



STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

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January 19, 2022

The Honorable Jared Huffman, Chair
Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife
Committee on Natural Resources Committee
1332 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for the New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act (H.R. 4677)

Honorable Chair Hoffman,

Jersey City strongly supports the NY/NJ Watershed Act (H.R. 4677) and the many environmental justice, natural restoration, coastal resiliency, green and grey storm water/CSO infrastructure, tourism and economic benefits it will bring to the urban core of NY/NJ Harbor region and to the Hudson-Raritan Watershed at large.

We are pleased that the environmental needs of urban communities, historically absent in large conservation-oriented plans, are at the center of this region-wide legislation. This broad equitable approach will help tackle large-scale challenges like sea level rise and habitat protection while improving, strengthening and uniting rural and suburban upstream communities with urban downstream communities.

Jersey City has been a model for urban environmental sustainability and public access. Along with the city's myriad conservation, programs are more than 60 parks. Habitat enhancement and green infrastructure are among the ongoing and envisioned projects in these parks.

The City has secured land and is creating a new Skyline Park along the Hackensack River, working toward creating an elevated greenway on par with NYC's Highline that connects to the Hudson River waterfront, and supports the preservation and natural restoration at the 1,200 acres Liberty State Park that sits aside the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

There are also planned and potential shoreline resiliency and habitat restoration projects along both of our City's extended waterfronts on the Hudson and Hackensack Rivers that could also benefit from Projects partnerships stemming the NY/NJ Watershed.

We are also pleased local groups like the Jersey City Parks Coalition and Friends of Liberty State Park, neighboring Newark's South Ward Environmental Alliance, and regional allies like NY/NJ Baykeeper have played a significant role in shaping and forwarding this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven M. Fulop', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven M. Fulop
Mayor

CC: heather.pacheco@mail.house.gov

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources

The Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources

The Honorable Paul Tonko, Member, Committee on Natural Resource

The Honorable Cliff Bentz, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources