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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rockaway Township Selected for State COVID-19 Vaccination Mega Site

Mayor Michael Puzio is pleased to announce that Governor Phil Murphy has designated the vacant Sears store at the Rockaway Townsquare Mall one of New Jersey's six 'Mega COVID-19 Vaccination Center.' The site, which will be operated by Morris County in partnership with the State of New Jersey and Atlantic Health System, will bring COVID-19 vaccinations directly to Rockaway Township, and is expected to serve approximately 2,400 persons per day.

This COVID-19 vaccination mega site is expected to open in early January, and will follow the State's phased approach for first vaccinating healthcare workers (group 1a), followed by essential frontline workers (group 1b). This group is expected to include police, firefighters, corrections officers, transportation workers, educators, and food and agriculture workers. Subsequently, vaccinations will be offered to those 65 years old and older, and people with medical conditions that make them particularly vulnerable to more severe illness from COVID-19. The general public would then have access to the vaccine, and the timing of these phases depends on the supply of vaccine delivered to New Jersey.

"I am so pleased that the Governor has selected Rockaway Township for one of its six vaccination mega sites, and that our County colleagues are collaborating in this effort," said Mayor Michael Puzio. "As a result of this amazing partnership, Township residents will have very easy access to the COVID-19 vaccine once the State and County stand up this facility, and I am extremely happy that our Department of Administration and Division of Health have been of assistance to the County as this operation materialized."

The six mega sites are part of a network of over 200 sites that ultimately will carry out the State's COVID-19 vaccination plan, which endeavors to vaccinate up to 70% of the population. The State Health Department advises that sites will include urgent care centers, federally qualified health care centers, select retail pharmacies, primary care providers, and county and local health departments. The State will announce an online portal through which members of priority groups and eventually the general public will be able to locate a vaccination site, register and schedule an appointment.

For more information regarding this vaccination mega site and opportunities for COVID-19 vaccination, please visit [NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination](#) or [Morris County Office of Health Management COVID-19 Information](#) over the coming weeks.

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