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## **CITY OF ASBURY PARK AND THE REEVE FOUNDATION LAUNCH ACESIBILITY INITIATIVE Initiative Starts at the Beach with WaterWheels Beach Chairs and Access Mats**

8/22/18 – The City of Asbury Park and the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation launched an accessibility initiative to make the City of Asbury Park, in its entirety, a model of accessibility for residents and visitors and to create a model program that would serve as a future guide for other cities and municipalities to follow. The initiative began with the addition of new WaterWheels equipment, the expansion of beach pathway access mats, and the launch of a summer safety campaign.

“We are proud to be partnering with the Reeve Foundation whose goal is to make Asbury Park a model of accessibility. The City has been working closely with team there for almost a year to make this program a reality,” said Mayor John Moor. “It’s been a true team effort ever since President & CEO Peter Wilderotter and VP of Development Frank Mascia brought this idea to us. We can’t thank the Reeve Foundation enough for choosing Asbury Park to launch this initiative and helping us achieve our shared goal of making Asbury Park more inclusive.”

“We believe that this bold idea would not only present both a challenge to go above and beyond the recommended standards, but also inspire other communities to follow in Asbury Park’s footsteps,” said Reeve Foundation President & CEO Peter Wilderotter.

Former Rutgers football player Eric LeGrand, who has been a Reeve Foundation supporter since his spinal injury in 2010, visited Asbury Park to support the launch of the event. “The enthusiasm and support we’ve received from residents, and visitors, about this program has been inspiring,” said Deputy Mayor Amy Quinn.

The program will continue to grow, expanding the Reeve Foundation’s Quality of Life grant program, which provides consultative services and direct resources to small business to expand their accessibility. There will also be a focus on general accessibility for getting to, from, and around the City of Asbury Park in the months to come.

“This program is a huge benefit for residents and visitors alike, and is a tribute to the ever-growing diversity and acceptance that our City is known for,” said Mayor John Moor. “We look forward to a long and successful relationship with the Reeve Foundation, and know our work has just started.”

For more information on the Reeve Foundation, visit [www.christopherreeve.org](http://www.christopherreeve.org).

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