

Rothman Secures Over \$ 2.5 Million for Passaic Riverfront Park and Downtown Newark Revitalization

For Immediate Release: March 10, 2006

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(Newark, NJ)—Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (NJ-9) presented Newark Mayor Sharpe James with \$2,525,000 in federal funds for the continued revitalization of the Passaic River shoreline and a redesigned, more pedestrian-friendly boulevard for Broad Street in downtown Newark. Joining Rothman for the announcement was Congressman Donald Payne (NJ-10), who represents Newark.

"Newark is not only the biggest city in New Jersey, but also the most important to the long-term economic health of our state. And as the only New Jersey Democrat with a seat on the House Appropriations Committee, it is my responsibility and honor to respond to the elected officials and people of Newark to help them in this way," said Rothman.

Thanks to past funding Rothman helped secure, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has already started construction on the Joseph G. Minish Passaic Riverfront Park and Historic Area, including the restoration of 3,200 feet of wetlands. Their plans for the remaining area between Bridge Street and Brill Street include a commercial tower, an education center, and recreation venues. Most notably, there will be an outdoor area for theatre performances and concerts. To date, Rothman has helped secure \$7 million for Minish Park.

"Cleaning up New Jersey's environment — from the Meadowlands to the Passaic River — enhances the quality of life for everyone. It also brings economic investment to the state, creating jobs and needed tax revenue," said Rothman.

"Through this exemplary public-private partnership, we will be able to restore a portion of Newark's historic waterfront to the pristine, beautiful condition that existed when Captain Robert Treat and our city's founder saw it more than 300 years ago. With Congressman Rothman's support, we will be able to complete this waterfront project and rebuild Broad Street -- our city's main artery-- and continue the progress of Newark's revitalization. These two projects are central to our efforts to bring jobs, prosperity and a high quality of life to our residents and visitors," said Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

Today, Rothman announced \$2.25 million for Minish Park and \$275,000 to go toward repaving Broad Street and installing new lamp posts, bus shelters, and a median with planted trees — all money that local property taxpayers will not have to pay in increased tax bills. These funds were secured in the FY2006 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill and FY2006 Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill, respectively.

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