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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FATTAH ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN TO CREATE A
GREENER PHILADELPHIA**

PHILADELPHIA, PA – Mayoral Candidate Chaka Fattah today released his comprehensive environmental agenda, which would not only make Philadelphia a healthier, cleaner and more energy efficient place to live, but would also reduce city spending, save taxpayers money, and create jobs.

“Philadelphia can become one of the greenest, most sustainable cities in the country,” Fattah said. “Our city can take the lead in the fight against global warming, cut energy costs for every Philadelphian, and mount a major effort to beautify our neighborhoods and public spaces.”

A key part of Fattah’s plan is planting 100,000 trees over his two terms in office. Any block in Philadelphia will be able to apply for tree-planting in the same way they apply for block parties. If 75 percent of the block’s residents sign a petition, the city – in consultation with community groups and the District Councilperson – will line the street with trees.

“All Philadelphians benefit from the lower air pollution and reduced energy demands that planting trees in our communities can provide,” Fattah said.

As Mayor, Chaka Fattah will invest city dollars to implement the recommendations provided in the GreenPlan, and make certain that commercial corridors are a priority for greening. Adding vegetation to the city landscape will not just beautify our city, but will minimize storm water run-off.

The Fattah Administration will also work to make government more energy efficient by targeting a 20 percent reduction in energy use across all city departments by the end of his first term. City-wide cooperation in the use of sustainable energy will produce significant cost savings for our city government.

The Fattah Administration pledges to improve the City’s recycling system. Currently, Philadelphia’s five percent recycling rate is the second lowest of any large city in the country – far below the national average of 24 percent. For every 1 percent increase in the recycling rate, the City can save \$500,000. “Recycling must be single-stream, every week and city-wide,” Fattah said.

To learn more about the Fattah Plan for a Greener Philadelphia please visit the policy page of our website at
http://www.phillyforfattah.com/policy_center.asp

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