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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***Mayor Fulop, The Hudson County Building Trades, and Hudson County Announce Construction of Eight Units for Homeless Veterans in Jersey City***

JERSEY CITY- Mayor Steven M. Fulop helped begin construction on eight new units of housing for homeless veterans today. The project, which is located at 665 Ocean Avenue in Jersey City, was made possible with the support of the Hudson County Building Trades, the Hudson County Department of Community Development, the United Way of Hudson County and the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency. The building, once finished, will house eight chronically homeless and disabled veterans using HUD project-based vouchers and wrap-around social services.

“Jersey City is committed to following the Marine Corps philosophy: ‘leave no one behind,’” said Mayor Fulop. “This project will give eight of our veterans the access to the housing and support they truly deserve.

Added Fulop, “We will continue to tackle projects like this until we have ended veteran homelessness in Jersey City.”

The construction also comes during a series of Veterans-Day-week efforts on the part of the Fulop administration to end veteran homelessness. **On Monday, a 21-unit housing complex was announced with apartments for homeless vets.**

“The Hudson County Building Trades are dedicated to help the veterans who served our country,” said **Pat Kelleher**, President of the Hudson County Building Trades, “We don’t forget. We thank Mayor Fulop and his administration for making this project to move forward – and for helping our veterans on Veterans Day.”

In 2014, Mayor Fulop, a Marine Corps veteran who was deployed to Iraq in 2003, signed on to First Lady Michelle Obama’s Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. In total, 80 mayors across the nation joined together to tackle veteran homelessness, which HUD estimates may be 58,000 veterans on any given night around the country. A 2015 “Point-in-Time Count” of Hudson County’s homeless veteran population found that there are still 45 homeless veterans on the street or in shelters in Hudson County.

“This project is a true public/private/not-for-profit partnership that has the financial commitment from the city, County, and state,” said Hudson County Freeholder, **Bill O’Dea**, “In addition to the sweat equity of the union members and IMPACT recruit, we expect local developers to donate much of the material needed.”

Added O’Dea, "I respect Mayor Fulop s commitment to creating a center that will offer veterans long-term opportunities, not just a short term hand out"

The new building will also include ground floor commercial space, which will be used to provide supportive services through the Hudson County Alliance to End Homelessness, the local administrator of the Continuum of Care, a working group of government agencies and non-profit support service providers working collaboratively to end homelessness in Hudson County.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Ryan Jacobs, Director of Communications to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at or [rjacobs@jcnj.org](mailto:rjacobs@jcnj.org)**