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***Mayor Fulop Announces Implementation of New Citywide CCTV Camera Program; More than 200 Cameras to be Installed Over Three Phases***

*Phase I Includes 62 Cameras in the South and West Districts in areas of historically higher crime; Two Contracts to start work to go before Council This Week*

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** and the **Department of Public Safety** announced today plans to begin a complete overhaul of the city’s CCTV cameras replacing an outdated and broken system with a new, **state-of-the art system that will feature more than 200 cameras** strategically located in areas of higher crime.

The first two contracts, which together total approximately \$600,000, are for Phase I and will be voted on by the City Council at their meeting this week. Phase I of the CCTV program will bring 62 cameras to various locations in the South and West districts including at six city parks. Funding for Phase I comes from a combination of Dept. of Homeland Security Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) funds and capital budget funds.

“We made a commitment to replace our city’s aging and inefficient CCTV camera system with one that will provide optimum coverage in key areas and we are doing that,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “The system in place was outdated and left to deteriorate and quite simply was failing. This is another tool that will increase public safety, prevent crime and help our officers as they work to solve cases.”

The existing 150 cameras were installed in phases between eight and 15 years ago using Urban Enterprise Zone funds, which meant they were placed in business districts throughout the city – not the most effective locations. The locations for the new cameras are based on crime data that shows areas of historically higher crime, are municipal parks or from feedback from the community. Additionally, the old cameras hadn’t been serviced in several years once the state withdrew UEZ revenue for municipalities, which meant that at times a third or more were out of service.

“The state of the previous CCTV camera system was unacceptable, and so we looked at crime data, the latest technology and best practices to implement a system that allows us to place cameras where they are needed and to get the best results,” added **Mayor Fulop**.

Another feature of the new camera system that sets it apart from its predecessor is that all of the cameras are 5 megapixel cameras to provide higher clarity, whereas previously they were 1 megapixel at best. The majority of camera locations will have four fixed cameras covering a 360-degree field of vision, thereby removing user error as a camera will never be facing the wrong way and removing the ability for criminals to move out of view.

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The state-approved vendor, Millennium Communications, could complete Phase I within a few months following contract approval and weather permitting. Phase II is anticipated to be completed in approximately a year and will bring the total of new cameras in the South and West districts to 183. Phase III will cover the North and the East districts and is currently in the design phase.

Phase I includes:

36 cameras at the following nine locations:

- Atlantic and MLK
- Wilkinson and MLK
- Stegman and MLK
- Woodlawn and MLK
- Wade and MLK
- Rutgers and Chapel
- Bayview and Ocean
- Wegman and Ocean
- Woodlawn and Ocean

26 cameras in the following six parks: Ferris (Triangle) Park, Stevens Park, Muhammad Ali Park, Audubon Park, Arlington Park and Columbia Park.

In addition to the 62 cameras, this phase also includes the installation of the currently most advanced fiber optic cable along the length of Ocean Avenue, MLK Drive and Bergen Avenue, in addition to portions of Garfield Avenue. This will allow for the connection of the side streets into the CCTV camera system and easier expansion for the future phases.

The city has also secured an additional \$500,000 in funding for this project from the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office Forfeiture Fund.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at [jenniferm@jcnj.org](mailto:jenniferm@jcnj.org) or 201-376-0699. ////**