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### **SENATOR LEVIN, CONGRESSWOMAN KILPATRICK JOIN CITY OFFICIALS TO CONNECT EAST-WEST RIVERWALKS, CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF BATES STREET OUTFALL**

The City of Detroit's first collaborative development with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is complete and will be marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick, Detroit Deputy Mayor Anthony Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Donald P. Lauzon of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The ceremony will take place at 10:30 a.m., Monday, June 12 on the project site at 28 Atwater (at the foot of Bates St.).

"We are experiencing significant transformation on our riverfront," said Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick. "We are working aggressively to redefine Detroit's skyline. This collaboration with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers puts us one step closer to opening our riverfront to the people of Detroit and our surrounding communities."

The Bates Street Outfall and Riverwalk Development includes the repair of the City of Detroit's Combined Sewage Outflow (CSO) system at Bates Street and the construction of a 220 foot walkway atop the system. The project contributes significantly to the revitalization of Detroit in two critical ways: Repair of the outfall ensures efficient operation of the City's sewerage system, preventing sewage backups from polluting the Detroit River. The walkway connects the existing riverfront walkways on the east and west of the CSO, bridging the gap and permitting the public to walk from Joe Louis Arena to the GM Headquarters' promenade.

This historic collaboration was made possible by Senator Levin whose leadership secured the lions share of funding (90 percent) through special appropriations to the City of Detroit, and; Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick who has been a vocal advocate on behalf of Detroit in Washington on this and many other issues"

According to Senator Levin, connecting the walkway

completes the vision for the waterfront that began nearly 30 years ago. "Detroit's riverfront is being transformed to a beautiful space for our people and a national tourist destination, and bridging the Bates Street Outfall is a big step in this transformation," Senator Levin said. "We have long had an east-west divide in the City of Detroit, and

bridging that historic divide on the riverfront today is also a symbol of greater unification for our city."

Congresswoman Kilpatrick expressed equal enthusiasm about the project's future impact on the citizens of the city of Detroit. "This initiative is one of many that make Detroit a wonderful place to live, work, play, and visit. It allows the City to provide greater community access to the riverfront. It also enhances our ability to expand the scope and number of recreational, cultural, and community programs available to residents, families, and visitors," said Congresswoman Kilpatrick. "I am proud to be involved in efforts to beautify our riverfront areas, protect our waterways, and strengthen our community. I commend Mayor Kilpatrick for his continued leadership and vision in creating the 'Next Detroit.' Together, we will build stronger families, a stronger Detroit, and a stronger region."

Lieutenant Colonel Donald P. Lauzon, District Engineer, for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit Districts says "With the dedication of the Bates Street Outfall, we celebrate the completion of the first-ever, cost-shared project between the City of Detroit and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps is proud to contribute to the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy's vision of a revitalized riverfront, and is committed to being a viable partner in making this vision a reality."

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