

Neoliberal Governance and Uneven Development in Jersey City

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In 2015, Jersey City was experiencing a new period of growth with a record number of housing units created or in production and thousands more jobs added to its economy. A new and more progressive administration was at the helm announcing that this round of growth would benefit more residents than previous ones, which were largely viewed as benefitting one segment of the population and area of the city. However, despite these assurances, and some efforts toward more shared growth, this new development has been very unevenly and unequally distributed across the city. This is the result of a neoliberal approach to governing that allowed developers and corporations to influence development in their interests to the detriment of most residents. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: http://www.transformativestudies.org ©2017 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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In 2015, Jersey City was once again in the midst of a new round of economic development creating more jobs and housing. A news release from the mayor's office described the construction of 6,000 new housing units along with 18,000 underway as, "the greatest construction activity in the City's history." It also noted that the city added 9,000 jobs in construction, small businesses and corporations resulting in a decline in

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