



The United States Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006
 Phone (202) 293-7330 • Fax (202) 293-2352
 E-mail: info@usmayors.org URL: usmayors.org

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Contact: Rhonda Spears Bell (rspears@usmayors.org)
 301-651-2126 cell
 Elena Temple (etemple@usmayors.org)
 202-309-4906 cell

Hundreds of the Nation's Mayors to Convene in Las Vegas for the 74th Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors June 2-6, 2006

**Rising Gas Prices and the Energy Crisis, Immigration, Poverty, Tasers,
 Internet Predators, and Avian Flu Top Agenda**

***Key Resolutions to be Considered Include Immigration Reform, Eminent Domain,
 Mandatory Minimum Sentences, and Drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge***

Washington, D.C. – The nation's mayors, led by Conference President and Long Beach, CA Mayor Beverly O'Neill, will gather in Las Vegas from **June 2-6 for the 74th Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM)**, hosted by Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman.

The mayors will discuss a variety of issues impacting America's cities including **record-level gas prices and rising fuel costs, poverty, immigration, internet predators, Avian Flu, eminent domain, tasers, prisoner re-entry, homeland security, homelessness, transportation, telecommunications, public education, and the on-going fight to save the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).**

Key policy resolutions to be considered include immigration reform, expanding HUD's definition of homelessness, opposing mandatory minimum sentences, and opposing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

Confirmed participants include Senator John McCain (AZ), New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Beijing, China Mayor Wang Qishan, President of the China Association of Mayors and host of the 2008 Summer Olympics, Paul Helmke, Incoming President of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Handgun Violence, and R. David Paulison, Under-Secretary-Designate for FEMA.

The 74th Annual Meeting of The U.S. Conference of Mayors will be held at the Paris Hotel, June 2-6, 2006.

All press **MUST** register to gain access to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting events. Advance registration is recommended. Press can pre-register online at www.usmayors.org/74thAnnualMeeting, as well as, access the full agenda, press releases and media advisories. On-site registration will also be accepted in the working press office at the Paris Hotel in the Versailles 1 room located on the casino level.

Working press covering any part of the meeting will be required to show a valid press identification with photograph. Only registered, credentialed members of the press will be permitted access to meeting events.

(more)

Highlights of the meeting include:*(All events are at the Paris Hotel or Bally's Hotel unless otherwise noted)***Friday, June 2:****7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.****Habitat for Humanity House Build/ National Arbor Day Foundation Tree Planting**
(1425 Hassel Ave., Las Vegas)

All mayors are invited to the tenth year of the "Habitat House the Mayors Built". Mayors will help frame a house, sponsored by Freddie Mac, for a Las Vegas family. In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the National Arbor Day Foundation's "Tree City" program, mayors will also be planting trees in conjunction with the Habitat home build. The National Arbor Day Foundation is recognizing mayors whose cities have been designated a "Tree City."

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*Vendome C, Casino Level
Paris Hotel***Community Policing Workshop – TASERS:*****What Every Mayor Needs to Know***

This workshop will attempt to provide information from all sides of the debate about this new controversial technology used by law enforcement officers.

Moderator: **Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz**Panelists: **- John Timoney, Miami Chief of Police****- Tom Smith, President, TASER International****- Scott Greenwood, National Board Member and Former General Council,
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Ohio****10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.***Director's, Casino Level,
Bally's Hotel***Community Trees Task Force**

This new task force will examine challenges facing local urban forestry programs, such as the Asian long horn beetle, and will develop best practices of local community trees programs.

Chair: **Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann****10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.***Skyview 1, 26th Floor
Bally's Hotel***Hunger and Homelessness Task Force**

In the last few years, over 200 communities across the nation have developed 10-Year Plans to end chronic homelessness. This session will explore the elements of several outstanding plans, and conclude with an overview of innovative approaches to end hunger in America.

Chair: **San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom**Speakers: **- Philip F. Mangano, Exec. Dir., U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness****- Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman****10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.***Skyview 2, 26th Floor,
Bally's Hotel***Urban Water Council**

This session will focus on the impact of Global Warming on community water resources.

Chair: **Albuquerque Mayor Martin J. Chavez****12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.***Champagne Ballroom,
Casino Level, Paris Hotel***Health Luncheon****Mayoral Best Practices on Healthy Cities**Presentations: **- Dallas Mayor Laura Miller****- Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer**Remarks: **- Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann****2:00 p.m.***Versailles 2
Casino Level, Paris Hotel***OPENING PRESS CONFERENCE**

Overview of key issues to be discussed during the 74th Annual Meeting

- Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill, President of USCM**- Dearborn Mayor Michael Guido, Vice President of USCM****- Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer, Chair of the Advisory Board, USCM****- Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Host****- Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa - Poverty**

- **Elizabeth, NJ Mayor J. Christian Bollwage - Internet Predators**
- **And other key mayors**

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Vendome A, Casino Level
Paris Hotel

Poverty, Work and Opportunity

The Task Force on Poverty, Work and Opportunity has adopted two complimentary challenges to create a national policy agenda for the Mayors and to build a well founded platform from which Mayors from across the country will speak, with a unified voice, on a "Real Opportunity Agenda" for America.

- Presiding: **Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa**
 Chair, Poverty, Work and Opportunity Task Force
- Moderator: **Willie L. Brown, Jr., Former Mayor of San Francisco**
- Panelists: - **Jack Kemp, Former Member of Congress & Former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development**
 - **Bruce Katz, The Brookings Institute**
 - **Connie Rice, The Advancement Project**
 - **Matthew Miller, Center for American Progress**

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Vendome B, Casino Level
Paris Hotel

Solving the Nation's Energy and Environmental Crisis

This interactive session will provide mayors with briefings from national experts on the issues of climate change, rising gas prices, and energy costs. Find out what the experts and Mayors are doing through innovative best practices to help alleviate the "pain at the pump" and reduce the economic and environmental impact that high energy prices have caused.

- Presiding: **Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill, President, USCM**
- Speakers: - **Dr. Heidi Cullen, Climate Expert, The Weather Channel**
 - **Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chairman U.S. Green Building Council**
 - **Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, One-Year Anniversary of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Vendome C, Casino Level
Paris Hotel

Missing and Exploited Children: The Role of Mayors in Protecting our Youth

This interactive session will provide mayors an opportunity to hear from national experts and share best practices about what can and is being done to help parents, families and communities protect children from sexual exploitation and abduction.

- Moderator: **Elizabeth, NJ Mayor J. Christian Bollwage**
 Chair, Criminal and Social Justice Committee
- Panelists: - **Bob Miller, Former Governor of Nevada**
 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - **Herb Jones, Vice President, External Affairs**
 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - **Mark D. Epley, Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice**
 - **Suagar Land, TX Mayor David G. Wallace**

Saturday, June 3:
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Champagne Ballroom,
Casino Level, Paris Hotel

Mayors Business Council Plenary Breakfast

Doing Business In Las Vegas –America's Fastest Growing City

Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Chair of the Mayors Business Council, and his dynamic team share their strategies and best practices for establishing the business friendly environment that makes Las Vegas the fastest growing and most profitable city in which to work and do business.

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Concorde Ballroom B & C
Casino Level, Paris Hotel

Opening Plenary Session

- **USCM President Long Beach (CA) Mayor Beverly O'Neill**
- **Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Host**
- **Beijing, China Mayor Wang Qishan, President, China Association of Mayors**

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
*Champagne Ballroom,
 Casino Level, Paris Hotel*

74th Annual Luncheon: City Livability Awards

This annual luncheon features the 27th Annual City Livability Awards honoring Mayors for exemplary leadership and achievement in developing programs that enhance the livability of America's cities.

- **Speaker: Senator John McCain (AZ)**
- **Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa**

Sunday, June 12:

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
*Skyview 5, 26th Floor,
 Bally's Hotel*

Workshop: Pandemic Flu Preparedness: Are We Ready?

This session will continue our dialogue on local flu preparedness initiatives in light of the Administration's recently released "National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza."

Moderator: **Seattle Mayor, Greg Nickels**

Remarks: **Dr. Richard M. Besser, Director, Coordinating Office for
 Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response
 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
*Skyview 2, 26th Floor,
 Bally's Hotel*

Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Task Force

This session will discuss Successful Reentry: The Mayor's Role in Reintegrating Returning Offenders Back into the Community.

Chair: **Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street**

Vice-Chair: **Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz**

Panelist: **Congressman Danny K. Davis (IL), *Second Chance Legislation***

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
*Skyview 3, 26th Floor,
 Bally's Hotel*

Homeland Security Task Force

Chair: **Sugar Land (TX) Mayor David G. Wallace**

Remarks: - **George Foresman, Under Secretary for Preparedness
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security**
 - **R. David Paulison, Under Secretary-Designate for FEMA
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security**

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
*Skyview 1, 26th Floor,
 Bally's Hotel*

Vacant and Abandoned Properties Task Force

This task force meeting will provide mayors with a guidebook for tackling the problems of abandoned properties. Mayors will also receive a "Best Practices" publication of more than 20 city strategies on vacant and abandoned properties, and discuss with experts how some of those best practices were developed and implemented.

Chair: **Bridgeport Mayor John M. Fabrizi**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
*Concorde Ballroom B & C,
 Casino Level, Paris Hotel*

Plenary Session

Speakers: - **New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson**

*National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's
 Transportation Network*

- **Secretary Norman Mineta , U.S. Department of Transportation**

Monday, June 5:

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
*Skyview 5, 26th Floor,
 Bally's Hotel*

Cities for a Strong America Transportation Investment Workshop

This session provides the mayors with an opportunity to interact with key transportation policy stakeholders on significant investment challenges in America's cities and suburbs.

Chair: **Denver Mayor John W. Hickenlooper**

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Skyview 2, 26th Floor,
Bally's Hotel

Council for the New American City

Chair: **Detroit Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick**

Remarks:

The State of U.S. Metro Economies: Strained Wages in a Growing Economy
 - **James Diffley**, Senior Vice President for Regional and Economic Analysis,
Global Insight, Inc.
 - **Richmond (VA) Mayor L. Douglas Wilder**
 - **Birmingham Mayor Bernard Kincaid**

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Skyview 6, 26th Floor,
Bally's Hotel

Workshop: Using Eminent Domain to Promote Economic Development in the Post Kelo Era

Panelists will discuss how cities are using eminent domain to promote economic development as well as provide an update on Congressional and state legislation that would impose severe restrictions on local use, in response to last year's Supreme Court's decision in the City of New London v. Kelo.

Moderator: **Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett**
 Chair, Standing Committee on Urban Economic Policy

Presentations: - **Carmel (IN) James Brainard**
 - **Riviera Beach Mayor Michael Brown**
 - **Robert Dreher**, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown Environmental Law and Policy Institute

8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Skyview 3, 26th Floor,
Bally's Hotel

Sustainable Development Task Force

Chair: **Redmond Mayor Rosemarie Ives**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Concorde Ballroom B & C,
Casino Level, Paris Hotel

Business Plenary Session

Speakers: - **Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley**, *Energy Independence*
 - **Paul Helmke**, *Incoming President, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Gun Violence Prevention*

Tuesday, June 6:

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Champagne Ballroom 3&4
Casino Level, Paris Hotel

Inaugural Breakfast Honoring the President-Elect of The U. S. Conference of Mayors and Installation of New Officers

- **Inaugural Address** by USCM President-Elect, Dearborn (MI) Mayor Michael A. Guido

WHO:

The United States Conference of Mayors

Long Beach (CA) Mayor Beverly O'Neill, U.S. Conference of Mayors

Dearborn (MI) Mayor Michael Guido, Vice-President, U.S. Conference of Mayors

Trenton (NJ) Mayor Douglas Palmer, Chair of the Advisory Board, U.S. Conference of Mayors

Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Host

Tom Cochran, Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors

WHAT:

74th Annual Meeting

WHEN:

Friday, June 2 - Tuesday, June 6, 2006

WHERE:

The Paris Las Vegas
3655 Las Vegas Blvd., South
Las Vegas, NV
(702) 946-7000

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