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JERSEY CITY BREAKS GROUND ON ITS ICONIC PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING HEADQUARTERS: MARKED AS THE 4th BUILDING WITHIN ITS NEW MUNICIPAL CAMPUS

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This afternoon, officials from Jersey City, the Jersey City Public Safety Departments and its community gathered to celebrate the ground breaking of the new Jersey City Public Safety Headquarters Building. Mayor Steven M. Fulop, Public Safety Director James Shea, Council President Joyce E. Watterman, and Ward F Councilman Jermaine D. Robinson shared in the commemoration toward all members as the team reaches a great milestone in turning their shared vision and leadership into reality. The ceremony was attended by additional Council members, the design and construction team and members of the general community.

Located at 358 Martin Luther King Drive, the building will offer improved operational efficiencies for both Police and Fire departments, create a sustainable and environmentally conscious solution and generate new and unique opportunities to better serve and engage the community.

“..its amazing when someone has leadership and vision and partners with someone who has a common purpose and has that same vision” Stated Eric C. Moore, President of Brandywine Financial Services, “Honestly, its an honor...I was very fortunate when I started working here... I became a member of this community immediately. It felt like a family. So, it felt really special to become part of this community; at the same time be able to meet the minority participation requirements that were set out. We’ve become very close friends with a lot of the contractors... We really care about making a difference and that’s what has made the difference.”

The Jersey City Public Safety Headquarters (JCPSHQ) Building will be a new state-of-the-art, 11-story, 120,000 sf office building for the Police, Fire and 911 dispatch operations of Jersey City, NJ. The City is spending \$188 million overall to create a municipal campus that will include community driven services and engagement, as well as centralize City operations and Public Safety administration. The JCPSHQ will be the 4th building in the municipal campus located within the “Hub” Bergen-Lafayette neighborhood: newly branded as “Jackson Square.”

Designed to become an iconic and cutting-edge facility, the headquarters will be visible from downtown Jersey City and lower Manhattan. It will allow for modern public safety means and methods supported by 21st century technologies. As stated by Mayor Steven M. Fulop during the kick off of the project, it will help “bring economic activity and opportunity to an area that deserves it.” One focus around the redevelopment effort is to make Jackson Square “employment central.” The idea behind the evolution of Jackson Square is to bring new energy back to Martin Luther King Drive, while recognizing the area’s meaningful history and significance within the City. This headquarters building is an important aspect of that mission.

To that end, the design of the JCPSHQ building will focus on embracing the advantages of synchronizing the administration of departments and more efficiencies that can manifest. Offices for the Police, Fire and Public Safety Directors will be housed under the same roof as a training area that will include three training rooms and one testing room.

Perhaps one of the most unique aspects of the building will be the “Recruitment Center,” located adjacent to the 2-story open lobby. This 3,700 sf area will operate as a museum

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displaying police and fire artifacts and offering interactive opportunities primarily for class trips from local middle schoolers. These displays will pay homage to the history of Jersey City, those who have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting its residents, and offering information about pursuing a profession in public safety. The design of the space is very specific to the items on display. For example, a vintage fire truck and a police vehicle will be visible from the adjacent streets; the selection of finishes and lighting intentionally shine a “spotlight” onto a working firepole with spiral stair.

The building will also include a Communication Center comprised of a 34 console 911 call center and other operational support areas. Many public service spaces will be shared for public use. Some notable functions will include the “One Stop” area to allow residents the convenience of applying for and receiving permits and paying violations. The 9th floor will be a multi-purpose event space that will be useful for press conferences, graduation ceremonies for recruits that pass their exams and become fire fighters or police officers, and community-related events, etc.

Construction is scheduled for completion in 2022.

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