



NEWS

The United States Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202-293-7330 • Fax: 202-293-2352
E-mail: info@usmayors.org • URL: usmayors.org

For Immediate Release

January 14, 2005

Contact: Rhonda Spears Bell rspears@usmayors.org
202-639-5422 (at the Capital Hilton)
Elena Temple etemple@usmayors.org
202-639-5422 (at the Capital Hilton)

MEDIA ADVISORY

**More than 250 Mayors Converge on Nation's Capital on the Eve of the Presidential Inauguration for 73rd Winter Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors
January 17 – 19, 2005**

Mayors to Voice Concern About Major Tax Changes and Proposed Budget Cuts

Washington, D.C. – On the eve of the presidential inauguration, **more than 250 of the nation's mayors**, led by Conference President and Akron, OH Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic, plus business leaders and top federal officials will convene in Washington, D.C. for the **73rd Winter Meeting of The U.S. Conference of Mayors, January 17-19, at the Capital Hilton Hotel.**

During the meeting, the mayors will discuss significant issues that must be addressed by Congress and the 2nd Bush Administration including proposed **budget cuts** and **major tax changes** that could affect cities and metro economies.

Other key issues include **homeland security** and the **National Response Plan**, reauthorization of the **transportation bill (TEA-21)**, **telecommunications act reauthorization**, **affordable housing** and **CDBG**, **drug control**, and **Tsunami relief** efforts.

Highlights of the meeting include:

All events will be at the Capital Hilton Hotel, at 16th & K Streets, unless otherwise noted.

• Monday, January 17:

- 12noon – 1:30pm** **Special Luncheon Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:**
- Keynote Address: **Marc H. Morial**, President and CEO, The National Urban League
 - Remarks: **Mayor Tadatashi Akiba** of Hiroshima, Japan & President, Mayors for Peace
- 2:00pm-3:30pm** **Special Session: What Works – Best Practices from America's Mayors:**
- **USCM Vice President** and **Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill**
 - **Philadelphia Mayor John Street**

• Tuesday, January 18:

- 9:30am – 11:00am** **Opening Plenary Session:**
- **Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick** – Investment in Metro Economies & Tax Reform
 - **Chicago Mayor Richard Daley** – Economic Investment
 - **Dearborn Mayor Michael Guido** – Local Government Interest in Telecommunications
- **11:00am OPENING PRESS CONFERENCE (Statler Room, 2nd Floor)**
- 8:30am – 9:30am** **Workshop: The American Dream: Is It Working For Families?**

- Address by: Jason DeParle, Senior Writer, The New York Times & Author

8:30am – 9:30am Criminal and Social Justice Committee:

- John P. Walters, “Drug Czar,” The White House
- Miami Mayor Manuel Diaz - Human Trafficking

12:30pm – 2:00pm Arts Luncheon Honoring Leaders in the Arts:

- o Legendary Artist Award: Peter Yarrow (Peter, Paul and Mary)
- o Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award: Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley
- o State Leadership in the Arts Award: Arkansas Governor Michael Huckabee
- o Local Leadership in the Arts Award: Meridian Mayor John Robert Smith

2:30pm – 3:30pm Homeland Security and Cities & Borders Joint Task Force Meeting:

- o Baltimore Mayor Martin O’Malley, Co-chair Homeland Security Task Force
- o Sugarland, TX Mayor David Wallace, Co-chair Homeland Security Task Force
- o Laredo, TX Mayor Elizabeth Flores, Co-chair Cities and Borders Task Force
- o Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, Co-chair Cities and Borders Task Force
- o David Hagy, Department of Homeland Security – DHS National Response Plan

• **Wednesday, January 19:**

7:30am – 9:00am Public / Private Partnership Breakfast:

- o Address by Tom Donohue, President and CEO, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

9:30am – 12noon Plenary Session:

- o Address by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge
- o Address by Congressman Mike Turner
- o Remarks by Dr. Henry Heimlich, President, Heimlich Institute
- o Address by Senator George Voinovich
- o Remarks by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley
- o Address by HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson

- CLOSING PRESS CONFERENCE (Statler Room)

12noon – 2:00pm Closing Luncheon:

- o Address by Senate Democratic Leader, Senator Harry Reid
- o Address by Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta
- o Remarks by Virginia Governor Mark Warner

All press **MUST** register to gain access to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting events. Advance registration is recommended.

Press can pre-register on-line at <http://usmayors.org/73rdWinterMeeting/>, as well as, access the full agenda, press releases and media advisories.

On-site registration will also be available at the Capital Hilton Hotel in the Pan American Room.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.