator also helped guarantee New Jersey \$70 million more per year in federal formula mass transit funding that will allow NJ Transit to expand service without raising fares.

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