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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **JERSEY CITY RECEIVES REBATE FROM PVSC TOTALING MORE THAN \$49,000**

**NEWARK** - The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) yesterday presented a rebate to Jersey City totaling \$49,213.92, helping the city offset municipal expenses, as part of PVSC's *Municipal Rebate Incentive Program (MRIP)*.

Since the program began in 2003, PVSC has returned more than \$562,000 in rebates to Jersey City.

"PVSC created its Municipal Rebate Program to work cooperatively with the towns in our service area to make sure all new connections to the sewer system are properly permitted," said PVSC Chairman Anthony Luna. "In return for their assistance, up to 15% of all connection fees are returned to the town. The program has become an excellent example of cooperation between government agencies."

"PVSC has worked closely with our staff in implementing the Connection Fee Rebate Program with great success," said Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy. "PVSC has provided staff to help process these connection applications at our business counters, while our staff has diligently worked to ensure that all connections are properly permitted. In the end, the taxpayers of Jersey City win, through properly permitted construction projects, reduced rates, and the added revenue from PVSC's rebates."

"I'm proud to have been part of the implementation of this successful program as a Commissioner at PVSC," said Vice Chairman and Jersey City resident Carl Czaplicki. "I'm pleased to see the fine way PVSC and the city work together in conjunction with Jersey City's division of construction code enforcement."

PVSC made compliance with its connection rules easier in Jersey City with the addition of an extra day of connection service assistance per week. PVSC staff is available to assist applicants at the municipal offices at 30 Montgomery Street on Mondays and Fridays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, and at Jersey City's satellite permit hub located at 360 Martin Luther King Boulevard on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

The *Municipal Rebate Incentive Program* is a cooperative effort between PVSC and all of its contributing communities. Because the municipalities have invested large sums of money to help construct the PVSC treatment works, it is imperative that new projects seeking to expand the PVSC service base pay a proportionate share of this investment through a connection fee. It is also vital for the integrity of the PVSC treatment works that all new connections are acknowledged and wastewater discharges are properly managed once they are operational.

“In addition to the new connections, it’s also important for us to evaluate the changes in discharge that may occur with a change of use or occupancy for the same reason,” said Bryan Christiansen, PVSC Executive Director. “If, for example, a clothing store changes to become a restaurant, pre-treatment measures like grease traps are needed for the restaurant to comply with PVSC’s Rules and Regulations. These connection applications also help Jersey City and PVSC ensure environmental compliance and protect the vital equipment at our respective facilities.”