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U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx to Visit Jersey City to Encourage Residents to Enroll in Health Insurance; Secretary Foxx Visit Mayor Fulop at Affordable Care Act Enrollment Site

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that **U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx** will visit Jersey City tomorrow to encourage residents to enroll in health insurance through the federal **Affordable Care Act** before Monday’s deadline. Under President Obama’s Affordable Care Act, all residents of the United States are required to have health care insurance by January 1, 2014.

Secretary Foxx will visit the Jersey City Museum with Mayor Fulop at 3 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 20th, 2013, where Certified Application Counselors from the Jersey City Department of Health and Human Services will be enrolling residents for health insurance.

“We are pleased to welcome Secretary Foxx to Jersey City and to partner with the White House on increasing awareness about the Affordable Care Act,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “As we have said before, it is our goal to have as many residents as possible enrolled in health care and we have assigned and trained additional staff to assist with this.”

Tomorrow’s event will be held from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** at the **Jersey City Museum, 350 Montgomery Street**, and residents will be able to meet with **Certified Application Counselors** to enroll in health insurance or get questions answered.

Today, the city is holding enrollment workshops from **3 p.m. to 6 p.m.** at the **Jersey City Museum, 350 Montgomery Street** AND at the **Mary McLeod Bethune Center, 140 MLK Drive**

In September, Mayor Fulop and the Jersey City Department of Health and Human Services launched an aggressive plan to enroll as many of the nearly 20 percent of the Jersey City population, or approximately 55,000 residents, who are currently without health insurance.

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Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services has redeployed existing staff to be trained as Certified Application Counselors who are trained to help residents understand their health coverage options and assist them to enroll in a new Health Care Plan. Some of these Counselors are bi-lingual in Spanish, Creole and Tagalog in order to help assist our residents of various nationalities. Assistance is available at various locations throughout the city.

There are three ways you can sign up for Health Insurance under the new “Marketplace”: by mail, by phone or online. To apply for your coverage by phone, please call 1-800-318-2596. If you would like to go online yourself to select your plan, please visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you need a paper application or would like assistance in completing your application, please call the Department of Health and Human Services at 201-547-6800 to make an appointment to meet with a Certified Application Counselor and receive assistance. Counselors are located throughout the city and are fluent in English, Spanish, Creole and Tagalog.

In addition, the City of Jersey City has partnered with Public Health Solutions, a federally-funded mobile Navigator Program. Public Health Solutions has brought on several counselors who are available to help visit small business groups, and local non-profits and help get them enrolled.

All of this is done at no extra cost to the taxpayers. All of the Certified Application Counselors who are city workers are already in the payroll and just spending part of their hours working on this and the Navigators from Public Health Solutions are funded with a federal grant.

If you would like an appointment to meet with a Counselor or a Certified Navigator to assist you in getting signed up, or if you would like someone to speak to your group or business, please call 201-547-6800 or email us at acahelp@jcnj.gov. REMEMBER TO GET SIGNED UP BY DECEMBER 23!

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for the City of Jersey City, at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///