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***Mayor Fulop Announces the 5th Annual Jersey City  
4th of July Festival at Exchange Place Plaza***

***The All-Day, Family-Friendly Festival Will Take Place at the New & Permanent Location Along the Waterfront, with  
Carnival Rides, Food Trucks, Live Performances, & New Jersey's Largest Fireworks Display***

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** has announced the expansion of the Jersey City 4th of July Festival at its new permanent location, the Exchange Place Plaza. The free all-day festival will take place along the Hudson River waterfront from 1:00pm to 10:00pm, and will include kids entertainment, a smorgasbord of food, carnival rides, multiple beer gardens, live performances by award-winning musicians, and a grand finale fireworks show on the Hudson River. Last year, the event drew over 100,000 spectators from throughout the City and region.

“In 2013 we brought back Jersey City’s 4th of July event because we believed in bringing our families, friends, and neighbors together to celebrate Independence Day, while showing off all that our City has to offer,” said Mayor Fulop. “This year will be the fifth year of this incredible event, and each year we strive for more attractions, bigger crowds, and larger acts. I am confident that this year will be the best yet, and I look forward to a fun-filled day celebrating our nation in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty.”

The festival will take place along the Hudson River waterfront and surrounding area of Harborside, with designated zones for carnival rides, bounce houses, a food truck alley, multiple beer gardens, and our headliner stage at the Exchange Place Plaza. **All day-time performers and headliner acts will be announced within the coming weeks.**

Last year, the State of New Jersey’s government shutdown on July 4th weekend forced Mayor Fulop to relocate the festival from Liberty State Park to the Exchange Place Plaza. The new event location was a huge success, drawing in over 100,000 people from throughout the region to enjoy a headline performance by Kool & the Gang, and experience an incredible fireworks display over the Manhattan skyline.

Grucci, who will operate the fireworks display, is a sixth-generation, family-owned and operated fireworks company that has developed a prominent reputation; having performed at eight U.S. Presidential Inaugurations, Olympic Games, World’s Fairs and earned the Guinness World Record for “largest fireworks display” ever recorded.

Important information about this event provided below. More information to be released within the upcoming weeks.

## TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT

Anyone attending the event is strongly encouraged to arrive by foot, bike, or public transportation to Exchange Place as parking will be extremely limited, and **parking in the surrounding neighborhoods will be reserved for area residents only**.

By Light Rail and PATH: Guests are encouraged to utilize public transportation to get to and from the festival. The nearest PATH train station stop is located right in Exchange Place, for easy access to New York City, Newark, and beyond. NJ TRANSIT's Hudson-Bergen Light Rail (HBLR) will be running North only from the Harborside stop on Hudson Street, and South only from the Essex Street stop on Hudson and Essex in Paulus Hook. For both options, customers are strongly encouraged to buy roundtrip tickets from ticket vending machines in advance of the fireworks event.

Guests utilizing the PATH or Light Rail, should check for holiday schedules and alerts here:

<http://www.panynj.gov/path/>

[http://www.njtransit.com/sf/sf\\_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=LightRailTo](http://www.njtransit.com/sf/sf_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=LightRailTo)

By Bicycle: This year, BikeJC is pleased to provide free bike valet service from 12 to 10 PM for all attendees who arrive on two wheels. Residents without bikes may also rent one through Citi Bike, which has several stations location in the festival area, including at Harborside, at the end of Sussex Street, and on Washington and Grand. Please note that the Citi Bike station location at Exchange Place will not be operating on July 4th.

By Ferry: NY Waterway ferries will be in operation from NYC to the terminals at both Paulus Hook and Harborside until 4:00pm. For more information, please visit <http://www.nywaterway.com/>.

By Bus: NJ Transit buses stop at locations throughout Jersey City and the surrounding region, including major transportation hubs like Newark's Penn Station, Hoboken, Secaucus and New York's Port Authority Bus Terminal. For more information, please visit [http://www.njtransit.com/sf/sf\\_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=BusTo](http://www.njtransit.com/sf/sf_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=BusTo)

## WHAT TO BRING/WHAT TO LEAVE HOME

Please be advised that any bags or backpacks brought into the festival area are subject to search by law enforcement authorities. **Attendees are encouraged to pack belongings in clear bags that show contents.** Coolers will not be allowed in the festival area. For a full list of what can be carried into the festival and what is banned, please visit <http://freedomandfireworks.com/what-to-bring/>.

## MEDIA RSVP

All media planning to cover the event must RSVP with the City of Jersey City by filling out the Google Form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/mTKmaqIYbwFCe80H2>. Any questions or concerns can be emailed to Hannah Peterson at [hpeterson@jcnj.org](mailto:hpeterson@jcnj.org).

For more information on the event, transportation, what to bring, and announcements visit [www.FreedomAndFireworks.com](http://www.FreedomAndFireworks.com)

**All media inquiries should be directed to Hannah Peterson at [HPeterson@jcnj.org](mailto:HPeterson@jcnj.org) or 732-881-1209.**

