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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Mayor Fulop and the Recreation Department Announce Opening of Pools & Park Sprinklers Citywide as Summer Weather Arrives***

***City Receives \$45,000 Grant from The American Red Cross for Learn to Swim Program***

**JERSEY CITY** – As the school year comes to an end, **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** and the **Department of Recreation** are gearing up for another busy summer with **the opening of six pools and sprinklers at 14 parks** throughout Jersey City for children and adults.

“During the summer months I encourage residents to cool off from the heat at one of our city pools and sprinklers, especially after taking part in one of our great recreational programs,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “As we continue to expand recreational offerings for residents, we are mindful that means providing activities creating activities and events for the whole family at parks throughout the city.”

The pool openings serve as a continuation of the Fulop administration’s commitment to the growth and development of recreational programs within the community. Since taking office, Mayor Fulop has added 22 new recreation programs including, scuba, boxing, cricket, fitness programs, and programs for special needs athletes.

Along with open swim, this summer the Department of Recreation is offering a **Learn to Swim Program** for boys and girls ages six to 14. Dates for classes vary by pool and sessions are filled on a first come first serve basis. Proof of residency and a valid birth certificate are required to register on site.

To support the Learn to Swim Program, the City has received a **\$45,000 grant** from **The American Red Cross** through an anonymous donor to sponsor an aquatics program with the Jersey City Recreation Department. The grant will support free Red Cross Learn-to-Swim courses for 750 Jersey City children, 50 Lifeguard Training scholarships and 30 Water Safety Instructor scholarships, which will train individuals to be able to instruct Red Cross Learn-to-Swim courses at the Jersey City Recreation Center.

“The Red Cross recognizes the importance of water safety,” said **Mathieu Nelessen, regional CEO, American Red Cross North Jersey Region**. “Whether you are at a pool or one of New Jersey’s many beaches and lakes, it is important that children have the knowledge and skills they need to be safe in and around the water. We are happy that this grant will enable Jersey City children to receive potentially lifesaving water safety and swim instruction.”

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**The following is a list of pools that will be open for use:**

Lafayette Pool & Aquatic Center (303 Van Horne Street):

Dates: May 22<sup>nd</sup> - June 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (adults only), 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., and 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.,  
Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Pershing Field Pool (201 Central Avenue):

Dates: Open all year round, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.,  
Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Public School #16 (96 Sussex Street):

Dates: June 30<sup>th</sup> – August 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Public School #27 (201 North Street Avenue):

Dates: July 6<sup>th</sup> – August 7<sup>th</sup>, Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Public School #41 (59 Wilkinson Avenue):

Dates: July 6<sup>th</sup> – August 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from  
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ferris High School (35 Colgate Street):

Dates: July 6<sup>th</sup> – August 21<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from  
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Pavonia Pool (West Side and Pavonia Avenues): \*scheduled opening June 13<sup>th</sup> following maintenance\*

Dates: June 13<sup>th</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Sunday  
Times: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

**The following sprinklers will open five days a week beginning June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 through September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather permitting.**

Arlington Park (785 Grand Street)  
Audubon Park (103-129 Bergen Avenue)  
Muhammad Ali Park (Van Nostrand Avenue, between MLK and Ocean Avenue)  
Rev. Ercel Webb/Lafayette Park (Maple Street & Van Horne Avenue)  
La Pointe Park (90-92 Dekalb Avenue)  
Pershing Field Park (Summit Avenue and Pershing Plaza Roberto)  
Roberto Clemente Park (8<sup>th</sup> Street and Brunswick Street)  
Bayside Park (480 Garfield Avenue)  
Dr. Lena Edwards Park (325 Johnston Avenue)  
Hamilton Park (8th Street, 9th Street and Hamilton Place)  
Terrace Park (Terrace Ave. & Hillside Road)  
Venator Watson Park (Stevens Ave. & Martin Luther King Drive)  
Virginia Avenue Park (74 - 80 Virginia Avenue)  
Wilkinson Avenue Park (146 - 152 Wilkinson Avenue)

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In addition, residents are invited to take part in additional recreational programming this summer, including: outdoor basketball, volleyball, flag football, soccer, and lacrosse. These programs, like the many others, are a reflection of the Fulop administration's goal to create a diverse offering of educational and inspiring activities for all residents.

**For more information on Pools and Park Sprinklers and Learn to Swim Programs in your area please visit <http://jerseycitynj.gov/swimming/sprinklers/> or call 201-547-5003.**

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