



# NEWS The United States Conference of Mayors

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## **Hundreds of Mayors Will Gather in Washington, D.C. for the 74th Winter Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors January 25-27, 2006**

### *Hurricane Recovery, Homeland Security and Avian Flu Top Agenda*

**Washington, D.C.** – Nearly 200 of the nation's mayors, led by Conference President and Long Beach, California Mayor Beverly O'Neill, will gather in Washington, D.C. January 25-27<sup>th</sup> for the **74th Winter Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM)**.

The mayors will discuss a variety of key issues and challenges affecting America's cities including Hurricanes Katrina, Rita & Wilma, poverty in America, homeland security, the Avian Flu, Amtrak, Community Development Block Grants, jobs and the economy, eminent domain, gun violence and youth, telecommunications, the environment, public education and best practices from the nation's mayors.

Confirmed participants include **Senator Lamar Alexander (TN), Senator Sam Brownback (KS), Senator Hillary Clinton (NY), Senator Mary Landrieu (LA), Senator Harry Reid (NV), Congressman Danny Davis (IL), Congressman John D. Dingell (MI), Congressman Michael Turner (OH), Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alfonso Jackson, New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin, Biloxi (MS) Mayor A.J. Holloway, Miami Mayor Manny Diaz and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa.**

The 74th Winter Meeting of The U.S. Conference of Mayors will be held at the Capital Hilton Hotel, January 25-27, 2006. **All press MUST register to gain access to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting events by logging onto <http://usmayors.org/74thWinterMeeting>. Advance registration is recommended; on-site registration is also possible in the Pan American room.** The draft agenda is located on the USCM website at [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org).

### **Highlights of the meeting include:**

*(All events are at the Capital Hilton Hotel unless otherwise noted)*

#### **Wednesday, January 25**

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

(South American B)

#### **TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

*Chair, Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper*

Focus: Telecommunications Legislation Re-write --

- Arvada (CO) Mayor Ken Fellman
- Dearborn (MI) Mayor Michael Guido
- U.S. Rep. John D. Dingell (MI), Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Focus: Amtrak Restructuring --

- David M. Laney, Amtrak Board Chairman

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
(Federal B)

## **URBAN ECONOMIC POLICY**

*Chair, Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett*

Focus: Telecommunications Tax Legislation --

- U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander (TN)
- Ken Hoagland, Americans for Fair Taxation

Focus: Eminent Domain --

- John D. Echeverria, Georgetown Law Policy Institute

Focus: Under-funded Pension Systems --

- Paul Maco, Vinson & Elkins

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
(Presidential Ballroom)

## **OPENING PLENARY SESSION: *The Nation's Mayors Respond to Hurricanes***

*USCM President Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill, Presiding*

- District of Columbia Mayor Anthony A. Williams
- Jason Jackson, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
- New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin
- Biloxi (MS) Mayor A.J. Holloway
- Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz
- U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu (LA)
- Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa – Poverty in America

12:00 noon  
(Statler)

## **OPENING PRESS CONFERENCE: *Overview of Key Issues of 74<sup>th</sup> Winter Meeting Including Hurricane Response***

12:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
(Congressional/Senate)

## **ARTS LUNCHEON**

*USCM President Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill, Presiding*

- Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz
- Robert Lynch, American for the Arts President and CEO
- Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell – Award Recipient
- Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack – Award Recipient
- The New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) – Award Recipient
- U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (NY)

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
(Federal A)

## **CRIMINAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE**

*Chair, Elizabeth (NJ) Mayor J. Christian Bollwage*

Focus: Youth Gun Violence & Mayoral Best Practices --

- Boston Mayor Thomas Memino
- USCM Advisory Board Chair Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer
- Josh Horowitz, The Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence
- David Hagy, U.S. Department of Justice
- Lew Raden, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
(New York)

## **COUNCIL FOR INVESTMENT IN THE NEW AMERICAN CITY:**

***How can Metro Economies – comprised of urban and suburban cities – position themselves to compete for workers and businesses in the U.S. and global economies?***

*Acting Chair, Gary (IN) Mayor Scott King*

Focus: The State of Metro Economies --

- Jim Diffley, Global Insight
- Mark Olson, Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Focus: Tax Reform and the Housing Industry --

- Regina Lowrie, Mortgage Bankers Association

- Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett
- Amy Eichhorst, National Association of Realtors

Focus: Commercial Development in America's Cities –

- Herb Tyson, International Council of Shopping Centers
- Jonathan Phillips, Cherokee Investment Partners, LLC

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
(South American A)

#### **URBAN WATER COUNCIL**

*Chair, Albuquerque (NM) Mayor Martin Chavez*

Focus: Release of 414-City Water Survey and Water Conservation Awards --

- Benjamin Grumbles, U.S. Environment Protection Agency
- Cerritos (CA) Mayor John F. Crawley – Award Recipient
- Alamogordo (NM) Mayor Donald E. Carroll – Award Recipient

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
(Congressional)

#### **(NEW) TASK FORCE ON POVERTY IN AMERICA**

*Chair, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa*

Focus: Mayor Villaraigosa has been appointed chair of the Conference's Taskforce on Poverty in America to focus on the issues at the center of the post-Katrina debate. Mayor Villaraigosa will challenge our country to change the way it defines poverty, including the issues surrounding the working poor, and the urgent need for our nation to address U.S. poverty in the competitive global economy. The task force membership will be comprised of the Executive Board and the Advisory Board members of the Conference of Mayors.

#### **Thursday, January 26**

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
(Presidential Ballroom)

#### **PLENARY SESSION: *Avian Flu and Homeland Security***

*USCM President Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill, Presiding*

- James Hunt, National League of Cities President

Focus: City Response to a Potential Avian Flu Pandemic --

- Alex Azar, U.S. Dept. Health and Human Services Deputy Secretary
- Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels – Best Practice Presentation

Focus: 2005 National Action Plan for Safety & Security in America's Cities --

- Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley, Homeland Security Task Force Co-Chair
- Sugar Land (TX) David Wallace, Homeland Security Task Force Co-Chair
- Denver Mayor John W. Hickenlooper, Committee on Transportation & Communications Chair – Transporting Hazmat
- Michael Jackson, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Deputy Secretary

11:00 a.m.  
(Statler)

#### **PRESS CONFERENCE: *Homeland Security and Avian Flu***

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 noon  
(South American A)

#### **CHILDREN, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

*Chair, Richmond (CA) Mayor Irma Anderson*

Focus: Childhood Obesity and Mayoral Best Practices --

- William Dietz, M.D., Ph.D., Centers for Disease Control & U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
- Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett
- Laredo (TX) Mayor Elizabeth Flores
- Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
(Congressional)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE: *CDBG and Housing for Hurricane Evacuees***

*Chair, Columbus (OH) Mayor Michael B. Coleman*

- U.S. Rep. Michael Turner (OH), House of Representatives Government Reform Committee
- Steven B. Nesmith, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development Assistant Secretary (HUD)
- Anna Maria Farais, HUD Office of Community Planning and Devt.
- Barbara Duffield, National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

11:00 am – 12:30 p.m.  
(Federal B)

**ENERGY COMMITTEE**

*Chair, Austin (TX) Mayor Will Wynn*

Focus: LIHEAP and Sky-rocketing Energy Costs –

- U.S. Senator Jack Reed (RI)
- Steve Crout, American Gas Association

Focus: Energy Policy Act of 2005 --

- Michael Goo, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

Focus: Climate Change –

- Tim Profeta, Duke University (invited)
- Floyd DeCamps, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation (invited)

Focus: Sustainable Energy Best Practices –

- Albuquerque Mayor Martin Chavez
- Salt Lake City Mayor Ross ‘Rocky’ Anderson
- Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
(Presidential Ballroom)

**LUNCHEON: *New Best Practices from America’s Mayors***

*USCM Vice President Dearborn Mayor, Michael A. Guido, Presiding*

- Alphonso Jackson, Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Anchorage Mayor Mark Beigich – “Building Citizen Involvement”
- Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin – “Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships”
- Wichita (KS) Mayor Carlos Mayans – “Addressing Groundwater Pollution”
- Fort Wayne (IN) Mayor Graham A. Richard – “Wired and Inspired to Compete in the Flat World”
- Kelly Caffarelli, Home Depot Foundation – Excellence in Community Trees Awards
- Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman – 74th Annual Conference of Mayors in Las Vegas, June 2-6, 2006

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
(Federal B)

**FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES TASK FORCE**

*Chair, Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street, Vice-Chair, Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz*

Focus: Offender Re-Entry Back into Communities --

- U.S. Senator Sam Brownback (KS)
- U.S. Rep. Danny K. Davis (IL)
- U.S. Rep. Robert C. “Bobby” Scott (VA)
- Eric Cadora, Justice Mapping Center
- Chuck Gould, Volunteers of America

**Friday, January 27**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  
(Federal A)

**HOMELAND SECURITY TASK FORCE**

*Co-Chairs, Baltimore Mayor Martin O’Malley, Sugar Land Mayor David Wallace*

Focus: New First Responder Funding Process --

- Chet Lunner, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Office of State and Local Govt. Coordination
- Edward Cash, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Local Affairs
- Tracy Henke, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Grants and Training

Focus: Transportation Security –

- Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, USCM Transportation Committee – Transporting Hazmat
- Edmund “Kip” Hawley, U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
- Valarie Long, Service Employees International Union – Raising Standards with the Private Security Industry
- Jeff Gaynor, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Critical Infrastructure Task Force – Building Resilient Cities

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
(Presidential Ballroom)

**PLENARY SESSION: *Release of 2005 Metro Economies Report***

*USCM President Long Beach Mayor Beverly O’Neill, Presiding*

- Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels – Mayors and Climate Change/followup to USCM Climate Change Resolution of 2005
- U.S. Senator Harry Reid (NV)
- Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick – The State of Metro Economies
- U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (CA)

**WHO:** **The United States Conference of Mayors**  
Conference President and Long Beach (CA) Mayor Beverly O’Neill  
Dearborn (MI) Mayor Michael Guido, Vice-President, U.S. Conference of Mayors  
Trenton (NJ) Mayor Douglas Palmer, Chair of the Advisory Board, U.S. Conference of Mayors  
Tom Cochran, Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors  
and nearly 200 of the Nation’s Mayors

**WHAT:** **USCM 74<sup>th</sup> Winter Meeting**

**WHEN:** **Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday, January 27, 2006**

**WHERE:** **The Capital Hilton Hotel**  
**1001 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20036**  
**202-639-5422/Pan American Press Room**

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*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.*