



U.S. MAYOR

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83rd Annual Meeting Preview - San Francisco - June 19-22 , 2015

MORE THAN 275 MAYORS TO FOCUS ON PUBLIC SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION, EDUCATION AND TECH/INNOVATION

By Mark Bode

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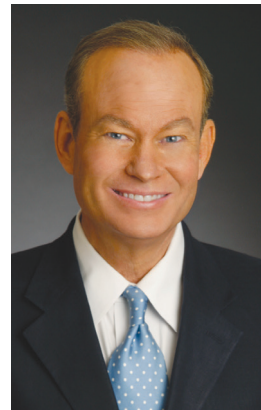
President
Barack Obama



USCM President
Sacramento Mayor
Kevin Johnson



USCM Vice President
Baltimore Mayor
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake



USCM 2nd Vice President
Oklahoma City Mayor
Mick Cornett



83rd Annual Meeting Host
San Francisco Mayor
Ed Lee

Mayor Riley to Receive Highest USCM Award

By Ed Somers

The United States Conference of Mayors Executive Committee has voted unanimously to award Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. the organization's highest honor, The Distinguished Public Service Award.

Conference President Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson nominated Mayor Riley for this award, which will be presented during a special plenary luncheon on Sunday, June 21, when the nation's mayors gather for their 83rd Annual Conference in San Francisco.

Mayor Riley, who has chosen not to seek re-election, was first elected in December of 1975 and is now serving an unprecedented 10th term as Mayor of Charleston.

He served as President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors from 1986 to 1987. As Mayor Johnson stated in his nomination letter, "Mayor Riley has rebuilt Charleston into a national and international destination for tourism, arts, culture, and design. At the national level, he has shared his vision and expertise with over 1,000 mayors through the Mayors' Institute on City Design, which he founded through a partnership between

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, American Architectural Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. It is no exaggeration to say that Mayor Riley's work has dramatically improved the physical, cultural and social fabric of cities all across our nation..."



Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr.



Welcome to San Francisco for our 83rd Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors.

Conference President Kevin Johnson became our President on April 16 when we installed him as our 72nd President in his hometown of Sacramento.

He, at the time, was the Chair of the Committee to select the Director of the NBA Players Union and right after he took our gavel as President, there was a national story coming from the unfortunate racial statements of the Clippers owner.

Mayor Johnson was asked to be the spokesperson for the players and he issued a strong statement on April 24 on behalf of the NBA players that the new Commissioner, Adam Silver, on the job for three months, to provide the most severe punishment to the Clippers owner and Mayor Johnson said the decision would be a defining moment against bigotry in sports. Mr. Silver responded on April 29, five days after the Johnson demand, to ban the Clippers owner from NBA professional basketball.

President Johnson brought the issue of race and sports to our Annual Meeting in Dallas with a dynamic panel featuring Roland Martin, Michael Irvin, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter.

This panel, featuring a national conversation on the issue of race and sports, helped many to acknowledge the continuing saga of race issues in our nation. And it also reminded us that in sports, it's all about all races having the same rules for play. Mayor Johnson continued to emphasize the fact that when all compete with the same rules, all have an equal chance and he is eloquently discussing how sports has helped so much in removing racism and bigotry in our nation.

As Mayor Johnson ended our Annual Meeting, he had lifted us all up to look to our own future. He was brazen and bold, trumpeting his Cities 3.0 theme. His speech as he took the podium was futuristic and real. He told

the mayors that some of our cities today and more cities in the near future will have hotels without beds, libraries without books, taxi companies without cabs, colleges without campuses, homes without telephones, and on and on.

He continued that message throughout much of the summer—in Cincinnati at the National Urban League Meeting and in Denver at the Walmart Manufacturing Summit.

So we were on an upward swing when, in August, boom! Ferguson, Missouri, a city not many had even heard of, hit the nation's screen and the race issue was back in front of us. It was race in sports in the spring. Now it's race and police in the summer.

During the Ferguson incident and the days that followed, we were in close and regular communication with Mayor Slay of St. Louis, a strong member of our organization, as well as Mayor Johnson communications with Mr. Benjamin Crum, the attorney and representative of the family of the deceased young man, Michael Brown.

Once again, a profile of leadership and courage, Mayor Johnson insisted we bring the Ferguson situation to our Official Leadership Meeting held in Sacramento a month after Ferguson. We heard from police officers, Mr. Crump, Mayor Slay, and Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson.

Again, it was Mayor Johnson's strong desire to force discussion about the tough issues and this continued when, two weeks after the Ferguson forum in Sacramento, Mayor Johnson summoned nearly forty mayors and over thirty police chiefs at the Clinton Presidential Center on October 8. It was and remains the largest meetings we have had of police chiefs and mayors in decades. President Clinton was instructive, recalling his support of mayors, police chiefs, and officers, citing the partnership we all had with him when crime spiked during his Administration and we worked under him and his Justice Department to bring crime down. And President Clinton was realistic in his remarks by reminding the mayors and chiefs that our police officers must know the people in their neighborhoods, emphasizing a need for a refreshed approach to community policing now in 2015.

Following Little Rock, Mayor Johnson appointed a U.S. Conference of Mayors Work-



U.S. MAYOR

**Publisher,
Editor-in-Chief
Tom Cochran**

ISSN 1049-2119

Managing Editor:
Ed Somers

Contributing Editors
David W. Burns
Debra DeHaney-Howard
David Gatton
Larry Jones
Kathryn Kretschmer-Weyland
Eugene Lowe
Kevin McCarty
Tom McClimon
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Laura DeKoven Waxman
Jim Welfley
Kathy Wiggins

Produced by: Yvonne Dailey
Proofreader: Judy Sheahan

Advertising information:
<http://usmayors.org/usmayornewspaper>
advertise@usmayors.org

U.S. MAYOR (ISSN 1049-2119) is published semi-monthly except for August, September and December by The United States Conference of Mayors, 1620 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-4005.

Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director

E-mail address changes to:
usmayor@usmayors.org

Subscription:
usmayors.org/usmayornewspaper/

ing Group of Mayors and Police Chiefs and he named Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson to Chair this group. Mayor Freeman-Wilson chaired a number of calls where mayors and police chiefs were totally resolved, word-smithing the report that was finalized

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83rd ANNUAL MEETING

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Under the leadership of Conference of Mayors President Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, the 83rd Annual Conference of Mayors will convene from June 19-22, 2015 at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square. Mayors can still register online for the meeting and see a list of the more than 275 mayors already registered by going to the website <http://www.usmayors.org/83rdAnnualMeeting/>.

From policy discussions and debates to task force meetings and engaging guest speakers, the Annual Conference will continue the tradition of providing a forum for mayors from across the country to share ideas, tackle common issues, and promote innovative national policy.

Among the items discussed will be the economic health of the nation's cities and their metro areas, as well as the factors that contribute to their growth. Specific areas of interest will include: water conservation, transportation, community policing, municipal bonds and marketplace fairness, education, workforce development and apprenticeship programs for youth, technology and innovation, energy efficiency, and much more.

President Obama Confirmed - Friday

President Barack Obama will address the 83rd Annual Meeting on June 19. His remarks will take place during a special plenary session on Friday afternoon.

Other Key Plenary Sessions/Speakers

- "A Dialogue on Music and Politics" panel with MC Hammer and Carlos Santana (Friday Lunch)
- "Changing the Narrative: Health in a 3.0 World" discussion moderated by President Johnson featuring Bernard J. Tyson, Chairman and CEO of Kaiser Permanente (Friday Afternoon)
- Remarks by the Honorable Nancy Pelosi (Friday Afternoon)
- "Closing the Technology Gap: How to Connect with Citizens in a Whole New Way" with Salesforce Industries Executive Vice President Vivek Kundra (Friday Afternoon)
- Official Opening of the 83rd Confer-

ence of Mayors, with a report by President Johnson and welcoming remarks by host Mayor Ed Lee (Saturday Morning)

- Kahn Academy Founder Sal Kahn (Saturday Lunch)
- Announcement by Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred of Play Ball Initiative (Saturday Afternoon)
- "Breaking Down Barriers and Opening the Doors of Opportunity: Diversity, Education, Technology, and America's Cities Overview" (Saturday Afternoon)
- Mayors and Business Leaders Breakfast, featuring remarks by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel (Sunday Breakfast)
- Remarks by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti (Sunday Lunch)
- Former Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley (Sunday Afternoon)
- "The National Dialogue on Education Reform: Landmark Cases and Systemic Change" panel discussion (Sunday Afternoon)
- Inaugural Luncheon, featuring remarks by 73rd President Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake (Monday Lunch)

Riley - Distinguished Public Service Award

Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr., will be awarded USCM's highest honor, The Distinguished Public Service Award, during a special plenary luncheon on Sunday, June 21 (see front page story).

Policy

Over 100 resolutions have been submitted for consideration, and member mayors across ten policy standing committees will debate and vote on them on Friday and Saturday:

- Criminal and Social Justice (Friday)
- Energy (Friday)
- Jobs, Education and the Workforce (Friday)
- Metro Economies (Friday)
- Environment (Saturday)
- Children, Health and Human Services (Saturday)
- Community Development and Housing (Saturday)
- Transportation and Communication (Saturday)
- International Affairs (Saturday)
- Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and

Sports (Saturday)

The full body will consider resolutions which pass in the committees during the Business Session on Monday, June 22. The package of proposed resolutions is now available at usmayors.org.

Special Best Practice Forums

Informative forums will be held throughout conference to provide mayors with the opportunity to learn about and discuss cutting edge best practices from cities across the nation:

- Improving Urban Mobility by Connecting Citizens (Friday)
- Building Out Broadband and Creating the Fiber Future (Saturday)
- How to Have it All: Balancing Regulations and Economic Growth (Saturday)
- National Education Pathways with a Purpose (Sunday)
- Small Business Clusters (Sunday)
- Crisis Planning and Communications in the 21st Century (Monday)

Traveling Workshops

- Trip to New Door Ventures to learn about connecting at-risk youth and adults to the workforce (Friday)
- Tech and Innovation Tour to Autodesk, Twitter, and Uber, to learn about the new era of corporate environments (Monday)

Task Force/Council Meetings

In San Francisco, task force meetings featuring mayoral best practices and national experts will include:

- Metro Economies and the New American City (Friday)
- Mayors Water Council (Friday)
- Hunger and Homelessness (Friday)
- Mayors and Metro Universities (Friday)
- Energy Independence and Climate Protection (Friday)
- Mayors and Police Chiefs (Friday)
- Veterans Affairs (Friday)
- Food Policy (Saturday)
- Vacant and Abandoned Properties (Saturday)
- Educational Excellence (Saturday)
- My Brother's Keeper (Saturday)
- Technology and Innovation (Sunday)
- Pipeline Safety (Sunday)
- Cities of Opportunity (Sunday)

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- Mayors Professional Sports Alliance (Monday)
- Immigration Reform (Monday)
- Amtrak Mayors' Advisory Council (Monday)
- Metro Ports and Exports (Monday)

Awards

A number of major awards will be presented over the course of the meeting to recognize mayoral leadership:

- Mayors' Climate Protection (Friday)
- City Livability (Saturday)
- Leadership Award for Excellence (Saturday)
- Pathways with a Purpose (Sunday)
- CommunityWINSSM Grants (Sunday)

In addition, Mayor Johnson will present the USCM President's Award to Ambassador An-

drew J. Young at the opening plenary session on Saturday.

Women Mayors

The Women Mayors Meeting will occur on Friday afternoon, where they will discuss issues of specific relevance to women mayors.

New Mayors and Members

The U.S. Conference of Mayors will host a special welcome breakfast and information session on Friday morning for first-time attendees. These mayors are also invited to attend the membership committee meeting immediately following the breakfast in order to capitalize on the opportunities at the conference and discuss best practices and mayoral priorities. In addition, there will be a special reception to honor California mayors on Friday afternoon.

Gavel-to-Gavel

There will be a special Gavel-to-Gavel event

on Thursday evening at the Palace Hotel to honor both outgoing President Johnson and incoming President Rawlings-Blake.

San Francisco Cultural Events

Mayor Lee has organized exciting events for all attendees that highlight the very best of the city:

- Friday Night: San Francisco City Hall – San Francisco's top cultural groups and celebrity artists will provide entertainment throughout the night.
- Saturday Morning: The Golden Gate Bridge – There will be an opportunity to take a morning walk across the unforgettable Golden Gate Bridge, with spectacular views of San Francisco, Alcatraz, and surrounding cities.
- Saturday Night: California Academy of Sciences – The Color of Life Global

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2015 Wells Fargo and USCM CommunityWINSSM Grant Program
Grants will be announced at the Sunday Plenary Luncheon

EPA Releases Final Clean Water Rule, Uncertainty for Local Government

Congress Responds to Local Government Concerns

by Judy Sheahan

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) on May 27, released the Clean Water Rule, formerly known as Waters of the United States (WOTUS). The Clean Water Rule defines what is considered a water body that is subject to Clean Water Act regulations. It is a result of numerous Supreme Court decisions, which turned over the task to EPA and the Corps to better define what is considered water.

The initial reading of the final Clean Waters rule, which included significant changes from the proposed rule, (www.epa.gov/cleanwaterrule) raises many concerns for local governments. Although EPA focused on the economic impact involving the 404 permitting process for dredge and fill, this rule could impact all sections of the Clean Water Act. In the final rule, EPA defines water based on eight categories including:

1. Traditional navigable waters;
2. Interstate waters;
3. Territorial seas;
4. Impoundments of traditional navigable waters, interstate waters, or the territorial seas;
5. Tributaries;
6. Adjacent waters;
7. Certain types of regional water features such as prairie potholes, Carolina and Delmarva bays, pocosins, vernal pools, and Texas coastal prairie wetlands where it is determined to have a "significant nexus" with a water listed in #1-3; and
8. Waters within the first 1,500 feet of a 100-year floodplain and waters with a significant nexus within 4,000 feet of water listed in #1-3.

The first 3 categories have traditionally been regulated. Categories #5 and #6, tributaries and adjacent waters, have been redefined and has the potential to expand the number of water bodies covered by the Clean Water Act. Category 7 waters will be considered on a case-by-case basis and Category 8 could

have an extremely broad reach. In fact, EPA's own economic analysis says, "The agencies have determined that the vast majority of the nation's water features are located within 4,000 feet of a covered tributary, traditional navigable water, interstate water, or territorial sea. We believe, therefore, that very few waters will be located outside 4,000 feet and within a 100-year floodplain."

Other significant concerns for local governments include how stormwater conveyances, recycled water, green infrastructure, and ditches will be treated. For example, stormwater and wastewater recycling structures are exempted as a Waters of the US if they are created in "dry land" which is not defined in the final rule. Questions are now arising as to how local government will prove that there infrastructure was built on dry land and, if it isn't, or a portion of the system isn't, how will that impact that conveyance and would it be regulated as a Waters of the US? According to Ken Kopocis, Deputy Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water, said that "exemptions trump inclusions" but it remains unclear if that will be the interpretation of the regional offices and, in addition, local governments remain vulnerable to citizen suit provisions.

The Conference of Mayors and the other local government organizations submitted joint comments last November outlining our concerns for the proposed rule on such issues as an incomplete economic analysis, lack of a proper federalism consultation, undefined and vague terminology, and uncertainty regarding how local government water functions such as stormwater, wastewater, and drinking water infrastructure would be handled. The local government groups asked EPA and the Corps to address our concerns and reissue the rule so that we could be assured that our issues were addressed. EPA and Corps declined to do that and a final rule was sent to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) where they released it on May 27. The rule will become final 60 days after it appears in the Federal Register, which should be within

the next two weeks.

In the meantime, the House passed H.R.1732 asking for the rule to be withdrawn and redone with proper consultation with local and state governments. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, on June 10, passed the bipartisan S.1140, which would also withdraw the rule and ask EPA and the Corps to follow the guidelines outlined in the bill including many provisions outlined in Conference of Mayors policy. The Conference of Mayors, League of Cities, and National Association of Counties have come out in support of the House and Senate bills.

The Conference of Mayors strongly encourages its members and their city staff to read the rule and determine how it may impact your community. And, if it does, please contact USCM staff, EPA, and your Congressional delegation to express your concerns.

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from page 4

Celebration will include international food stations and a diverse array of entertainment. Guests will be able to enjoy the Academy's exhibits, including a four-story rainforest.

- Sunday Night: The Embarcadero – The Bash by the Bay will incorporate food from two of the city's most popular restaurants, as well as a collection of street foods. The event will include entertainment from street artists and featured performers and will conclude with a show on the bay.
- Monday Morning: Golden Gate Park – The Morning in the Park event will have guided stops at the Japanese Tea Gardens, the Botanical, and the AIDS Memorial.
- Monday Night: Chinatown – To top off the Conference, the mayors will enjoy a family-style Chinese feast after watching the Year of the Ram celebration parade, replete with dancers, dragons, and traditional music.

The Conference of Mayors thanks Wells Fargo for serving as Title Sponsor for the 83rd Annual Conference of Mayors.

and reported out to our mayors assembled at our January Winter Meeting.

Since Ferguson last August, we have witnessed horrific experiences and incidents in New York City, Madison, North Charleston, Cleveland and most recent disturbances in Baltimore. There has been the constant barrage of national TV covering the police for months. When deaths have occurred, President Johnson has reached out to many and offered on our behalf total sympathy to individuals and police officers who were killed.

Ferguson started with the spotlight on police. As these incidents like Ferguson continued, there was the realization by Mayor Johnson and others of the role of courageous and professional police who risk their lives every day and night.

Today, mayors are seeking a balance recognizing that there must be a public trust of the police officers in our nation. Mayors are in an interesting position. They must have a safe city and they will not tolerate the overuse of deadly force that has killed many Americans in our cities in recent years.

In San Francisco at our Annual Meeting, mayors and police chiefs will sit down again to review President Obama's 21st Century Policing report that he recently released in Camden, NJ. As mayors review the President's recommendations, they will determine what recommendations they can implement immediately, which recommendations might be implemented with a few tweaks, and which recommendations mayors say they couldn't implement at this time.

We thank Mayor Kevin Johnson who launched his Cities 3.0 theme in this Century of Cities, now in its 16th year. Mayor Johnson's vision is spot on and as we go forward, so will his Cities 3.0 vision and action that will make our cities new and vibrant for the 85 percent of people who live and thrive in our USA Metropolitan areas.

So many times, a President takes over as our President planning one thing and then there is an event such as Ferguson that reminds us of the saying "life is what happens when you are planning something else." Mayor Johnson this year dealt with the life he was given as our President—to confront head on the racial issues confronting sports and our police departments and our neighborhoods. We commend him for not ducking. We commend

him for insisting we talk about the issues and we do something about it to start the healing and the rebuilding of trust.

As to the "planning something else" part, Mayor Johnson has done that too. He has brought a new conversation through his 3.0 message that complements the future high-tech initiatives that will continue to be a large part of our everyday lives.

Thank you Mayor Kevin Johnson for your leadership and thank you for your exuberance and willingness to take us to new heights as we are embarked on creating new cities in this Century of Cities. And above all, thank you Mayor Kevin Johnson for bringing the challenges of race and violence to the forefront as the mayors in our organization continue in the struggle for equal justice across all aspects of our life for all the men, women, and children of our nation.

And lastly, a big huge thank you, salute, and shout out to the great Mayor of San Francisco, Ed Lee, who is producing for all of us a meeting—this 83rd Annual Conference of Mayors—that you will never forget.

Welcome to San Francisco mayors! If I can do anything to assist you, please let me know.

Declared Candidates for U.S. Conference of Mayors Leadership Vacancies 2015

As of June 12 in alphabetical order:

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (1 Opening):

New Orleans (LA) Mayor Mitchell J. Landrieu

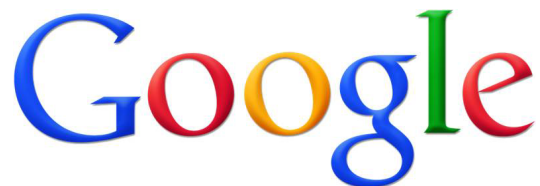
TRUSTEE (5 Openings):

Rochester Hills (MI) Mayor Bryan K. Barnett
Gresham (OR) Mayor Shane T. Bemis
Orlando (FL) Mayor Buddy Dyer
Bridgeport (CT) Mayor Bill Finch
Clarksville (TN) Mayor Kim McMillan
Pembroke Pines (FL) Mayor Frank Ortis
Allentown (PA) Mayor Ed Pawlowski
Dallas (TX) Mayor Michael S. Rawlings
Little Rock (AR) Mark Stodola
Tacoma (WA) Mayor Marilyn Strickland
Piscataway (NJ) Mayor Brian Wahler

ADVISORY BOARD (8 Openings):

Birmingham (AL) Mayor William Bell
Albuquerque (NM) Mayor Richard J. Berry
Johns Creek (GA) Mayor John Bodker
Washington (DC) Mayor Muriel Bowser
Tampa (FL) Mayor Bob Buckhorn
Dubuque (IA) Mayor Roy D. Buol
Augusta (GA) Mayor Hardie Davis, Jr.
New York (NY) Mayor Bill de Blasio
Fremont (CA) Mayor Bill Harrison
Plano (TX) Mayor Harry LaRosiliere
New Bedford (MA) Mayor Jon Mitchell
Tempe (AZ) Mayor Mark W. Mitchell
East Point (GA) Mayor Jannquell Peters
Macon (GA) Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert
Knoxville (TN) Mayor Madeline Rogero
Boston (MA) Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Rochester (NY) Mayor Lovely Warren
Dayton (OH) Mayor Nan Whaley
Westland (MI) Mayor William R. Wild

WITH APPRECIATION FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP OF
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UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
THANK YOU



Senate Appropriations Committee Funds COPS

by Laura DeKoven Waxman

The Senate Appropriations Committee reported out a FY 2016 Commerce-Justice-Science spending bill June 11 that would provide \$137 million for police hiring grants to cities and a total of \$212 million for all COPS Office programs. This is in contrast with the bill that passed the House June 3 that would have eliminated COPS hiring grants, and virtually eliminated the Office by transferring nearly all of its functions to other Justice Department agencies.

Conference CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran in a May 27 alert asked mayors to urge their Senators and Representatives to support funding for the COPS program, saying that it "has been a top priority for the Conference of Mayors for more than two decades and is a top priority for our President,

Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson." Many mayors did reach out to their delegations and urged support for COPS funding.

On June 8 Cochran sent a letter to the Appropriations Committee on behalf of all mayors urging the Committee to include funding, at least at this year's level, for COPS programs in its FY 2016 CJS spending bill. "These programs, particularly the COPS Hiring Grants, have provided cities across the nation with badly needed police officers and have helped to instill community policing in thousands of departments," Cochran told the Senators.

In addition to the \$137 million for police hiring grants to cities, the bill includes \$30 million for grants to tribes, \$10 million for com-

munity policing development, \$10 million for collaborative reform, and a total of \$25 million for anti-methamphetamine and anti-heroin efforts.

In all the Senate bill provides \$2.3 billion for state and local law enforcement and crime prevention programs, about the same amount as is available this year. This includes \$317 million for Byrne formula grants, \$68 million for Second Chance offender reentry grants, \$75 million for the comprehensive school safety initiative, and about \$166 million to address rape kit and other DNA evidence backlogs. In addition it provides \$41 billion for drug courts, \$10 million for mental health courts, and \$5 million for veterans treatment courts.

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DOLLARWISE MAYORS FOR FINANCIAL LITERACY

Join the 2015 DollarWise Summer Youth Contest!

Youth in summer jobs and programs have the chance to win iPads, Kindles and iPods for completing online financial education modules that help them save for their future.

Weekly raffles will be held every Friday, from June 26th until July 31st for youth who have completed each of the six online modules.

Youth can go to www.bedollarwise.org/syc to complete the contest modules.

Contact DollarWise Manager James Kirby at: jkirby@usmayors.org for more information.

U B E R



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Rochester Wins the 2015 Garden and Green Spaces Award with Its Urban Agriculture Garden and Training Center

By Joan Crigger

On May 21, Rochester, NY kicked off plans to develop its Urban Agriculture Garden and Training Center which is located in the Northeast quadrant of the city on the site of the old Silver Stadium, home of the Rochester Red Wings until 1996. The newly developed training center, a partnership between the City of Rochester and the Neighborhood Leadership Institute, aims to combat two issues facing residents – poor nutrition and limited access to healthy food – by encouraging individuals to take action in their neighborhoods through community gardening.

"By adding a new community garden, and giving our residents access to fresh, healthy foods, GRO1000 is helping us revitalize neighborhoods across our city," Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren said. "Efforts like these put us in a better position to attract jobs to our city and improve access to a quality education for our children."



Left to right: Steve Carbonara, Vice President, Regional Sales, ScottsMiracle-Gro and Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren watching Bill Dawson, Program Coordinator, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Columbus, OH, show children how to plant vegetables.

The garden will have many purposes including providing training and education for Youth, particularly for the Summer of Opportunity summer employment program. In addition, it will provide technical assistance and education to existing community gardens, address the food desert neighborhoods, food preservation training and be a destination garden. On the day prior to

"By adding a new community garden, and giving our residents access to fresh, healthy foods, GRO1000 is helping us revitalize neighborhoods across our city."

-Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren



Joan Crigger, U.S. Conference of Mayors, presents GRO 1000 Award check to Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren. From left, Su Lok, Director, Corporate and Community Partnerships, ScottsMiracle-Gro; Steve Carboneau, Vice President, Regional Sales, ScottsMiracle-Gro; Joan Crigger, U.S. Conference of Mayors; City Staff and Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren

the award ceremony, Mayor Warren invited those in Rochester for the award ceremony on a site visit to six other community gardens in the city to demonstrate the City's commitment to community gardening.

GRO1000 is a national program launched by ScottsMiracle-Gro in 2011 to create more than 1,000 community gardens and green spaces in the United States, Canada and Europe by 2018. The U.S. Conference of Mayors partnered with ScottsMiracle-Gro on the GRO1000 initiative to recognize mayors for the installation of innovative public green spaces designed to improve our nation's cities.

This year's winning cities include Rochester, NY, Dallas, Hartford and West Sacramento. For more information, go to usmayors.org/gro1000.



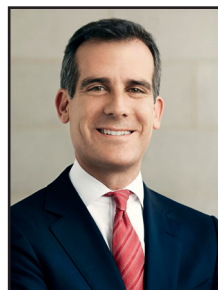
House Democratic
Leader Nancy Pelosi



Department of Labor
Secretary
Thomas Perez



Rob Manfred, Jr.
Major League Baseball
Commissioner



Los Angeles Mayor Eric
Garcetti



Chicago Mayor Rahm
Emanuel



Former Maryland
Governor Martin
O'Malley



Ambassador
Andrew J. Young



Grammy Award-Winning
Artist and Author Carlos
Santana



Grammy Award-Winning
Artist M.C. Hammer



Kaiser Permanente
Chairman and CEO
Bernard J. Tyson



Salesforce Industries
Executive Vice President
Vivek Kundra



White House
Intergovernmental Affairs
Director Jerry Abramson



Philips Lighting
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National Park Service
Director Jonathan Jarvis



Boston University
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Director Graham Wilson



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Governor Gavin
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& National Engagement
Senior Director, Metro
Engagement & Relations
Stephanie Nellons-Paige



Jim Diffley, Senior
Director, Regional
Economics, IHS Global
Insight



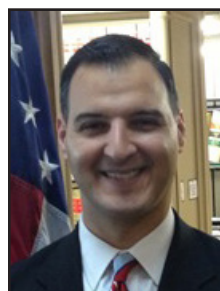
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Enterprise Growth
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Megan Smith
U.S. Chief Technology
Officer



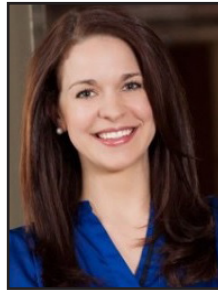
White House Director for
National Security Affairs
Community Partnerships,
George Selim



Steven Stockton, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Di-Ann Eisnor
Director of Growth
Waze



Theresa Gilbert
Director
Global Strategy Group



Ross H Garber
Partner
Shipman & Goodwin, LLP



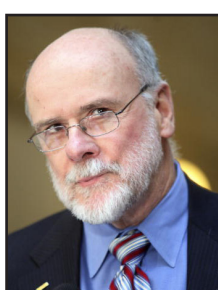
Former Los Angeles
Mayor
Antonio Villaraigosa



Amelia A. Huntington
President
Philips Lighting Americas



Trafficware CEO Jon
Newhard



Amtrak Board of
Directors Member Tom
Carper



Amtrak Board of
Directors Member
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke



Federal Railroad
Administration Acting
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Vice President National
Association of Home
Builders Steve Gallagher



David Thompson
Director
U.S. Communities



Bhavini Bhakta
Teacher, Los Angeles, CA
Plaintiff's Witness,
Vergara v. CA



SunEdison Sales Director
Pete Giese



Cynthia Stewart, Vice
President, Community
Development,
International Council of
Shopping Centers

Linebarger Goggan Recovers Millions For Cities

by Kathryn Kretschmer- Weyland

Coast to coast, cities have discovered a new source of revenue to help pay for essential public services and without raising their constituents' taxes or user fees. Chicago found over \$446 million, Denver almost \$10 million, Dallas and the Dallas Independent School District more than \$1 billion, Fort Worth \$44 million, Houston \$230 million, Las Vegas \$3.6 million, Miami and the Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts over \$88 million, Philadelphia \$100 million, San Francisco \$1.3 million, and the list goes on and on. There are literally hundreds of these successful, revenue-generating stories, and their secret – partnering with the law firm of Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, LLP.

For almost 40 years, Linebarger Goggan has been helping cities reclaim millions of dollars in lost revenue from delinquent taxes, municipal court fees and fines, traffic citations, and parking tickets. As a four-time winner of the coveted USCM public-private partnership awards, the firm strives to find the right solution for every client they serve.

In Houston, the law firm works closely with the city and the local tax collector to transform abandoned properties into attractive, property tax-generating real estate. Local properties sit vacant, creating unsafe conditions that require city action and expenditures to protect public health and safety, all while lowering the neighboring property

values. Many of these property owners are delinquent, and for years they fail to meet their tax obligations. Mayors across the country are all too familiar with this scenario.

While the collection method of last result, tax foreclosure suits are filed and tax sales are held to allow new owners the opportunity to improve the value of the property and pay taxes in a timely fashion. This program has worked time and time again from Philadelphia to El Paso. "Allowing delinquent property taxes to go uncollected places an unfair burden on those taxpayers who do pay and costs cities valuable resources that could go into supporting core city services," said Partner Scott McGlasson.

In Chicago, Miami, Little Rock, Denver and other municipalities across the country, parking tickets and traffic citations are no longer ignored by scofflaws who may have once considered such violations the cost of doing business. Working with the municipal courts, Linebarger Goggan implements a systematic program for contacting defendants and collecting valuable revenue for each city. "Our programs are all customized to the specific needs of each city," McGlasson noted. "We spend considerable time upfront working with our clients to develop the message and the program

they want in place, recognizing that many of their delinquent accounts receivable are owed by their own constituents. The goal is to collect these accounts, while treating everyone with respect and fairness throughout the collection process."

Over 62 percent of Linebarger Goggan's clients have retained their services for ten years or more, a testament to both the firm's performance and commitment to excellent customer service. Linebarger Goggan's practice is dedicated to assisting its public sector clientele improve their bottom lines by helping them recover their delinquent receivables. They could no doubt help your city as well.

The law firm has been a Platinum Partner with USCM since 2007, and a member of the Business Council since 1998. For more information, contact Kathryn Kretschmer-Weyland at kweyland@usmayors.org



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The House bill did include a floor amendment offered by Washington Representative David Reichert that added \$100 million to the Byrne JAG program to be used for hiring police officers, but the amendment cut funding for the census to do this. This provision, however, means that money is available that could be shifted to COPS hiring grants in conference.

On June 1 the White House Office of Management and Budget released its statement of administration policy on the House FY 2016 CJS spending bill as it was reported out of the Appropriations Committee. That statement registered the Administration's

strong opposition to the bill and said that "if the President were presented with H.R. 2578, his senior advisors would recommend that he veto the bill." Many reasons were listed, including not fully funding the Administration's community policing initiative and providing inadequate funding for state and local law enforcement grants. Specifically on COPS, it said: "The Administration strongly objects to the lack of funding for traditional COPS programs, including the COPS hiring program, which could result in an estimated 1,300 fewer officers and diminish the capacity of the Nation's first responders. While the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program is formula-based, the COPS Hiring Program provides hiring and retention assistance directly to communities most in need."

UPCOMING USCM EVENTS

2015

June 19-22
(Friday-Monday)

83rd Annual Conference of Mayors

San Francisco

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Sponsorship: Geri Powell gpowell@usmayors.org / 202-861-6774

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January 20-22
(Wednesday-Friday)

84th Winter Meeting

Washington, DC

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PHILIPS

Ten Key Factors in Selecting a Purchasing Cooperative

By Kathryn Kretschmer-Weyland

U.S. Communities is a nonprofit government purchasing cooperative that reduces the cost of goods and services for participating public agencies by aggregating their purchasing power nationwide. It is the only cooperative purchasing program co-founded and sponsored by The U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, and the Association of School Business Officials. The cooperative is non-exclusive, allowing cities to exercise due diligence in selecting the best individual contracts for their needs.

Since its inception in 1996, U.S. Communities has saved cities, towns, counties and other public entities hundreds of millions of dollars. U.S. Communities combines the purchasing power of over 55,000 public agencies. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has partnered with U.S. Communities because it is the gold standard for public procurement. The advisory board of cities, counties, and schools provides additional oversight.

Over time, the market has grown to include many other cooperatives. When it comes

time for cities to consider a cooperative purchasing contract, prudence must be exercised when looking at the structure of the cooperative. U.S. Communities has provided counties with a list of questions to ensure that the best cooperative purchasing processes, methods, and structure to provide the best value and protection for municipalities.

1. Was the soliciting entity an independent lead public agency that meets the standard definition of a political subdivision (city, county, school district, state, public higher education or special district)?
2. Was the development of the solicitation, evaluation of the responses and award determination all performed by public employees of a political subdivision that is separate from and independent of the cooperative organization?
3. Did a National Evaluation Team comprised of public procurement professionals from multiple political subdivisions participate in the creation, evaluation and award process?

4. Was the procurement process substantially similar to the process your agency is required to use?
5. Does the cooperative organization have independent and broad oversight of the program and its operations?
6. Does the cooperative organization conduct independent third-party supplier audits to ensure contract compliance?
7. Does the cooperative organization have adequate staff relative to the number of awarded suppliers?

See **KEY FACTORS** on page 18



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**Don't Miss the Awards Announcement at
the Mayors and Business Leaders Plenary
Breakfast Sunday, June 21 at 7:00 - 8:30 a.m.**

Mayor Swearengin Talks Trade with the President's Export Council

by Sarah Bertschy and Dave Gatton

Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin, representing The U.S. Conference of Mayors at the July 10 meeting of the President's Export Council (PEC), told its members that the Conference strongly supports passage of Trade Promotion Authority (TPA 2015) and the Administration's negotiations of trade deals with Trans-Pacific and Trans-Atlantic countries.

Just hours before, the Conference transmitted its TPA letter of support to House Speaker John Boehner and Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. The Conference letter, signed by 80 mayors including USCM President Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, said, "TPA is a critical step to ensuring that the United States and its metro economies remain leaders in the global marketplace."

Swearengin explained to the PEC why exports

of tortilla chips are sold to Korea from a Fresno tortilla chip manufacturer" she noted.

The Mayor concluded her discussion with the PEC with a comment pointed at a different audience, mayors. "We've got to work with our state and federal partners" She stated, "We've got to learn to distinguish between the value of exporters versus other types of businesses in our communities, champion their cause, help connect those companies to our customers and resources, and lastly make room for their expansion and know that success is coming."

The June 10th PEC meeting was the last for its Chairman, Boeing CEO James McNerney. Xerox CEO Ursula Burns was named the new Chair.

"We understand as mayors that exports and trade are keys to growing our economies".

-Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin

and trade take priority for mayors in cities across the country. The Mayor stated, "We understand as mayors that exports and trade are keys to growing our economies". "By lifting up and supporting exporters, wealth is generated that translates into real economic growth and revitalization of our communities," she said.

Joining Swearengin in her remarks on competitiveness were Missouri Governor Jay Nixon and South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley.

Swearengin outlined how Fresno is promoting trade and export expansion, citing the city's food and agricultural expo launched five years ago and held annually. "We've got 140 exhibitors who participate each year. We bring in buyers from around the world to see what's being produced by our people in Fresno." said Swearengin "Now 6,400 cases



Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin, right, with new President's Export Council Chair, Ursula Burns, CEO of Xerox

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USCM Plays Critical Role in Your Defined Contribution Plan

by Jeff Bean

Most large cities employ a consultant to help them monitor their defined contribution plan. The consultant not only helps the city hire and fire record keepers and investment providers, but they may also provide ongoing oversight services to be sure that city staff making decisions about the plan are fulfilling their fiduciary duties, as required by law. They also help educate decision-makers about making prudent decisions.

However, smaller cities often do not have the resources of an independent consultant, yet they have the same fiduciary obligations and liabilities as their large-city counterparts. This is where USCM can help.

Fiduciary Liabilities are the Same for All Cities, Large or Small

Smaller cities sometimes select defined contribution providers based on union endorsements or management affiliations. This may not only be detrimental to plan participants, but can also create liability for city officials making these decisions.

Fred Reisch, a partner at the law firm of Drinker Biddle, is one of the most prominent attorneys in the public and private pension market. In a recent white paper titled "Fiduciary Challenges for Evaluating Plan Fees: Investment Expenses and Revenue Sharing" (April, 2015) written by Fred and his partner, Bruce Ashton, Fred reminds us:

"As fiduciaries, plan sponsors are legally obligated to prudently select service providers and investments for their plans. When doing that job, plan sponsors must act in the interest of participants to eliminate or mitigate conflicts of interest where possible, treat participants in a prudent and fair manner, and achieve the lowest net cost consistent with the investment offered."

Cities of all size need to make decisions accordingly, whether they have the services of an independent consultant, or not. In some situations, smaller cities think that taking "no action" reduces their fiduciary liability with respect to their current investment providers and record keepers. This is not true, as Fred reminds us once again:

"Do nothing, and run the risk that the Department of Labor (DOL) or the participants will take issue with their decision. In the fiduciary environment, inaction amounts to a fiduciary decision to approve the status quo."

So, even by taking "no action" with respect to monitoring your current record keeper and investment providers, city officials have made a fiduciary decision to approve the existing arrangement in the same manner as selecting a new one.

USCM: An Important Resource

Whether you are a large city or a smaller one, USCM can help you be more effective in your duty to make wise and impartial decisions regarding your defined contribution plan:

- Smaller cities can take advantage of the USCM Defined Contribution Program, which is reviewed and evaluated on an ongoing basis. While USCM cannot act as fiduciary, they do provide continual oversight of the program and the market so you can make informed decisions with accurate, unbiased information.
- As part of our ongoing due diligence and market review process, USCM ended its relationship with our prior vendor three years ago and designed a completely new, state-of-the-art program with Empower Retirement® (Great-West). Since inception of the new program two years ago, USCM and Empower have already made enhancements each year to be sure the program retains its "market leader" status.
- USCM can help you compare your current defined contribution program to the new USCM program, including a cost comparison and unbiased analysis of plan features. This can be very important, especially if your current program has not been put to competitive bidding in the past five years.
- If you have a multi-vendor program, or have been adding vendors as a result of collective bargaining or non-bid activity, you and your city could be at risk for failure to conduct your fiduciary duties properly. USCM can help you analyze your

existing program(s) and show you what other cities of similar size have done.

USCM is Here to Help

USCM staff is here to help you understand your responsibilities, and the many options available to you. Please contact Kathryn Kretchmer-Weyland at kweyland@usmayors.org or Jeff Bean at jbean@usmayors.org for immediate assistance with this important benefit.



KEY FACTORS from page 16

8. Does the cooperative organization's staff conduct quarterly performance reviews with supplier executives and Lead Public Agency to evaluate performance and compliance?
9. Does the cooperative organization's agreement contain terms and conditions that require the supplier to provide their best government pricing to your agency?
10. Does the cooperative organization have field personnel focused on educating public agencies on the benefits of cooperative purchasing program and resolving problems or concerns?

Keeping these ten items in mind as your municipality makes decisions about cooperative purchasing will help to ensure your county saves the most money under a transparent, competitive contract.

To learn more about U.S. Communities and other purchasing best practices, please contact Jeffrey Bean, 202-446-8140 or visit www.uscommunities.org/?q=r-uscm15



CHILDREN, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Green Bay Mayor James J. Schmitt, Chair

Saturday, June 20, 11:15a.m.

Resolution No. 1: Combatting Maternal and Infant Mortality in the 21st Century states that The United States Conference of Mayors encourages Mayors and the healthcare system and Technology and Wellness Service Sectors to collaborate on ways to improve health outcomes and lives of infants and mothers.

Resolution No. 2: Urging the Integration of the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's Recommendations in the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans supports the creation of dietary guidelines that encourage Americans to adopt dietary patterns that are higher in plant-based foods and lower in animal-based foods than current average American diets, as such patterns have been found in systematic reviews to be the most health-promoting and sustainable; and urges the Secretaries of USDA and HHS and their respective staffs to incorporate the DGAC's evidence-based recommendations regarding healthy dietary patterns and sustainability in the formulation of the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Resolution No. 3: Resolution to Increase Funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) urges an increase in LIHEAP funding and urges Congress to increase the appropriations of the LIHEAP program to at least \$4.7 billion in the FY 2016 budget to respond to the high demand of eligible households.

Resolution No. 4: Opposing the Efforts of The United States Congress to Cut the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Other Provisions Within the 2014 Farm Bill opposes the efforts of Congress to make cuts to SNAP through the adoption of a Federal Budget that will make it more difficult for residents to put an adequate, healthy meal on the table, increase poverty, and further strain the emergency food systems in our cities, including food pantries and homeless shelters; and opposes any efforts to turn SNAP into

a block grant program administered by the states that would create additional confusion and reduce efficiencies in the program; and supports the promotion of food security and the health and well-being of our residents by maintaining funding levels for SNAP and other nutrition assistance programs.

Resolution No. 5: Urging the Passage of a Child Nutrition Reauthorization That Supports Healthy Meal Opportunities for Infants, Children and Teens supports the ability of cities to provide access to healthy and affordable meals before, during and after school for all children, all year long; and urges Congress to allow for more flexibility around where children are able to eat Summer Meals, by allowing them to pick up meals from sites and eat them at home, or allowing states the option to provide low-income families with additional funds for groceries during the summer, and that children be allowed to eat three meals a day through the program by removing any restrictions to the number and type of meals that may be served; and supports programs that increase access to fresh, affordable produce for children such as the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and WIC FMNP.

Resolution No. 6: Blessings in a Backpack Day supports the efforts of Blessings in a Backpack and other charitable organizations to help stop hunger amongst children in America; and has adopted the third Thursday in September as "Blessings in a Backpack Day", commencing on September 17, 2015 and continuing thereafter, whereby mayors across the United States will participate in backpack-stuffing events, providing food for children in their communities who need it most.

Resolution No. 7: Equity in Medical Research Resolution calls on the government and other funding agencies, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ensure that the

design of clinical studies includes a consideration of the sex of the subject, adequate participation of women, including women from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, and the reporting of sex-stratified findings; and calls on the NIH and FDA to base funding and regulatory approval on medical research plans that either include adequate numbers of female subjects or provide a sound rationale for why the research focuses on only one sex; and calls on the government to ensure that medical device and pharmaceutical labeling should carry a disclaimer or warning label if clinical testing did not include adequate numbers of female subjects.

Resolution No. 8: In Support of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act urges Congress to quickly pass, and for the President to sign into law, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act, in order to continue the moral obligation to stand with our nation's first responders, survivors and families whose support is needed and deserved.

Resolution No. 103: Recognizing the Accomplishments of the Coalition of the Immokalee Workers and Calling for Awareness and Action to Address Issues within the U.S. Farm Labor System recognizes the work of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers in Southwest Florida to improve farm labor wages and conditions of tomato pickers; and recognizes the producers, director, and staff that contributed to the production of the film Food Chains that helped raise awareness of the deep issues within the farm labor system; and recognizes the efforts of Wal-Mart to acknowledge the importance of an adequate wage for food producers; and urges other major retailers to follow the lead of Wal-Mart in considering the conditions of farm workers at the locations from which their produce is originating; and calls for a streamlined guest farm worker process with the goal of improving conditions and allowing for the ease of obtaining farm labor to support the production of food across the country.



CRIMINAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Houston Mayor Annise D. Parker, Chair

Friday, June 19, 3:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 20: In Support of Recommendations to Strengthen Police-Community Relations adopts as policy the recommendations of the Conference's Working Group of Mayors and Police Chiefs, calls for implementation of the recommendations of the President's Task Force on 21st Century and the Conference's Working Group of Mayors and Police Chiefs, calls upon mayors to continue working with law enforcement and the public to review community-policing procedures and to implement the recommendations included in the Task Force's Report; calls on the Justice Department to implement the recommendations directed at its agencies in the Task Force report; calls on the President to request and the Congress to provide the funding needed by the Justice Department and local police departments to implement the report's recommendations; and urges the Congress to increase federal funding for both new and existing Justice Department programs, including COPS Hiring and Community Policing Development grants and smart policing technology research and grants.

Resolution No. 21: Body-Worn Cameras states that body-worn cameras can be an important tool, that the decision to deploy them must be a local one, and that police departments need federal assistance in purchasing cameras, providing training in and establishing standards for their use, and appropriately storing data collected via cameras; calls on Congress to provide at a minimum the funding requested by the President for the Body-Worn Camera Partnership Program; and calls for increased federal funding for research into the impact of body-worn cameras and for the development of body-worn camera technology.

Resolution No. 22: In Support of the My Brother's Keeper Initiative commends the Administration, mayors and other acceptors of the MBK Community Challenge, and the Administration's MBK Task Force for its continuous engagement with public and private stakeholders; urges the Administration to continue advancing the goals outlined by the Task Force through federal policy, funding, and program alignment;

and states that mayors will continue the critical work of the MBK Initiative, in partnership with Administration and the MBK Alliance, to enhance opportunities and outcomes for boys and young men of color.

Resolution No. 23: My Brother's Keeper commends the President and his Administration for the establishment and implementation of the MBK initiative and its substantial efforts to involve cities across the nation and provide resources to them to carry out its purposes; and pledges that the Conference will continue to work through its MBK Task Force with the Obama Administration on its efforts to bolster opportunity for boys and young men of color in cities nationwide and with the MBK Alliance to help assure its resources are made available to cities to support their activities relating to achieving the six MBK focus areas.

Resolution No. 35: Supporting Federal Fair Chance Hiring urges executive action to ensure that both federal agencies and federal contractors are leading the way to open up employment opportunities for qualified job-seekers who have an arrest or conviction in their past.

Resolution No. 24: Resolution Supporting Common Sense Gun Laws that Protect Victims of Domestic Violence and Opposing Firearms Legislation that Threatens Public Safety supports laws that prohibit persons convicted of domestic violence crimes or subject to final domestic violence restraining orders from acquiring or possessing firearms and that require such domestic abusers to turn in firearms they already own and urges that states lacking such laws to enact them promptly; opposes legislation that would threaten women's lives by facilitating the acquisition and possession of firearms by dangerous domestic abusers; recognizes that mayors and local law enforcement are best positioned to adopt reasonable firearm regulations tailored to local conditions, and that laws imposing punitive penalties on or authorizing lawsuits against local officials who seek to reduce gun violence threaten public safety; and opposes state firearm preemption laws

that encourage lawsuits against local officials who seek to reduce gun violence and that require local taxpayers to bear the costs of such litigation.

Resolution No. 25: Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation Through Comprehensive Demand Enforcement And Prevention reaffirms existing policy on combating commercial sexual exploitation; commends Congress for passing the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act; states that the Conference will work with the Administration and Congress to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children and vulnerable adults, and mitigate the associated public safety, economic, and health risks to cities; calls on Congress and the White House to continue to fund local initiatives to stop human trafficking and its related harms; states that all anti-trafficking strategies should be survivor-informed while providing exit strategies and options for prostituted individuals and that all anti-trafficking strategies should focus on holding both sex buyers and pimps accountable; urges the Administration to incorporate demand reduction as a prevention strategy in the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Trafficking; urges the Administration and Congress to fully commit the resources needed to implement all of the provisions of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act; urges that training and resources be available to local governments and the criminal justice system to stop and deter sex buyers; encourages research projects evaluating the effectiveness of demand-related programs and activities; urges the development and implementation of age-appropriate prevention and education programs about the risks and harms of the commercial sex industry and anti-demand messaging; and states that Conference members should hold themselves and their employees to the highest ethical standards and promote a shift in the culture of tolerance toward purchasing a human being for sex.

Resolution No. 26: Reforming Federal Civil Asset Forfeiture calls for reform of the civil asset forfeiture system, but opposes

See CRIMINAL AND SOCIAL on page 21

the end of the Equitable Sharing Program; supports the reforms jointly proposed by major law enforcement groups which are intended to help provide clarity and higher accountability while also ensuring the ability for law enforcement to impact criminal enterprises; and calls for joining with major law enforcement organizations in calling on the Department of Justice to promulgate formal regulations that will establish clear and specific requirements for all law enforcement agencies in the United States who apply for Federal civil asset forfeiture.

Resolution No. 27: Combatting Violent Extremism in the United States applauds the Administration's recognition that local officials and law enforcement are critical to the nation's efforts to preventing terrorist acts within the United States and urges the Administration to expand its efforts to work with local officials to prevent domestic terrorism and reduce violent extremism; registers a strong opposition to consolidating the current suite of homeland security grant programs into a single National Preparedness Grant Program and instead calls for increased funding for these programs to strengthen the ability of local officials to prevent violent extremism; and calls for expansion of Justice Department grant programs, including COPS Hiring Grants, which can contribute to this mission.

Resolution No. 28: In Support of FEMA

Grants for Firefighters reaffirms the Conference's support for the AFG, SAFER, and FP&S grant programs and urges Congress in FY 2016 to prioritize public safety and increase funding for these programs.

Resolution No. 17: Supporting the Reauthorization and Revision of the National Flood Insurance Program calls on Congress to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program and address program fraud and waste, regional variations and mitigation needs, and affordability.

Resolution No. 29: Aligning Federal Policy on Floodplain Management, Climate Change, and Sustainable Communities urges the President to expressly align federal policy on floodplain management, regulations implementing the National Flood Insurance Program, and the National Objectives, Principles, and Standards for Water and Related Resources, with the Administration's policy initiatives on Climate Change and Sustainable Communities; and opposes the adoption of federal policies that would disinvest in existing urbanized areas within floodplains, and calls for modernization of the AR and A99 Special Flood Hazard Zones under the National Flood Insurance Program consistent with specified principles.

Resolution No. 30: To Commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act supports ADA25 and urges all cities to work with civic and disability partners to inspire action with commitments and legacies that fulfill the ADA's promise of equal opportunity, full participa-

tion, independent living and economic self-sufficiency of people with disabilities.

Resolution No. 31: A Resolution Supporting House of Representatives Bill 241, Amending The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 to Establish Condition Precedents to Civil Action supports enactment of HR 241 as the first step to stopping frivolous, fraudulent and unnecessarily burdensome litigation against small business owners.

Resolution No. 32: Supporting the White House Task Force on New Americans Recommendations endorses the findings of the White House Task Force on New Americans; encourages philanthropic and corporate partners to invest in the nation's future workforce and join states and localities in creating welcoming places for New Americans to participate fully and contribute to the economic success of all; and calls on states and localities to support these efforts as part of implementation and planning for the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Resolution No. 33: Citizenship Now urges US Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Department of Homeland Security to make policy changes that will increase the number of U.S. citizens from the pool of eligible lawful permanent residents.

Resolution No. 34: Immigrant Heritage Month 2015 designates June 2015 as "Immigrant Heritage Month."



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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

Newton Mayor Setti Warren, Chair

Saturday, June 20, 11:15 a.m.

Resolution No. 9: Supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program urges Congress to begin to restore the cuts to CDBG by supporting at least \$3.3 billion for the program in FY2016 and incorporating an annual inflation factor into the program.

Resolution No. 10: Supporting the HOME Investment Partnerships Program urges Congress to provide at least \$1.2 billion for the program in FY2016.

Resolution No. 11: In Support of Expanding the Moving to Work Program urges Congress in 2016 to authorize the addition of several new PHAs, without any limit as to size or number of vouchers ad-

ministered, for the Moving to Work program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development so that all cities are able to determine the fate of their future.

Resolution No. 12: Continuance of the Existing Moving to Work Program and Ability to Make Local Decisions supports the extension and expansion of the Moving to Work Program under current terms and conditions while calling for a delay in the implementation of a revised Moving to Work Program until the new program can be tested and proven to be effective and adequate guarantees are made that the most vulnerable populations of our nation are not negatively affected by the proposed changes to the program.

Resolution No. 13: In Support of the Administration's Efforts to End Veterans' Homelessness commends President Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, USICH, HUD, and the VA on their collaborative interagency efforts to end veteran homelessness and urges mayors to continue this critical work under the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness and to ensure that no veteran is left behind in our cities.

Resolution No. 14: Resolution Urging the Sale of Severely Delinquent Mortgages to Non-Profits for Foreclosure Prevention and Affordable Housing Strategies calls upon major owners/man-

See **COMMUNITY** on page 29



ENERGY COMMITTEE

Gresham Mayor Shane Bemis, Chair

Friday, June 19 3:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 36: Supporting Reauthorization/Full and Dedicated Funding of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants calls on Congress and the Administration to reauthorize and appropriate full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program in Fiscal Year 2016, while supporting higher authorization levels in future years.

Resolution No. 37: Electric Vehicles encourages mayors to continue to lead by example and 'green' local fleets while promoting the cleanest vehicles available and calls upon Congress and the Administration to promote the widespread adoption of electric vehicles in the United States by appropriating significant funding and research and development support for electric drive vehicles and electric vehicle supply equipment, as well as the deployment of electric charging infrastructure in communities throughout the country.

Resolution No. 38: In Support of In-

creasing Federal Assistance for Local Government Energy Assurance and Energy Security Efforts encourages the federal government to devote significant financial resources to local government energy assurance efforts in the coming fiscal year, while working with Mayors to establish new energy assurance planning initiatives that result in improved safety, increased resiliency and economic competitiveness at the local government level.

Resolution No. 39: Require that the U.S. Department of Energy Focus on the Safe Treatment and Storage of Radioactive Waste On-Site Where Appropriate to Mitigate Health and Environmental Risks of Transporting Low, High and Mixed Level Waste to Offsite Treatment Facilities calls on the U.S. Department of Energy to focus on the treatment and storage of radioactive waste on-site and calls upon USCM membership to

be knowledgeable about the U.S. Department of Energy's planned routes, quantities, and timing to ship radioactive waste.

Resolution No. 40: Supporting the Development of Solar Energy calls on the Congress and the Administration to promote the use of solar energy in the United States by enacting comprehensive energy legislation and appropriating significant funding for the deployment of solar energy across the nation.

Resolution No. 41: Comprehensive Energy Policy calls on Congress to enact comprehensive energy policy that recognizes metropolitan areas as the economic engines of the nation, with the cost and availability of energy as an essential component that fuels these economic engines and, as such, the nation's energy policy must be crafted

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton, Chair

Saturday, June 20, 11:15am

Resolution No. 45: Urging Congress to Fully Fund the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) and Repeal the Ban on Co-Financing WIFIA Projects with Tax-exempt Debt urges Congress to fully fund WIFIA and repeal the ban on co-financing WIFIA projects with tax-exempt debt.

Resolution No. 46: Supporting Investments in Water Infrastructure Supports S. 741 the Water Infrastructure and Sustainability Act and similar efforts to make critical federal investments toward improvements for our nation's aging water infrastructure and urges Congress and the Administration to develop solutions that will promote key investments in water infrastructure while taking additional steps to address climatological challenges.

Resolution No. 47: Resolution in Support of Clean Water in The United States supports high quality water and shared stewardship for creating and maintaining high quality, safe and affordable drinking water, through negotiation and collaboration whenever possible and through the use of the citizen suit provisions of the Clean Water Act when reasonable negotiation and collaboration have failed to produce such stewardship.

Resolution No. 29: Aligning Federal Policy on Floodplain Management, Climate Change, and Sustainable Communities urges the President to expressly align federal policy on floodplain management, regulations implementing the National Flood Insurance Program, and the National Objectives, Principles, and Standards for Water and Related Resources, with the Administration's policy initiatives on Climate Change and Sustainable Communities; and opposes the adoption of federal policies that would disinvest in existing urbanized areas within floodplains, and calls for modernization of the AR and A99 Special Flood Hazard Zones under the National Flood Insurance Program consistent with specified principles.

Resolution No. 17: Supporting the Re-

authorization and Revision of the National Flood Insurance Program calls on Congress to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program and address program fraud and waste, regional variations and mitigation needs, and affordability.

Resolution No. 48: In Support of Municipal Zero Waste Principles and a Hierarchy of Materials Management adopts a definition of Zero Waste, and set of Zero Waste principles, that recognizes a Hierarchy of Material Management and calls upon the federal and state governments to recognize the rights of local governments to enact ordinances that support strategies to reduce waste in their local communities, as part of a comprehensive zero waste strategy; and actively supports a system where producers minimize waste during product design and take responsibility for the reuse and/or recycling of these used products; and calls upon the various partners in the food industry to work with the federal government and other stakeholders to minimize food waste and calls upon Congress and the Administration to design tax, legislative and other strategies that incentivize the use of recycled over virgin materials in the manufacture of products and product packaging, as well as the local handling and management of solid waste; and encourages cities that have not already done so to work toward the adoption a similar set of zero waste principles in their own communities.

Resolution No. 49: Supporting the Reinstatement of the Superfund Tax urges the passage and enactment of legislation to reinstate the Superfund excise tax.

Resolution No. 50: Supporting the Implementation of Climate Education in High Schools Across the United States calls on cities across America to support the urgent implementation of climate education in high schools across the United States and encourages cities and mayors to partner with the Alliance for Climate Education and other like organizations to bring climate education to their schools, at no charge to cities, to teach students about the effects of climate change and give students the resources to

create solutions to tackle this national and global crisis.

Resolution No. 36: Supporting Reauthorization/Full and Dedicated Funding of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants calls on Congress and the Administration to reauthorize and appropriate full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program in Fiscal Year 2016, while supporting higher authorization levels in future years.

Resolution No. 39: Require that the U.S. Department of Energy Focus on the Safe Treatment and Storage of Radioactive Waste On-Site where Appropriate to Mitigate Health and Environmental Risks of Transporting Low, High and Mixed Level Waste to Offsite Treatment Facilities calls on the U.S. Department of Energy to focus on the treatment and storage of radioactive waste on-site and calls upon USCM membership to be knowledgeable about the U.S. Department of Energy's planned routes, quantities, and timing to ship radioactive waste.

Resolution No. 42: Supporting Cities in the Development of Local Climate Action Plans commends the Obama Administration for taking important steps to reduce carbon emissions from power plants and vehicles and commends the many cities that are actively implementing aggressive carbon-reduction plans; encourages federal agencies to act on the recommendations of that the State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; encourages the U.S. Department of Transportation to extend the flexibility of transportation funding to allow prioritization of projects that reduce carbon emissions; and recommends that the U.S. Department of Energy require states to consult with local governments in directing their State Energy Program funding; and supports continued strengthening of federal energy efficiency standards for appliances and establishment of standards for appliances not currently covered.

Resolution No. 43: Resolution in Sup-

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Alexandria Mayor William D. 'Bill' Euille Chair

Saturday, June 20, 4:45 p.m.

Resolution No. 51: Condemning the Illegal Arrest of Antonio Ledezma, Mayor of the City of Caracas, Venezuela; Urging President Barack Obama and his Administration to Demand the Immediate Release of Mayor Ledezma and Other Political Prisoners; Calling on the United States Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States to Call for an Urgent Meeting to Deliberate about the Continued and Escalating Abuses in Venezuela condemns the unlawful and forcible arrest of the Honorable Antonio Ledezma, Mayor of the City of Caracas, Venezuela, and other political prisoners and the continued acts of repression and violence against the citizens of Venezuela by their government; continues its support for the Venezuelan opposition leaders and demonstrators that are the subject of violence, intimidation, mistreatment and jailing by the Venezuelan government; strongly urges President Barack Obama and his Administration to demand that the Venezuelan government release Mayor Ledezma and all political prisoners and halt its repressive and violent actions towards its people; and calls on President Obama to request the U.S. Permanent Mission to the Organization of Ameri-

can States to call for an urgent meeting to deliberate about the continued and escalating abuses in Venezuela that are in clear violation of civil, political and human rights laws.

Resolution No. 52: A Resolution Opposing the Extension of Trade Policies urges The U.S. Conference of Mayors to support an open, fair and inclusive process for the negotiation of any trade agreement and points out that repeating old mistakes in negotiating new trade agreements would be a tragic missed opportunity to create jobs, strengthen our economy, and reduce income equality.

Resolution No. 53: In Support of Expanding Exports and 21st Century Trade Agreements reaffirms the U.S. Conference of Mayors' support of Trade Promotion Authority 2015 and calls again on the Administration to complete high standard 21st century trade agreements such as the Trans Pacific Partnership and the Trans Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; points out that such agreements contain enforceable labor and environmental standards; and calls upon The U.S. Conference of Mayors to reaffirm its call for Congress to adopt and

strengthen Trade Adjustment Assistance programs in concert with passage of TPA.

Resolution No. 54: In Support of Somali Communities to Continue Remittances to Somalia and the Horn of Africa urges support for the Somali community in the United States in their desire to support their loved ones in the Horn of Africa, and urges The U.S. Conference of Mayors to call on the Obama Administration, including the Department of the Treasury, the Department of State and the National Security Council, to work with interested parties to find a workable solution that facilitates the normal flow of remittances to Somalia without compromising the safety and security of the United States.

Resolution No. 55: Restoring a Level Playing Field Through Open Skies urges the U.S. government to initiate consultations with Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to address violations of the Open Skies policy, which distorts the international aviation market and undermines fair competition in an industry that supports 11 million American jobs and brings in \$1.5 trillion in nationwide economic activity.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Piscataway Mayor Brian Wahler, Chair

Friday, June 19, 9:30 a.m.

With a record number of first-time attendees, The Membership Standing Committee is pleased to host a continental breakfast at our orientation for those new mayors and new members. This is a great starting point to connect with fellow mayors and learn all that the Annual Meeting has to offer.

In addition, the Membership Standing Committee will meet for a special roundtable discussion among committee members and new mayors/first-time attendees on best practices and local mayoral priorities. The format focuses on engaging participants in dialogue to hear what led them to the Conference, where they'd like to be more involved, and what programs and services the Conference offers. Take advantage of this informative session to meet fellow mayors and ensure that you are capitalizing on the benefits and opportunities that are included in your membership.



JOBS, EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon, Chair

Friday, June 19 3:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 56: Supporting College Success Through Dual Enrollment endorses the Supporting College Success Through Dual Enrollment Act as a means of increasing access to post-secondary education and reducing the achievement gap.

Resolution No. 57: Supporting Tuition-Free Community College Programs supports local, state and national efforts to increase quality of community college programs and urges city, state and national leaders to take steps to make quality community college programs more accessible and affordable for students, including the proposed American's College Promise program.

Resolution No. 58: Support For The Adoption Of Digital Badging Frameworks In Cities recognizes the potential for online badging frameworks to increase educational achievement, improve equity and drive economic and workforce development in cities; and commits to work toward creating policy that allows for the adoption of a scalable and replicable digital badging framework.

Resolution No. 59: U.S. Conference Of Mayors In Support Of Establishing State-wide School Report Cards supports policy priorities for empowering parents and families and improving transparency through school report cards.

Resolution No. 60: Increasing School Leader Effectiveness And Diversity supports policy priorities for increasing the number of highly effective and diverse principals in U.S. schools.

Resolution No. 61: Public Charter School Facilities Support supports policy priorities for improving public charter school facility acquisition, funding and access.

Resolution No. 62: In Support Of A National Commitment To Build Pathways To Tech Employment supports fostering necessary partnerships between local governments, employers, public and private educational institutions, not-for-profits, and faith-based organizations to build a successful tech workforce ecosystem; and engaging employers to develop partnerships and jointly strategize on best re-

cruitment and hiring practices that promote increased diversity in the tech sector.

Resolution No. 50: Supporting The Implementation Of Climate Education In High Schools Across The United States calls on cities across America to support the urgent implementation of climate education in high schools across the United States.

Resolution No. 63: Resolution For The U.S. Conference Of Mayors "Summer Jobs For Youth" urges Congress to restore its long term commitment for a strong summer jobs program, by providing funding for year round youth activities and by ensuring that youth summer jobs are part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) strategy to close the skills gap and prepare the future workforce; and urges mayors to invest in summer jobs programs.

Resolution No. 23: My Brother's Keeper commends President Obama and his Administration for the establishment and implementation of the My Brother's Keeper initiative, and pledges to continue to work with the Obama Administration through its My Brother's Keeper Task Force.

Resolution No. 22: In Support Of The My Brother's Keeper Initiative commends the Administration, mayors and other acceptors of the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Community Challenge, and the MBK Task Force for its continuous engagement with public and private stakeholders; and pledges to continue the critical work of the MBK Initiative, in partnership with the Obama Administration.

Resolution No. 64: Accelerating Women's Economic Empowerment urges mayors to accelerate women's economic empowerment and opportunity by developing policy solutions such as advancing equal pay in the private sector, fostering female entrepreneurship, encouraging girls and young women in STEM education, establishing family friendly workplace policies, expanding childcare availability, and ensuring economic security for seniors.

Resolution No. 32: Supporting The White House Task Force On New Americans

Recommendations endorses the findings of the White House Task Force on New Americans; encourages philanthropic and corporate partners to invest in the nation's future workforce; and calls on states and localities to support these efforts as part of implementation and planning for the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Resolution No. 65: Support For YouthBuild affirms support for YouthBuild as a critically important program and supports expansion of funding for YouthBuild and restoration to its FY10 level of \$102.5 million.

Resolution No. 12: Continuance Of The Existing Moving To Work Program And Ability To Make Local Decisions supports the extension and expansion of the Moving to Work Program, and supports a delay in the implementation of a revised Moving to Work Program until the new program can be tested and proven to be effective.

Resolution No. 66: Support Social Enterprise Businesses To Create Jobs And Training For People Facing Barriers To Work, Therefore Benefiting Local Economies By Generating Taxpayer Savings And A Strong Return On Investment For Society supports and promotes the social enterprise business model by encouraging city contracts and the purchasing of quality goods and services from social enterprises; and promotes investment in social enterprise as a cost-effective and sustainable way to solve chronic joblessness.

Resolution No. 35: Supporting Federal Fair Chance Hiring urges executive action to ensure that both federal agencies and federal contractors are leading the way to open up employment opportunities for qualified job-seekers who have an arrest or conviction in their past.

Resolution No. 67: Celebrating National Arts In Education Week reaffirms the importance of the arts as an essential part of a complete and competitive education; and encourages cities to promote National Arts in Education Week (September 13-19, 2015) by working with their local school board, local arts agencies and parents.



METRO ECONOMIES COMMITTEE

Albuquerque Mayor Richard J. Berry, Chair

Friday, June 19 3:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 68: Defending the Tax Exemption of Municipal Bonds urges opposition to any proposal that would cap, limit, eliminate, or replace tax-exempt bonds.

Resolution No. 69: In Support of Ending Sequestration Now urges Congress to immediately approve legislation to prevent automatic across-the-board sequestration cuts to federal discretionary and mandatory spending from ever happening again; and urges Congress and the Administration to work together to at least prevent sequestration cuts from taking place in FY 2016.

Resolution No. 15: Recognizing the Importance of the New Markets Tax Credit in Revitalizing Economically Distressed Neighborhoods and Communities expresses support for the New Market Tax Credit Extension Act (S. 591/H.R. 855) to ensure its continued availability as a financial tool for spurring investment and revitalizing economically distressed communities that need it the most.

Resolution No. 70: Paid Parental Leave calls on cities and towns to adopt a paid parental leave law for their employees.

Resolution No. 71: In Support of Strengthening Municipal Finance by Driving Down Financial Service Fees and Borrowing Costs condemns predatory financial service practices, products and fees and insist that fees should bear a rational relationship to costs of providing respective services; and urges municipalities to seek to internally identify, and to voluntarily publish, their fee and interest payments for financial services and debt; and via such means as renegotiation, seek to strengthen their finances by recovering public funds taken in unfair deals.

Resolution No. 72: Helping Americans Build Savings and Wealth calls on Congress to make permanent the current Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit,

and to extend eligibility of such benefits to childless workers; and urges Congress to enact a Financial Security Credit for low income families that encourages them to contribute a portion of their tax refund to eligible savings accounts with federal matching funds deposited into their accounts; and urges Congress to enact a Children's Savings Account at birth or at kindergarten, for low and moderate income children for future education, training, homeownership, and other mobility enhancing activities.

Resolution No. 73: In Support of Addressing the Nation's Wealth Gap urges Mayors to work together to learn from each other ways to address the wealth gap with tools currently available; and urges Congress to: increase the value of the Earned Income Tax credit to existing recipients, through both an overall increase in the maximum credit and an increase for individuals and childless couples; require states to remove remaining asset tests from public benefits program eligibility; reduce student debt through a mixture of scholarship, repayment and debt forgiveness programs; support homeownership by increasing the availability of down payment and closing cost assistance through increased funding of the Community Development Block Grant; and increase efforts to protect the assets families already have by supporting the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's mission to restrict abusive lending tactics create fair, equitable, and transparent credit and mortgage markets.

Resolution No. 74: Support for Social Impact Financing and Pay Success Models calls on Congress to pass legislation creating a federal fund of at least \$300 million to support social impact financing transactions that will bring needed private sector capital to address social issues; and calls on the Administration to direct federal agencies to expand their efforts in social impact financing; and urges member mayors to explore the feasibility of utilizing social im-

pact financing to scale effective social services and leverage private sector investment to help more communities in need.

Resolution No. 75: In Support of Social Innovation commends the Administration, especially the Corporation for National Community Service for its work in social innovation and calls upon Congress to increase federal funding to support these effective public-private partnerships.

Resolution No. 49: Supporting the Reinstatement of the Superfund Tax urges the passage and enactment of legislation to reinstate the Superfund excise tax.

Resolution No. 13: In Support of the Administration's Efforts to End Veteran's Homelessness commends President Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Veterans Affairs for their collaborative efforts to end veteran homelessness; and urges Mayors to continue this critical work under the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness and to ensure that no veteran is left behind.

Resolution No. 76: Medal of Honor Resolution for Dorie Miller petitions Congress, the Secretary of the Navy and President Barack Obama to take action that would lead to the Medal of Honor being awarded posthumously to an American hero, Dorie Miller, for services rendered to his country during a time of great peril.

Resolution No. 77: America's Creative Industries urges members of The U. S. Conference of Mayors to bring to the attention of local, state, federal policy and lawmakers, and private sector leaders a customized creative industries comparison report by Americans for the Arts on arts-centric businesses that range from nonprofit museums, sympho-

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TOURISM, ARTS, PARKS, ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS COMMITTEE

New Orleans Mayor Mitchell J. Landrieu, Chair

Saturday, June 20, 4:45 p.m.

Resolution No. 79: Play Ball recognizes the month of August as Play Ball Month; encourages families and communities to participate in order to create sustainable enthusiasm for the game; and recognize the lessons of teamwork, perseverance, leadership, and sportsmanship the game instills into young players.

Resolution No. 80: Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture affirms that African American contributions to the nation's history be told on a national platform through the creation of the National Museum of African American History and Culture within the Smithsonian Institution, which is dedicated to the collection, preservation, research, and exhibition of historical and cultural material of the African American experience.

Resolution No. 81: In Recognition of the National Parks Service Centennial applauds the National Park Service on the arrival of its Centennial in 2016; recognizes the National Park System's contributions to our nation, as it brings in 275 million visitors and \$30 billion each year; recognizes that it helps local communities revitalize, preserve local history, and celebrate local heritage; and pledges that the Conference of Mayors will encourage Americans to 'Find Your Park.'

Resolution No. 82: Transforming America's Communities Through the Arts encourages awareness among diverse stakeholders about the power of the arts to build strong and healthy communities; reaffirms that the Conference of Mayors shares in the belief that arts are an essential part of building strong and vibrant communities; and encourages members of the Conference of Mayors to share examples with Americans for the Arts on how the arts have transformed their communities.

Resolution No. 77: America's Creative Industries encourages members of the Conference of Mayors to bring information about the importance of creative industries in the American economy to policymakers and private sector leaders; to support the 702,771 arts-centric creative businesses supporting

2.9 million jobs across the country; and to recognize the importance of arts businesses in stimulating innovation and strengthening America's competitiveness in the global marketplace.

Resolution No. 78: Local Arts Agency Census encourages local arts agencies to participate in the 2015 Local Arts Agency Census run by the National Endowment for the Arts and Americans for the Arts to create a benchmark for the financial health and programmatic trends of the nation's 5,000 local arts agencies and the communities they serve.

Resolution No. 83: Encouraging Business Partnerships with the Arts urges local businesses and local arts agencies and organizations to partner to advance, arts, business, and the community, in light of businesses funding the arts sector \$3 billion each year and partnerships enhancing community development, creating jobs, spurring urban renewal, attracting new businesses, drawing tourism dollars, and creating environments that attract skilled and educated workers.

Resolution No. 84: Federal Arts Funding reaffirms the support of the United States Conference of Mayors for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Office of Museum Services; asks Congress to give \$155 million each to the NEA and NEH and \$38.6 million for museum use; and urges the federal government to invest in nonprofit arts organizations for the economic and cultural health of the country.

Resolution No. 67: Celebrating National Arts in Education encourages member cities to promote National Arts in Education Week from September 13-19 and reaffirms the importance of the arts as an essential part of a complete and competitive education.

Resolution No. 85: National Arts and Humanities Month urges mayors to build partnerships with their local arts agencies and other members of the arts and humanities community in their cities to proclaim, to participate in, and to celebrate the month of October as National Arts and Humanities Month.

Resolution No. 86: The Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks applauds President Obama for his commitment to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund at \$900 million and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery at \$25 million, and urges Congress to reauthorize and fully fund of LWCF and support the President's request to fully fund UPARR; and urges mayors to raise awareness of the need for greater public and private investment in parks and green space.

Resolution No. 87: Creating Healthy Pet Communities urges members to collaborate and construct sustainable relationships between animal welfare organizations and the public; identify issues facing pet ownership and find practical solutions for the 68% of U.S. households that own pets; and asks that members become Healthy Pet Communities by adopting action steps.

Resolution No. 55: Restoring A Level Playing Field Through Open Skies Policy urges the U.S. government to initiate consultations with Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to address violations of the Open Skies policy, which distorts the international aviation market and undermines fair competition in an industry that supports 11 million American jobs and brings in \$1.5 trillion in nationwide economic activity.

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nies, and theatres to commercial film, architecture, and advertising companies for use in fostering creative industries and jobs in order to build economically vibrant communities.

Resolution No. 78: Local Arts Agency Census encourages local art agencies to participate in the national census so that mayors across the country will have access to important data to enhance future economic and community development planning for their cities.



TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, Chair

Saturday, June 20, 11:15 a.m.

Resolution No. 88: Support of Local Communities to Determine the Best Use of Public Educational and Government (PEG) Support for PEG Purposes Congress to amend 47 U.S. Code § 542 (g)(2)(C) to allow local communities to determine the best use of PEG support for PEG purposes.

Resolution No. 89: Protecting Local Governments Right for Fair Compensation for Use of Rights of Way calls on the Federal Communications Commission to halt its assault on the rights of local governments to require a fair rental payment for the use of public assets to provide a "for-profit" service, and commends and endorses the efforts of those communities that have challenged the FCC's "in kind" order and "Over-the Top" proposal identified above.

Resolution No. 90: In Support of Municipal Broadband applauds the FCC, under the leadership of Chairman Tom Wheeler, for preempting state barriers to municipal broadband service, which have served as a significant limitation to competition in the provision of Internet access, and encourages Congress and the Administration to pursue all legislative and regulatory avenues to allow cities and communities maximum flexibility in constructing their own broadband networks.

Resolution No. 91: Modernize the FCC's Lifeline Program to Support Broadband Adoption urges the Administration and Congress to support the modernization of the Lifeline Program to subsidize high speed internet access to eliminate the digital divide and close the homework gap, support job hunting and access to services and civic engagement, and urges the Administration and Congress to support the modernization of the Lifeline Program to subsidize each household member with an internet bill at the current subsidy rate of \$9.25 per month.

Resolution No. 92: Local Taxicab Regulation supports the regulation of public passenger vehicles for hire remaining a local concern under the control of local gov-

ernments, not state governments or the Federal Trade Commission, which demonstrates little understanding of local conditions or the principles of equity, acknowledges that local communities are in the best position to ensure their communities have regulations that protect the public as well as provide equitable, efficient and competitive service, and calls upon Uber, Lyft, and their competitors, to cease and halt all operations in municipalities until such time that they are properly regulated and licensed pursuant to law.

Resolution No. 93: Keeping Communities Safe Through Comprehensive Actions to Improve Rail Safety calls for specific additional steps to keep our communities safe, including: urging the Department of Energy to accelerate its timeline for completion of a study concerning how crude oil properties affect its combustibility in rail accidents and calling on the Department of Transportation to set appropriate federal crude oil volatility regulations based on the results of this study; calling on the Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security to work directly with Mayors, other local leaders and State officials to create clear, timely and thorough communication protocols between railroads and local responders; urging Congress to expand investments in freight rail infrastructure for projects that build safer, more reliable tracks and routes, particularly investments in at-grade crossings and rail tunnels; and calling on Congress and the Administration to provide adequate funding for first responder training and equipment to respond to and mitigate the unique hazards these shipments present; and urging railroads, crude oil shippers, and tank car lessors to accelerate both the introduction of rail cars that meet the strongest safety standards and phase outs for unsafe rail cars.

Resolution No. 94: Calling for Additional Federal Safety Measures Affecting Commercial Trucking supports collision avoidance requirements for Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCVs), the elimination of legal schedule II opioid drug use on the job by HCV drivers and a deadline for raising the minimum insurance requirements for

the trucking industry.

Resolution No. 95: In Support of Surface Transportation Board Reform and Reauthorization urges Congress to enact legislation to reform and reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board that: gives the Surface Transportation Board the authority and resources it needs to ensure fair and competitive shipping prices and service for freight rail "captive shippers"; gives the Surface Transportation Board the authority to proactively address uncompetitive and abusive pricing and service provided to "captive shippers"; and repeals the antitrust exemption enjoyed by the freight rail industry or at the very least gives the Surface Transportation Board the authority to ensure that freight railroads do not abuse their powerful combination of monopoly and antitrust exemption. It also commends Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John Thune (R-SD) and Ranking Member Bill Nelson (D-FL) for addressing this issue in a bipartisan manner, and urges the Surface Transportation Board to use all existing authority to ensure fair treatment of "captive shippers" until new STB reform legislation is enacted.

Resolution No. 96: Increase Federal Surface Transportation Infrastructure Investment urges Congress and the Administration to expeditiously enact, on a bipartisan basis, a six-year surface transportation authorization renewal, urges further that Congress and the Administration ensure that a surface transportation reauthorization bill significantly increases revenue commitments, growing highway and transit program funding to levels that more adequately address the transportation infrastructure needs of our cities and regions, and urges Congress and the Administration to provide additional emphasis to local decisionmakers and their regions in a reauthorized long-term surface transportation bill.

Resolution No. 97: In Support of a Long-Term Transportation Reauthorization commends the Obama Administration, and especially Secretary Foxx, for submitting to

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Congress an updated version of its GROW AMERICA Act, calls on Congress to consider using “repatriation” as one of the most politically viable bipartisan ideas to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent in the coming years, and calls on Congress to adopt policies and taxing mechanisms that would guarantee funding for surface transportation projects over a series of decades.

Resolution No. 98: Supporting America Fast Forward Transportation Bonds

urges Congress to create a new category of qualified tax credit bonds for transportation to stimulate infrastructure investment, which would include: \$45 billion program over 10 years, Federal government support of interest costs by granting investors an annual tax credit, state and local issuers repaying the principal with non-federal revenues, allocating 35 percent of the bond volume to all states (based on their proportion of the nation’s population) and 65 percent would be allocated at the discretion of the Secretary of Transportation among projects, and eligible projects would include: highways, bridges and tunnels; transit and intercity passenger bus or rail; and intermodal freight transfer facilities and private freight facilities conferring a public benefit.

Resolution No. 99: Support for Increased Investment in Goods Movement Infrastructure commends federal efforts to boost the freight sector, urges Congress to pass a long-term transportation reauthorization bill that increases investment in goods movement infrastructure, supports supply chain efficiency by dedicating federal funding for a multimodal national freight system, prioritizing funding for key metro corridors and gateways and providing funding for a national freight infrastructure grant program, open to metros and port authorities, allocated on a competitive basis using performance-based project selection criteria to prioritize projects that improve system performance (e.g., efficiency, safety, and resilience) and reduce environmental impacts, especially through use of advanced technologies.

Resolution No. 100: Supporting the Goals of “Vision Zero” adopts the goal

of Vision Zero – that No loss of life is acceptable on our cities’ streets, recognizes the leadership of U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx and his work on this issue through the Mayors’ Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets, and urges Congress, as it reauthorizes surface transportation programs in MAP-21, to maximize funding and flexibility to local governments, through programs like the Highway Safety Improvement Program, TIGER, and Transportation Alternatives Program, to allow for and support needed investments in safety improvements on our roads to achieve the goals of Vision Zero.

Resolution No. 101: Modernization of Airports calls upon Congress to act now to raise the federal cap on the Passenger Facility Charge to permit local airports to raise additional dollars for modernization projects to meet the growing needs of and better serve the flying public.

Resolution No. 102: Supporting Community Involvement in the Federal Aviation Administration RNAV Flight Routing Changes supports the goals of safety and efficiency in the air transportation system, supports community involvement in the review of RNAV flights paths, urges the U.S. Congress to amend the FAA reauthorization legislation by including a provision which requires the FAA to provide airports and their communities with no less than 30 days’ notice regarding the proposed RNAV flight path revisions, urges the U.S. Congress to further amend the FAA reauthorization legislation by prohibiting the use of categorical exclusions should an airport advise the FAA within the 30-day review period that the proposed flight path revisions would have a significant adverse aircraft noise impact on their community, and urges the U.S. Congress to repeal the last sentence of sections 213(a)(1)(A) and 213(b)(1)(A) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.



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agers of delinquent mortgages – including a number of major banks, Fannie Mae and HUD – to sell the mortgages to qualified non-profits that have the funding and infrastructure to purchase, service, and hold the mortgages, and a track record doing so.

Resolution No. 15: Recognizing the Importance of the New Markets Tax Credit in Revitalizing Economically Distressed Neighborhoods and Communities supports the “New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act” (S. 591 and H.R. 855), which would make certain the New Markets Tax Credit continues to be available as a financial tool for economically distressed communities, spurring investment and revitalizing areas that need it the most.

Resolution No. 16: Supporting Federal, Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs calls on Congress to fund the CDC Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Program at least at \$50 million, and to fund the HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes at \$200 million, with at least \$50 million allocated to the Healthy Homes Initiative.

Resolution No. 17: Supporting The Reauthorization And Revision Of The National Flood Insurance Program calls on Congress to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program and address program fraud and waste, regional variations and mitigation needs and affordability.

Resolution No. 18: Support For The Green & Healthy Homes Initiative And Efforts To Produce Sustainable Green, Healthy, and Safe Homes calls on Congress to provide funding for federal programs that support braiding funding streams and coordinating interventions to address home health and safety hazards and energy deficiencies and to model effective GHHI systems reforms that can be done without significant cost.

Resolution No. 19: Celebrating HUD’s 50th Anniversary commends The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its impressive achievements and its dependable support of cities across the nation.



WHICH CITIES ARE THE MOST LIVABLE IN 2015?

WHICH CITIES HAVE STRONG MAYORS WITH THE MOST INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS?

WHICH CITIES WILL HAVE THE WINNING PROGRAMS EVERYONE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT AND REPLICATING?

CELEBRATE AND LEARN AT
The U.S. Conference of Mayors
Waste Management
2015 36th Annual
City Livability Awards Luncheon
Saturday, June 20, 2015
San Francisco

TWENTY awards will be given,
divided into two categories:
Cities with populations >100,000
Cities with populations <100,000

ENVIRONMENT from page 23

port of Climate Resilience urges Congress and the Administration to provide funding for improved climate monitoring and analysis capabilities; and urges Congress and the Administration to remove policy barriers and provide funding to cities and states to improve local and regional resiliency capabilities to mitigate the substantial economic and human losses relating from these increasingly extreme weather events.

Resolution No. 44: Commending the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience applauds President Obama for convening the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; commends the efforts the Task Force's mayoral members; and urges the Administration to swiftly and fully implement the Final Recommendations of the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

ENERGY from page 22

to respond directly to the needs of cities to promote and sustain the economic health and vitality of the nation.

Resolution No. 42: Supporting Cities in the Development of Local Climate Action Plans commends the Obama Administration for taking important steps to reduce carbon emissions from power plants and vehicles and commends the many cities that are actively implementing aggressive carbon-reduction plans; encourages federal agencies to act on the recommendations of that the State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; encourages the U.S. Department of Transportation to extend the flexibility of transportation funding to allow prioritization of projects that reduce carbon emissions; and recommends that the U.S. Department of Energy require states to consult with local governments in directing their State Energy Program funding; and supports continued strengthening of federal energy efficiency

standards for appliances and establishment of standards for appliances not currently covered.

Resolution No. 43: Resolution in Support of Climate Resilience urges Congress and the Administration to provide funding for improved climate monitoring and analysis capabilities; and urges Congress and the Administration to remove policy barriers and provide funding to cities and states to improve local and regional resiliency capabilities to mitigate the substantial economic and human losses relating from these increasingly extreme weather events.

Resolution No. 44: Commending the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience applauds President Obama for convening the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; commends the efforts the Task Force's mayoral members; and urges the Administration to swiftly and fully implement the Final Recommendations of the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

Are your employees working at work?

Use your benefits program to boost engagement and productivity

By Carey Adamson, Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company

True confession time: In a new survey, employees admit they spend a significant portion of their work time ... not working.

The 2014 U.S. Worker Study recently released by Colonial Life and Unum shows employees spend 16 percent of their day on personal activities such as errands, emails and scheduling appointments, socializing with co-workers, and venting about workplace stress or conflict with co-workers.

Add in time spent at lunch and on breaks, and it totals 22 percent — nearly a quarter of each day. That's a lot of lost productivity.

What does this mean to your city and its finances? First, we think it's fair to assume employees who feel positively about their workplace are more engaged and productive — and less likely to spend valuable work time dealing with stress, conflict and personal issues. So how do you create that workplace satisfaction? One way, the survey shows, is through your benefits program, including benefits education.

Education drives benefits and workplace satisfaction. There's a high degree of correlation between how employees feel about their benefits package and how they feel about their employer, according to the 2014

U.S. Worker Study. Of employees who rate their benefits package as "excellent" or "very good," 76 percent also say their company is an "excellent" or "very good" place to work. Only 5 percent rate it "fair" or "poor."

On the flip side, employees who give their benefits package just a "fair" or "poor" rating are much more likely — 45 percent compared with the 5 percent above — to say their company is only a "fair" or "poor" place to work. And only 18 percent of these employees say their employer is "excellent" or "very good."

Let's take this one step further: How employees feel about their benefits package is closely related to how good they think their benefits education is. Of employees who rate their employer's benefits education "excellent" or "very good," a strong majority — 82 percent — also say their benefits package is "excellent" or "very good." Only 3 percent say it's "fair" or "poor."

The opposite is also true. Employees who rate their benefits education only "fair" or "poor" are far more likely to say the benefits package is "fair" or "poor." In fact, more than half (55 percent) of these employees hold this negative opinion.

Finally, employees who rate their benefits package and benefits education highly are also far more likely to say they feel energized to "go the extra mile" for their employer than those who rate their benefits lower. So there's a strong line connecting quality benefits, benefits education and employee loyalty — and that, in turn, may affect productivity. Employees who give their employer lackluster ratings say they spend significantly more time venting about workplace stress or conflict than their more satisfied peers.

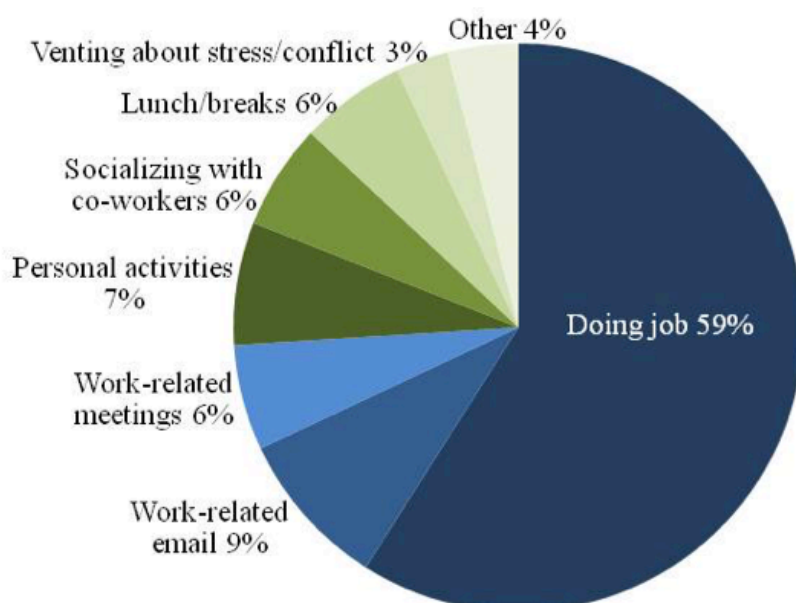
Now, we're not saying a great benefits communication plan is going to ensure employees never indulge in a little online shopping or an extra few minutes around the water cooler during business hours.

But clearly, there's a strong connection between helping your employees understand their benefits package — the benefits your company invests so heavily in — and how satisfied they are at work. And a happy, engaged workforce is essential to boosting your city's productivity and success. If you want to increase productivity, morale and retention of your top talent, a strong benefits communication program is a great place to start.

About the Author

Carey Adamson is vice president of public sector market services for Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company. Colonial Life is a market leader in providing financial protection benefits through the workplace, including disability, life, accident, cancer, critical illness and hospital confinement indemnity insurance. The company's benefit services and education, innovative enrollment technology and personal service support more than 80,000 businesses and organizations, representing more than 3 million of America's workers and their families. For more information about Colonial Life's products and services, contact Adamson at CLAdamson@ColonialLife.com or visit www.ColonialLife.com.

You can also connect with Colonial Life at www.facebook.com/coloniallifebenefits, www.twitter.com/coloniallife and www.linkedin.com/company/colonial-life.



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Host City Events Include:

- Welcome Gala: San Francisco City Hall – Friday Night
- Sunrise Walk Across the Bay: The Golden Gate Bridge – Saturday Morning
- Color of Life Global Celebration: California Academy of Sciences – Saturday Night
- Celebration of Faith and Community Service: Glide Memorial Church – Sunday Morning
- Bash by the Bay: The Embarcadero – Sunday Night
- Morning in the Park: Golden Gate Park – Monday Morning
- San Francisco Tech and Innovation Tour: Autodesk, Twitter and Uber – Monday Afternoon
- Year of the Goat Chinese Celebration: Chinatown – Monday Evening
- Family Activity Programs – Throughout the conference, families and guests will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities including boat rides to Alcatraz Island, Wine Country tours, visits to Muir Woods, Fisherman’s Wharf, and the Exploratorium, and a Presidio Play Day for the kids.

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