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FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA LAUNCHES "LET'S MOVE" NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO END CHILDHOOD OBESITY

By Crystal D. Swann

First Lady Michelle Obama launched her legacy initiative – *Let's Move!* – a campaign focused on ending childhood obesity in this generation February 9. During a White House event, the First Lady outlined her strategy for helping this generation of children become healthier and more active. "These words – 'overweight' and 'obese' – they don't tell the full story," Obama said when discussing why she is making this her signature issue as First Lady. "This isn't just about inches and pounds or how our kids look. It's about how our kids feel and how they feel about themselves. It's about the impact we're seeing on every aspect of their lives."

With one in three American children overweight or obese, putting them at higher risk of developing diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and other illnesses and billions of dollars spent every year treating obesity-related conditions, public health experts say today's kids are on track to have a shorter lifespan than their parents.

Let's Move! is aimed at solving the childhood obesity problem in a generation, so that children born today can reach adulthood at a healthy weight.

Joining First Lady Obama were Somerville (MA) Mayor Joseph Curtatone and Hernando (MS) Mayor Chip Johnson.

Curtatone's "Shape Up Somer-

See **LET'S MOVE!** on page 16



First Lady Michelle Obama pre-announces her national childhood obesity initiative at the USCM Winter Meeting on January 20.

Administration's FY 2011 Budget Would Eliminate Energy Block Grants – Many Key City Programs Increased

Kautz to Fight for Green Jobs Block Grants

By Larry Jones and Conference Staff

The President submitted his budget request to Congress on February 1, proposing significant increases for a number of city priority programs in

Fiscal Year 2011. The proposal calls for: doubling Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) from \$298 million to \$600 million; adding \$110 million to the Homeland Security First Responder Programs; increasing the Choice Neighborhoods public housing program for severely distressed residents from \$65 million to \$250 million; adding an additional \$989 million to the Head Start early childhood development program; increasing Youth Training and Summer Youth Jobs by \$100 million; and increasing

Homeless Assistance Grants by \$190 million. These are just a few of the many increases called for in the new budget for city priority programs.

Also Community Development Block Grants, which provide direct funds to local governments to promote community and economic development, would receive level funding at \$3.990 billion. The Byrne Justice Grants, which provide assistance to local communities to help curb violent crimes, would also be level funded at \$519 million.

Further, the President's budget includes a new \$4 billion National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund to encourage investments in projects of regional or national significance. Funds would be available in the form of grants, loans or a combination of both to local and state governments on a competitive basis. Multimodal projects including highway, transit, rail, aviation, ports and maritime would be eligible for funding.

President Obama also requested

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TO THE MAYOR FROM THE CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Washington (DC)
February 12, 2010

Jobs Bill-Blizzard-Congress Shut Down

The 2010 record-breaking blizzard has shut down Congress and stalled further the much needed jobs bill that will provide jobs for the thousands of Americans without work living in our metro areas.

House passed, still being negotiated by the Senate; this jobs legislation is now the number one priority of our new President, Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz and our nation's mayors.

In San Antonio (TX) this week, President Kautz took our "2010 Metro Agenda for America" to the International Franchisers Association, as she and Past President Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer heard from small business and franchise owners about their needs as they live and face each hour, each day and each week, their bottom lines and their payrolls. The joint priority concern of both the nation's mayors and small business owners and franchise operators is creating stronger small businesses in our metro areas. President Kautz continues to say that making our small businesses stronger will create and save jobs for Americans who fear the loss of their jobs or for those who unfortunately have already lost their jobs and are now out of work.

In Washington, as the blizzard freezes political action, press reports continue to feature leaked information as to what is in and what is out of the Senate jobs bill. President Kautz has been back in DC after our January Winter Meeting, and she met with Senators advocating a more balanced approach to regular state highway funding. She strongly argued on behalf of the mayors that the current distribution mechanism needs changing to move the funding needle to a more equitable distribution of funds between the states and our metro areas. Today, traffic rules in our metro areas – causing misery, and unemployment rages – causing pain, suffering and indignation to the woman or man who wants work to pay their rent or mortgage, buy food and provide for themselves,

their loved ones or their family. Congress needs to understand this before they get hit hard this November when they face frustration and outrage against Washington.

Until Congress modernizes the national transportation funding system to meet the needs of 2010 and forward, we do have the transportation TIGER grants. Transportation Secretary LaHood lauds this program at all our meetings and funded at \$1.5 billion, Charleston Mayor Joe Riley, a strong advocate, points out that there are applications at the Department of Transportation for projects that total an effective utilization of \$57 billion. These grants are not in the House-passed jobs bill. We are urging the Senate to include them now.

Absent from the House bill and having support in the Senate is funding for another top mayoral priority – the continued funding of our green job energy block grants, our new initiative administered by The Department of Energy. Today, we have 1016 USA mayors within our Conference of Mayors Climate Center all ready to use these grants to create green jobs. There is a disconnect in Washington and failure to recognize by some as to the vital role of mayors and cities when it comes to creating green jobs. Together, we must push for green jobs energy block grants inclusion in the Senate jobs bill.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa continues to be an advocate for additional summer youth jobs funds. Jobs are needed for the youth and he sees a direct relationship to lower crime when funds are there for our youth. We request the Senate to increase these funds over the amount in the House-passed bill.

The give and take, conference calls with Senate staff and USCM staff, e-mail after e-mail flow are all intensely centering on components to be included in the Senate jobs bill as U.S. Mayor goes to press. Things are moving. We just have to make sure the final bill is written so that the jobless persons in our metro areas are employed.

President Kautz will preside over our 2010 Winter Leadership Meeting week after next – February 24 to 25 – here in DC. It is most important that you join us as we still need heavy lifting to convince Congress that any jobs legislation providing precious federal funds to be sent from Washington MUST come to our cities and metro areas where unemployed Americans are without jobs and are doing their best to make it through this national economic downturn.

We still need lots of political work centered on Congress. It's not a matter of cities vs. states. It's about Congress investing in a way that will give the biggest bang for the buck. The issue is whether Congress sends money to where the overwhelming majority of the unemployed lives and wants to work every day.

The political polls tell us what the mayors know without the polls telling them and that is the fact that people in our cities and metro areas out of a job want a job now. The unemployed out there don't think Washington right now is on their side. They are sick and tired of the gridlock. They perceive a Washington tied up with health care legislation and helping the banks, Wall Street and the fat cats.

People want Washington to focus on Mainstreet, and if Washington doesn't watch out, people are going to focus on the incumbents when they face the ballot boxes this year.

A large percentage of the American voters think the \$787 billion dollars spent in the first stimulus went straight to bail the banks and Wall

Street out. The general public doesn't know just how close we came to losing the economic structure when this recession hit.

As Dr. Larry Summers told us in The White House last month, the states did not get the shaft in the last stimulus. That's true! We know the states spent and are spending the money as they see fit. The fact is that so many American citizens are not aware of what happened to the billions that were sent to the states because the mayors and large urban counties officials did not get the chance to coordinate metro funds for the unemployed centered in our more densely population places. Charleston Mayor Joe Riley continues to strongly make the point. People have to feel it. People have to see it. Projects in our cities not only would put millions to work – and even more – it would give confidence again to Mainstreet American people that Washington is working for them.

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By Elizabeth (NJ) Mayor J. Christian Bollwage

Since its inception, the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office has invested more than \$12 billion to enhance crime fighting technology, support crime prevention initiatives, as well as provide training and technical assistance to help advance community policing. By increasing communication and interaction with the citizens they protect, the COPS program has successfully changed community policing.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton signed the COPS Program into law in an effort to place 100,000 new police officers on municipal streets. Cities like Elizabeth used COPS grant funding to hire police officers dedicated to working with the community, improving relationships and addressing specific neighborhood crime.

During the years following the

COPS Hiring Grants Helping Reduce Crime in America's Cities

creation of the COPS Office, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has actively encouraged the adoption and refinement of community policing strategies, as well as the integration of law enforcement initiatives with other local government activities. Through the COPS Program, a total of 55 police officers have been hired in Elizabeth, which is New Jersey's fourth largest municipality. Crime rates in the city have dropped 46 percent from that time period and continue to decrease.

Due to the hard work of legislators throughout the country and the new administration's commitment to recovery efforts, \$1 billion in Recovery Act funding was allocated to the COPS Office, allowing the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) to create and/or preserve 5,000 law enforcement positions at state, local and tribal levels.

After last year's announcement by Vice President Biden, interest in the competitive grant was abundant. As a result, the Conference of Mayors



Photo by Dan Garcia / La Voz Newspaper

Elizabeth (NJ) Mayor J. Christian Bollwage congratulates 18 new police officers after a swearing-in ceremony attended by Senator Frank Lautenberg and Congressmen Donald Payne and Albio Sires. Seventeen of the new recruits are being funded through a \$4.9 million Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP).

hosted a webcast sponsored by the Justice Department. Featuring top officials from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the COPS office, the webcast provided information about how to apply and eligible activities. Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran moderated the session during which Acting Assistant Attorney General for Justice Programs Laurie Robinson and Acting COPS Office Director Tim Quinn answered questions and briefed viewers on the program.

Within a few months of submitting the CHRP application, Elizabeth was awarded \$4.9 million to hire 17 new police officers. Thanks to the efforts

of the Conference of Mayors, local New Jersey legislators, such as Senators Frank Lautenberg and Robert Menendez, as well as Congressmen Donald Payne and Albio Sires, 18 Garden State municipalities received more than \$26 million for a total of 123 new police officers.

There is an immediate need for multifaceted programs that provide municipalities with the resources to increase services and positively impact the lives of residents. The ability to create jobs, lower crime, and promote innovative approaches to securing municipalities makes the COPS Program unique and essential to overall growth and success.

The ability to create jobs, lower crime, and promote innovative approaches to securing municipalities makes the COPS Program unique and essential to overall growth and success.

COCHRAN from page 2

We still believe we can turn this around.

The recent election of Senator Scott Brown was not a surprise to many mayors. We lost two dynamic mayors in our own leadership who faced the ballot and were victims of a ravenous electorate who wanted change and action.

As Washington – Congressional leaders and President – push the reset button to move toward what we have been pushing from day one – jobs for the unemployed, Conference of Mayors President Kautz has pledged to work with President Obama and Congressional leaders. Mayors want to be a part of the next move and that's why we must this time around have a jobs bill that

puts people to work in our cities and metro areas.

Mayors of this great nation are united behind President Kautz and her 2010 Metro Agenda for America. We need you in Washington February 24-25 as we work with The White House and with the Congress to focus on providing jobs now. I look forward to seeing you then. Meantime, if I can be of any assistance and service to you during these challenging times, please let me know.



Oklahoma!

Oklahoma City is the place to be for the 78th Annual Conference of Mayors June 11-15.

Registration opens early March.

Contact Carol Edwards at 202-293-7330 or visit our website at usmayors.org.



Mayors Mobilize USA Cities to Haiti's Need After Deadly, Destructive Earthquake

Cities across America mobilized in the days following the January 12 earthquake that devastated the island nation of Haiti, sending rescue teams and critically needed medical personnel, equipment and supplies. Mayors and leaders of churches and charities reached out to their communities, providing information on the donations most needed by the tens of thousands of Haitians who found themselves without shelter, food, or water in the wake of the disaster, and serving as collection points for donations.

National organizations, such as the American Red Cross and the Clinton-Bush Haiti relief effort established by The White House, were highly visible and trusted channels for donations of the money that was most desperately needed for the massive initial rescue and stabilization effort. Less visible were the locally created responses to the disaster that were launched in individual cities, large and small, across the nation. Recently, several of those cities reported on their efforts – both single initiatives and broad citywide programs – to The U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Florida's cities, not surprisingly, have been actively engaged in relief efforts.

Riviera Beach Mayor Thomas A. Masters has been organizing the larger Palm Beach County community on behalf of Haiti since 2008, when a series of major hurricanes struck the island. At that time, the mayor created Palm Beach County Haiti Relief, and marshaled his considerable volunteer resources and effort to support the struggling nation. In that year, Masters established a Sister City relationship with

Port-au-Prince, inviting the city's mayor to Riviera Beach city hall on two occasions. He organized a huge outreach effort that saw more than 24,000 pounds of food collected from his office in city hall. Because of his close ties to the Riviera Beach-

and it fast became a coalition of governments and non-governmental organizations, including the local Urban League, the Minority Law Enforcement Association, the offices of a local state representative and a Congressman, and the Haitian



Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, at podium, with Haitian Consul Jean Coriola, Chicago Fire Department officials, faith-based leaders including clergy members from the Haitian community, and local Haitian leaders at a January 23 press conference to announce Chicago's donation of three ambulances stocked with critical supplies and other local coordinated humanitarian efforts to assist the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

based Port of Palm Beach and the involvement of a port commissioner in the effort, the donated container was shipped at no charge. Through World Harvest Missions, which was already working in Haiti, arrangements were made for the container to be docked and opened, and people quickly served.

Based on this experience, Masters was able to act quickly when the earthquake struck. He reactivated Palm Beach County Haiti Relief,

Nurses Coalition. Another partner, Missionary Flights International, provided free charter jet service. All fire stations stayed open to accept donations. As the bishop of a local Baptist church, the mayor also networked with area houses of worship to receive donations, and he called on his fellow council members to seek donations in their districts. He brought a short-term storage container company on board, which in turn located boxes across the county at no charge.

The first flight went to Haiti on January 18, loaded with medical supplies, able-bodied help, food and water, doctors and nurses. A second flight arrived a week later, bringing 65 doctors and nurses aboard, plus more than 3,200 pounds of medical supplies. The medical personnel on this trip were able to establish a makeshift hospital/clinic and pharmacy in Petionville, and staffed it themselves with the supplies they brought. Masters indicated that because there was no middleman they were able to get their supplies directly to the people.

Once in Haiti, the mayor was told by local security to wear his cleric's collar and hat to be safe. He was

able to walk alone amongst the Haitian people and helped set up the hospital/clinic pharmacy; spoke directly to other caregivers and medical personnel on the ground about their service needs; coordinated lodging, transportation and security on the ground for the personnel and volunteers who came over with him; conducted interviews with local media as part of an appeal for help; and communicated directly with the Haitian people offering encouragement, comfort and prayer. The mayor plans a third trip to Haiti in the coming weeks to continue his work with sister city Port-au-Prince.

Doral has joined the Miami-Dade League of Cities' Haiti earthquake relief efforts, contributing \$50,000 to those efforts, and is also getting the Doral community involved in donating food, clothing, and medical supplies, and volunteering to get as much help as possible to Haiti. The city currently has four drop-off locations for donations of supplies and has created a Haiti Relief Efforts Hotline for residents wanting information on how to donate or volunteer. Cash donations are being handled by the Rotary Club of Doral Foundation, which is partnering with the city in relief efforts. Staff and volunteers are working most weekdays and weekends to pack the supplies that come in; they are being transported to Haiti through the assistance of private donors and delivered there to the Rotary Club in Haiti for distribution. The city is in the process of shipping two 40-foot containers, one filled with essential supplies such as water, food, and medicine, the other filled with items such as clothing, shoes, and bedding. Logistics for landings in Haiti are being arranged through the locally based U.S. Southern Command.

North Miami is seeking contributions from residents for the American Red Cross's Haiti relief effort, and the city council approved a \$25,000 donation. The city is partnering with the Center for International Disaster Information on a community outreach campaign focusing on long-range emergency responses to the earthquake. Another partnership, with Family Corners, Inc., provides counseling for South Floridians who have suffered a loss as a result of the tragedy or are trying to cope with other problems related to the disaster.

North Miami Mayor Andre D. Pierre, the North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Haitian Lawyers Association, Inc. hosted a free Temporary Protected



Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio with local Haitian leaders.

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Mayors Helping Haiti

HELPING HAITI from page 4

Status (TPS) application drive for qualifying Haitian nationals, which helped 200 eligible nationals complete the required applications. The city's Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) hosted children, parents, and guardians affected by the events in Haiti in an afternoon of art-making February 13. In "HeArt to HeArt for Haiti," MOCA instructors, including Creole-speaking instructors, will guide participants through exercises designed to encourage expression, exploration, and healing.

The city partnered with Radio Coin and WLQY 1320 AM in an effort designed to collect specific items needed by North Miami's sister city in Haiti, Delmas. The donations were accepted, containerized, shipped, and distributed in Delmas through a unique inter-city relationship involving elected officials in both municipalities.

Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio contacted the American Red Cross to ascertain the most pressing need for assistance, then used emails and newsletters to encourage all city employees and residents to donate to the Red Cross. The mayor met with a cadre of leaders from Tampa's Caribbean and Haitian community to pledge the city's support in addressing the crisis. A city liaison and the mayor's Administrative Assistant have been appointed to assist with Tampa's relief efforts. Initiatives include a 5K run held February 6; a public service memorial to be held February 19 at the city's new waterfront park; and a fund-raising telethon/concert to be held March 3.

Coral Gables is collecting donations for the victims of the earthquake at all of the city's police and fire stations. The city's Office of Public Affairs is serving as the central contact point for information on how to help Haiti, encouraging cash donations and providing information on how to contact the American Red Cross and other organizations involved in relief efforts. The Coral Gables branch of the Miami-Dade Public Library System is also serving as a donation collection site.

Coconut Creek launched a food, water, and clothing drive within a

few days of the earthquake, promoting it in the city's e-newsletter and Facebook page. Community support is described as overwhelming and donations continue to pour into city hall, the Community Center, and the Recreation Complex. Monarch High School students are learning to produce "Houses for Haiti," miniature houses mounted on pins and magnets and sold to raise additional funds for Haiti relief.

Hallandale Beach responded immediately to the earthquake in Haiti. The relief effort, led by the city and Hallandale High School, included placement of collection boxes for food, clothing, medical supplies, tents, sleeping bags, and other necessary supplies in all city parks and city facilities and at the high school. No less than two city employees worked around the clock collecting the donated items and transporting

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Poster for Concert in Auburn (WA) to raise money for Help Haiti Relief Fund.

them to the high school, which served as the local collection site. Hallandale Beach's elementary school has enrolled five Haitian children affected by the earthquake. Information on the relief effort was placed on the city website and sent out via the email notification system, carried in the local newspaper, and broadcast on the city's AM radio station.

Sunrise city officials contacted the regional Sun Sentinel newspaper within 72 hours of the earthquake, getting into print information on the city's receiving points for Haiti relief



Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez, second left, with community leaders at the Relief Donation Station.

donations. An employee newsletter and the city website were used to inform city workers about opportunities to make donations at selected public buildings throughout the city. The business community was contacted directly and through the local Chamber of Commerce.

A fire station served as the main collection point for the public at large. Received were more than 20,000 pounds of clothes, enough to fill four 24-foot-long U-Haul trucks to the top; 150 pounds of non-perishable food, 100 pounds of first aid supplies, and other medical equipment. Additional help in categorizing the donations, coordinating the community organizations involved in collections, and otherwise documenting the effort was provided by approximately 20 management and administrative employees of Leisure Services and Utilities.

Other Efforts Across the Nation

Chicago has been transporting relief workers and emergency supplies to Haiti and welcoming Haitian evacuees to the city. A January 20 United Airlines flight from Chicago to Port-au-Prince carried 15,000 pounds of water donated by Walgreens; more than 300 tents donated by Feed the Children; communications equipment donated by Airline Ambassadors; and approximately 60 relief workers and United Airlines operations employees. This was the first of more than four relief flights chartered by United Airlines to deliver emergency aid and bring evacuees back to Chicago.

The 350 evacuees who made it to the city were processed through customs and transported to Chicago's welcome center where they were assessed by the American Red Cross

to determine their immediate needs. The Chicago Department of Family and Support Services worked closely with the Red Cross to provide food, water, hygiene kits, and basic comfort needs. A team of physicians, nurses, and others from the Chicago Department of Public Health were also on hand to provide on-site evaluation and care for those evacuees in need of medical services. The Salvation Army provided clothing and spiritual care to evacuees, while Travelers Aid, in partnership with Heartland Alliance, helped connect individuals with family members in various cities throughout the United States.

Chicago's Human Relations Commission worked with city colleges, Haitian community organizations, faith-based groups, and elected officials to organize informational workshops on how Haitians could receive Temporary Protection Status from the Department of Homeland Security.

Three Fire Department ambulances stocked with cots, blankets, masks, bandages, gloves, food, and other critical supplies also left Chicago January 23 for Haiti. The donated ambulances were driven by volunteers to Miami and shipped from there to Haiti. The city paid for their gasoline and NAPA Genuine Parts Company paid for the drivers' food, lodging and return trip. Some of the supplies transported were donated by Every Blooming Industry, Progressive Industries, and Romeoville.

The Chicago's Sister Cities program continues working with "Share Your Soles" program to send 10,000 pairs of shoes to victims of the earthquake, and the American Red Cross remains the city's central point for donations.

In **Highland Park (IL)**, the city's

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Mayors Helping Haiti

HELPING HAITI from page 5

Emergency Relief Task Force was activated by Mayor Michael D. Belsky shortly after the Haiti earthquake – the fourth time the group has come together to respond to an emergency since 2005. The Task Force, which includes all key stakeholders from both public and private sectors of the community, decided to focus on collecting monetary donations to help address the most urgent needs of the Haitian people. A widely disseminated letter informed the community that the Task Force would be accepting donations through the Highland Park Community Foundation, and a flyer promoting the effort was posted in locations across the city. Collection containers were placed in all city facilities and all Task Force members were asked to place them in their facilities. In one week over \$2,000 in donations were received by the Foundation. Individuals and businesses also began to contact the Task Force to see how they could support the relief efforts. In one weekend, a local business collected over \$10,000 from parents of soccer players whose donations were then matched by corporate dollars.

Throughout Highland Park, people are engaged in activities to help the people of Haiti. This includes fund-raising efforts in schools and at the Music Institute of Chicago-Highland Park Campus, in individual businesses, and through the Downtown Business Alliance and the Chamber of Commerce.

Louisville (KY) experienced three FEMA-designated natural disasters during the last year. This recent experience equipped Mayor Jerry Abramson to focus quickly on Louisville's help for Haiti. He appointed a senior staff member who used social marketing tools to match needs and resources. A community-call went out for people who wanted to volunteer, donate money, or donate supplies; that group was matched with not-for-profit organizations working on relief efforts that needed volunteers and donations of money or supplies.

A partnership was formed with a national and a local not-for-profit organization in order to focus the donations made by Louisville residents. The American Red Cross was chosen as the national organization, and the president of the local Red Cross chapter attended the city's press conference to explain how local residents could partner with them to help Haiti.

Edge Outreach was chosen as

the local organization; it established roots in Haiti in 2007, working with individuals and organizations to offer training in sustainable water solutions, hand pump repair, vision clinics, and local humanitarian efforts. The earthquake shifted their work from sustainable community development to disaster relief overnight. The mayor asked the water company and sewer company to join in this effort; the utilities and the city provided cash contributions to Edge Outreach and secured supplies and air transportation for them. An appeal for cash donations netted Edge Outreach over \$300,000. Across Haiti, Edge Outreach installed nine water purifiers, each capable of providing 10,000 gallons of clean water per day.

Abramson also called for volunteers and donations for a local not-for-profit group working to provide medical supplies for Haiti. As a result, Supplies Overseas coordinated over 400 volunteers who prepared medical supplies that were airlifted to Haiti.

Boston is home to the third largest population of Haitian Americans and Haitian immigrants in the United States and its residents felt the impact of the disaster instantly. On the night of the earthquake, Mayor Thomas M. Menino began identifying resources in the city that could be used for disaster recovery and relief and support for Boston's Haitian population. The next morning, he convened his cabinet and immediately created a strategy to manage the city's response and to provide services to its Haitian residents. Menino designated his chief of Programs and Partnerships to coordinate the city's efforts with the Mayor's Office of Emergency Preparedness and the Boston Public Health Commission.

Within 36 hours of the earthquake, Boston's Haitian Referral and Support Center was fully operational and offering telephone lines and internet access so that residents could connect with relatives in Haiti, mental health counseling, immigration attorneys who offered legal assistance and consultation, child care for families using the Center, resource materials and information, and translation. The Mayor's Office of New Bostonians recruited attorneys to answer questions at the Haitian Referral and Support Center, and Boston provides support for those seeking to apply for Temporary Protective Status (TPS).

From January 14 through January 26, the Center was open every day from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm at

SEIU Local 1199. On January 27, the Center relocated to the Mattapan branch of the Boston Public Library and remains in operation there. In addition to the space, food, and staffing resources SEIU Local 1199 offered, the city received food donations from Whole Foods Market, Stop and Shop, local restaurants El Oriental de Cuba, Merengue, Flames, Deadwood Café, Au Bon Pain, W.W. Grainger, Inc., University of Massachusetts Boston, and Senator John F. Kerry's Office. Telephone and computer lines were donated by SEIU Local 1199, additional telephone and computer lines by Verizon Communications, and wireless telephones and international calling cards by Metro PCS.

Bridgeport (CT) reached out to its Haitian community as soon as the devastation of the earthquake became apparent, with Mayor Bill Finch arranging to host a meeting of community leaders, staff, and local clergy to chart a course to help the Haitian community. By week's end, the Latino community, through its umbrella organization Greater Bridgeport United, joined with the Haitian community to host a radiothon, raising \$32,000 in one day.

Ten days after the quake, the city donated office space, telephones, computer, and Internet access for a Haiti Relief Resources Office in the city hall annex. Long distance service is provided by AT&T. The office is staffed by local volunteers from the city's Haitian community and by representatives from area non-profit organizations such as the American Red Cross and AmeriCares. The volunteers quickly mobilized the entire community to donate time and resources to aid the earthquake victims in their native country.

Finch and Congressman Jim Himes recently attended a Temporary Protective Status workshop, one of five planned around the state, to help Haitians in the United States who may have been visiting or living here at the time of the earthquake. More than 100 people attended the event, and lawyers from across Connecticut gathered to help staff it.

In **Hartford**, which has the nation's third-largest West Indian population, Mayor Eddie A. Perez has led a community outreach effort on relief for Haiti that has involved news releases and flyers, emailed letters to city employees, and neighborhood meetings. This has included work with the Connecticut Haitian-American Organization, which has set-up an account with Webster Bank through which tax-deductible donations can be made to the Con-

necticut Haitian Earthquake Relief Fund. Through this group, donation barrels for needed non-perishable items have been set up in the bank's branches and city hall, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Hartford Public Library, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and other city buildings. Also, with assistance from the mayor's office, the Community Renewal Team and the American Red Cross will conduct a blood drive on March 3 to help replace blood products being sent to Haiti.

In **Albany**, the city, the Palace Theatre, and the Albany Medical Center partnered to present a "Hearts for Haiti" benefit concert and launch a related fundraising effort. The February 11 concert included five blues, rock, and jazz bands and artists well known in the Northeast. All proceeds of the concert benefit Partners in Health, an affiliate of the Albany Medical Center, which has been operating in Haiti for 20 years and which now is providing medical personnel, volunteers, and supplies for the relief effort. In conjunction with the concert, the Medical Center is launching a "Hearts For Haiti" fundraising campaign, an idea promoted by a first-year medical student there. Through the campaign, the public can purchase a paper red heart for a contribution of \$1 or more, with all proceeds benefiting Partners in Health.

Southfield (MI) officials have been informed by experts "on the ground," that the best thing for earthquake victims now and in the near future is to provide cash donations, which can be used to meet their immediate needs and those of the people helping them. Partnering with the Salvation Army Southeastern Michigan Headquarters (SA), which is based in Southfield, city officials are conducting a Donation Drive. For over 50 years, the SA has sponsored Le Maison du Bonheur (The Home of Happiness) in Haiti, which houses orphaned and abandoned children. The Home suffered damage to the perimeter safety walls and the building itself in the earthquake, and immediately afterward the children had to sleep in the parking lot. City efforts will benefit the Children's home. Officials are planning a week-long donation drive effort directed at city staff, residents and businesses. Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence is committing available city services to help in this effort.

Laredo has established an account at a local bank for the Lar-

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Mayors Helping Haiti

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edo Haitian Relief Project through which residents can donate funds for Haitian relief; the funds are directed to the American Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, and Habitat for Humanity. Several fundraising efforts have supported the Project. Both local school districts, along with many charter and private schools, have joined in the fundraising effort. Later this month, the city-owned Laredo Entertainment Center will host a Skating for Haiti fundraiser, and even later will donate the proceeds of a VIP parking program to the Project. The city's fundraising will continue through February.

The city hosted an "Interfaith Prayer Service for Haiti" that featured Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist, Episcopalian, Mormon, and non-denominational religious leaders and musical presentations from a local Catholic high school choir, the Laredo Philharmonic Choir, and individual singers. Catholic Schools are collecting money to go to Catholic Social Services' relief efforts in Haiti, and the Diocese of Laredo recently held a second collection at their masses for Haiti. Other religious institutions have held similar collections. Laredo's substantial transportation industry has also gotten involved, with several private warehouse companies storing items collected by local schools and others, and local trucking companies offering to haul the goods to ports for transport to Haiti.

Hinesville (GA) launched its relief efforts with a prayer vigil designed to inform the community of the efforts being undertaken by churches, schools, organizations,

and individuals, including a local real estate developer who worked with contacts in the construction industry to quickly transport debris-clearing equipment and other resources to Haiti for a water well project. The city's overall relief effort, "Hinesville Helps Haiti," includes several components, among them:

- During a 30-day donation drive, city offices serve as drop-off locations for donations to the American Red Cross, which are picked up weekly by the Savannah Chapter of the Red Cross.
- City employees will be given an opportunity to authorize one-time or continuing payroll deductions specifically for Haiti relief efforts.
- The city's Public Relations Manager serves as a source of information on relief efforts for individuals who contact the city and for news media outlets that provide information on how residents can help.
- The city is working with local churches and school organizations to host a benefit concert for Haiti, and is researching opportunities to form a sister city relationship with a city in Haiti.

In **Santa Barbara**, the focal point for earthquake relief efforts is Direct Relief International, a Santa Barbara-based nonprofit organization that delivers critically needed medicines and supplies to local healthcare providers worldwide. More than 16 tons of medical material aid departed Direct Relief's warehouse January 29 for Haiti via donated airlift by FedEx. Prior to this shipment, Direct Relief had shipped more than \$6 million in medical aid to its partners on the ground in Haiti caring for the injured. Direct Relief



Florida's Urban Search and Rescue Team 2 on the ground in Haiti.

emergency response staff members have returned to Haiti to continue on-the-ground support following their initial ten days in Port-au-Prince coordinating Direct Relief's aid shipments and other relief group efforts. Community awareness of Direct Relief's efforts in Haiti and the local community was raised through a widely publicized briefing for Congresswoman Lois Capps, Mayor Helene Schneider, and other local elected officials on February 1.

Auburn (WA) is working in partnership with Northwest Caribbean Connection on a benefit to support its Help Haiti Relief Effort. The Help Haiti Benefit concert, to be held February 27 at the Auburn Avenue Theater, will feature many local Caribbean entertainers and the Auburn High Youth Choir. Many of the organizers of Northwest Caribbean Connection are from Haiti and their families have been directly affected by the tragic earthquake. The city is providing a venue, print materials, and personnel time is devoted to the promotion of the event. The local business community has rallied to support this event and is donating much of the food and beverages.

City Response Personnel in Haiti

Firefighters and other emergency response personnel from cities across the country deployed to Haiti as members of both federal and international disaster response teams.

Seattle Firefighter/Paramedics Tim Frye and John Hinson and Firefighter Larry Doll were deployed to Haiti the day after the earthquake for nine days as part of the International Medical Surgical Response Team. The team was made up of orthopedic surgeons and nurses, pediatricians, anesthesiologists and firefighter paramedics from Seattle,

Boston and Miami.

The team helped set up a field hospital in the courtyard of a small medical university in Port-Au-Prince. The site included areas for triage and wound care, pre-operative and post-operative tents, two operating rooms, a special procedures tent, a logistical area command center and a pharmacy. The Seattle Firefighters worked 12-13 hour shifts each day. During their deployment, they treated over 600 patients, delivered 15 babies and averaged 15 major surgeries. Frye and Hinson also joined the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division on a search and rescue operation.

Hallandale Beach (FL) Fire-Rescue Department's Battalion Chief Mark Wilson was deployed with the Federal Urban Search and Rescue Team 2 (USAR-TF2) to Port-au-Prince the day following the earthquake. Wilson's specific job was to act as a safety officer and oversee overall safety for crews searching in severely collapsed buildings. On arrival in Port-au-Prince, his team operated from a base camp located at the U.S. Embassy. During the course of the deployment the team ran numerous reconnaissance missions, conducted a 13-hour rescue operation resulting in the rescue of two teenage girls from a collapsed school building, and a multi-day rescue operation resulting in the rescue of five persons from a collapsed grocery store. The team was demobilized on January 23 and transported home from Port-au-Prince through the Dominican Republic.

Sunrise (FL) also contributed Fire-Rescue Department members to Florida's USAR TF2. Brothers Battalion Chief Christopher Sorrentino and Captain Joe Sorrentino also deployed on the January 13 mission to Haiti.

Additional information on city efforts to help Haiti is available at usmayors.org and will appear in future editions of U.S. Mayor.

Mayors wishing to submit descriptions of their efforts to help Haiti should e-mail them to lwaxman@usmayors.org.

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\$527 million in the Department of Transportation budget for the Livable Communities program to help local and state governments make smarter investments in transportation infrastructure and leverage that investment to integrate transportation, housing, and other critical investments aimed at reducing greenhouse gases, improving mobility and transportation access to economic opportunity, and improving housing choices.

While the Conference is pleased that the President's budget includes increases for many key city priorities, mayors remain very concerned that no funds are included for a Conference top priority, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG), which is authorized to be funded at \$2 billion annually.

Below is a more detailed summary of the funding levels for key city priority programs listed under major categories. A budget chart listing more programs and comparing funding levels in the proposed 2011 budget with the current and previous fiscal years follows the narrative summary.

Housing and Community Development (Staff Contact: Eugene Lowe)

The overall Community Development Fund would be reduced from \$4.450 billion to \$4.380 billion. But formula grants provided to local governments to promote community and economic development would be funded at last year's funding level of \$3.990 billion.

A new initiative proposed in the CDBG account, called the Catalytic Competition Grants, would be funded at \$150 million. The Catalytic Competition Grants would be targeted to economically hard hit neighborhoods for large-scale development that would create jobs. The Sustainable Communities Initiative (for improved coordination of transportation and housing investments), funded at \$150 million in FY 2010, would receive the same level of funding in FY 2011.

Choice Neighborhoods, though not yet authorized by Congress, would be funded at \$65 million in FY 2010. The FY 2011 budget would fund the program, which replaces HOPE VI (the severely distressed public housing program), at \$250 million. Choice Neighborhoods would transform distressed neighborhoods, which have public and assisted housing.

The Homeownership Investment Partnerships (HOME) program would be cut from \$1.821 billion to \$1.647 billion. Homeless Assistance Grants would be increased from \$1.865 billion to \$2.055 billion. Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance is increased

from \$18.184 billion to \$19.557 billion. The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDs (HOPWA) program would be increased from \$335 million to \$340 million.

Also, the Public Housing Capital Fund would be reduced from \$2.500 billion to \$2.044 billion, while the Public Housing Operating Fund would be increased from \$4.775 billion to \$4.829 billion. The Brownfields Economic Development Initiative would be terminated. The Section 202 Elderly program, funded at \$825 million, and the Section 811 program for Persons with Disabilities, funded at \$300 million in FY 2010, would be cut to \$273 million and \$90 million, respectively, in FY 2011. Both programs are to be redesigned so as to better target resources.

Public Safety (Contact: Laura DeKoven Waxman)

The FY 2011 Budget requests a \$722.5 million increase for state, local and tribal law enforcement assistance programs, bringing total program funding to \$3.364 billion. Funding for COPS hiring and retention grants would be doubled from \$298 million this year to \$600 million next year. A 10 percent match would be required, but the COPS Director could waive it. Byrne Justice Assistance Grants are level-funded at \$519 million. Violence against Women programs would increase five percent to \$438 million.

The budget proposes several new initiatives, including \$25 million for a community-based violence prevention initiative intended to reduce gun and other violence among youth gangs, \$40 million for a new Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program which would support demonstrations in a limited number of sites, \$37 million for a Children Exposed to Violence initiative, \$10 million for smart policing initiative, and another \$10 million for a smart probation initiative.

Funding for southwestern and northern border prosecutions (funded at \$33 million this year), methamphetamine enforcement and cleanup (\$40.4 million this year), Weed and Seed (\$20 million this year), and several programs which distribute earmarked funds - notably Byrne discretionary grants and COPS Technology grants - are proposed for elimination. Juvenile Justice programs would be cut 32 percent to \$290 million.

For prisoner reentry programs, the Justice Department budget would provide \$144 million, including \$100 million for Second Chance Act programs and \$30 million for residential substance abuse treatment, both of which would be funded at current year levels. The Labor Department would pro-

vide \$103 million for reintegration of ex-offender training programs, slightly less than the \$110 million available this year. The Education Department would provide \$17.2 million for workplace and community training grants for incarcerated individuals, the same as is available this year.

The Justice Department budget also contains language to continue the current provisions, which allow state and local police and prosecutors access to the Firearms Trace System database for use in connection with a criminal investigation or prosecution. The provision, however, does not allow law enforcement officials to share that information with elected officials or the public.

Homeland Security (Contact: Laura DeKoven Waxman)

Funding for state and local programs at the Department of Homeland Security would decline about four percent next year to \$4 billion. Funding for State Homeland Security Grants would increase by \$110 million to \$1 billion next year, but several smaller programs which total \$250 million in funding this year would be eliminated and their purposes be made eligible activities under the state block grant. These are citizen corps (\$12 million this year), driver's license security (Real ID) (\$48 million), interoperable emergency communications grants (\$151 million), and Medical Response System/Medical Surge grants (\$39 million). Urban Area Security Initiative Grants would increase 29 percent to \$1.1 billion next year.

Firefighter assistance grants would be funded at \$610 million (a cut of more than one-fourth below the \$810 million available this year). Funds would be split evenly between the Assistance to Firefighter Grants and SAFER Grants, with each receiving \$305 million. This year Assistance to Firefighter Grants are funded at \$390 million and SAFER grants at \$420 million.

For transportation security, port and mass transit security grants are level funded at \$300 million each, retaining the 25 percent cut below the FY 2009 level of \$400 million for both programs. The budget proposes \$734 million to support the deployment of up to 1,000 new Advanced Imaging Technology screening machines at airport checkpoints and new explosive detection equipment for baggage screening in 2011. It does not appear to provide, however, infrastructure grants to airports to be used for the installation of this equipment. The budget includes funding for 300 new Customs and Border Patrol officers for passenger and

cargo screening at ports of entry.

Energy (Staff Contact: Debra Dehaney-Howard)

The President's budget request provides \$28.4 billion for the Department of Energy. The Department of Energy's Office of Energy and Efficiency and Renewable Energy programs received \$2.4 billion, an increase of \$113 million, or approximately 5 percent above the FY 2010 appropriation. The Federal budget request referenced the \$3.2 billion appropriated under the America Reinvestment Recovery Act for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. However, the FY 2011 budget request does not include additional funds for EECBG, which was authorized in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 at \$2 billion for FY 2010.

The President's budget request for the Weatherization and Intergovernmental Activities represents an increase of \$115 million from the FY 2010 appropriation. The budget request increases the Weatherization program by \$90 million. It also includes a \$25 million increase for the State Energy Program. The Renewable Energy Production Incentive would be eliminated. The budget request for the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, which has the lead on modernizing the electric grid, is \$185.9 million, \$14 million above the FY 2010 budget. The FY 2011 budget also instructs DOE to discontinue license application for a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain.

Transportation Programs (Staff Contact: Ron Thaniel)

The President proposes to increase the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Budget from \$76.9 billion in FY 2010 to \$78.8 billion in FY 2011. This includes \$4 billion to create a National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund to provide grants, loans and a blend of both local and state governments for multimodal projects of regional and national significance that include highway, transit, rail, aviation, ports, and maritime. The budget states, "This marks an important departure from the federal government's traditional way of spending on infrastructure through grants to specific states and localities."

As part of the President's multi-agency Partnership for Sustainable Communities, the budget includes \$527 million to help local and state governments invest smarter in transportation infrastructure and leverage

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that investment to integrate transportation, housing, and other critical investments aimed at reducing greenhouse gases, improving mobility and transportation access to economic opportunity, and improving housing choices. This is in addition to the \$150 million made available for the program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the \$10 million from the Environmental Protection Agency. More details are needed to clarify how the Livable Communities program will work at the local and regional levels. The Conference looks forward to working with the Administration to develop the details.

The President's budget builds on the \$8 billion included in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) for high-speed rail by including an additional \$1 billion for capital grants to invest in high-speed corridors and intercity passenger rail service. While this supports the President's five-year, \$5 billion commitment made in the 2010 Budget, the \$1 billion is a 60 percent decrease from the \$2.5 billion in FY 2010. The budget increases Amtrak funding from \$1.56 billion to \$1.63 billion. In Amtrak's FY 2011 Grant and Legislative Request, the railroad is asking for \$2.19 billion which is the amount authorized under the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008.

The Budget increases the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) budget on the obligation limitation on the federal-aid highways program from \$41.1 billion to \$41.3 billion. And, it would increase the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) budget from \$10.73 billion to \$10.79 billion. Of this amount, \$30 million is requested to fund Rail Transit Safety Oversight activities embodied in the Administration's rail transit safety legislation, the Public Transportation Safety Program Act of 2009. Unlike other modes of transportation, in general, federal safety regulators do not oversee subways and light rail systems.

Speaking to the next federal surface transportation bill, the budget states, "Surface transportation programs are at a cross-roads. The current framework for financing and allocating surface transportation investments is not financially sustainable, nor does it effectively allocate resources to meet our critical national needs. The Administration recommends extending the current authorization through March 2011, during which time it will work with the Congress to reform surface transportation programs and put the system on a viable financing. Careful consideration is needed to design a federal

surface transportation program that leads to higher performing investments, increases people's transportation options, promotes a sustainable environment, and makes our economy more productive. Further, the federal program must generate the best investments to reduce congestion and improve safety."

The budget would increase spending on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Operations from the current funding level of \$9.3 billion to \$9.7 billion in FY 2011. The Airport Improvement Program (AIP) is level funded at \$3.5 billion and FAA Facilities and Equipment would increase from \$2.93 billion to \$2.97 billion. Of this amount, the budget provides \$1.14 billion, more than a 30 percent increase from FY 2010 for the Next Generation Air Transportation System. NextGen is the FAA's long-term effort to improve the efficiency, safety, and capacity of the aviation system by moving from a ground-based radar surveillance system to a more accurate satellite-based surveillance system.

Environmental Programs (Staff Contact: Judy Sheahan)

The President's budget would decrease overall funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to \$10.020 billion, a \$300 million decrease over the current fiscal year. EPA is claiming this is a minor adjustment from last year's record high budget, which was the highest level of funding for EPA in its history.

The Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund, a means of financial support for local wastewater treatment facilities, would receive \$2 billion, down from \$2.1 billion in FY 2010. Although this represents a \$100 million decrease, this is still significantly higher than the \$689 million that was enacted in FY 2009. The Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund was budgeted at \$1.287 billion, another decrease of \$100 million from FY 2010 but, once again, a substantial increase from the \$829 million enacted in FY 2009.

The portion of the Brownfields program that provides funds to local governments and communities saw a significant increase from \$101 million enacted in FY 2010 to a proposed \$138 million in FY 2011. The Superfund program would be decreased slightly to \$1.293 billion from \$1.3 billion in FY 2010. EPA has proposed \$300 million, a decrease of \$175 million, for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative due to an inability to get the money through the budget process and spend the money. EPA is also requesting \$6.3 million for the Clean, Green, and Healthy Schools Initiative.

In the area of climate change, EPA is asking for \$20.8 million to support the greenhouse gas reporting rule, \$55.5 million to expand the Energy Star program, \$30 million for Clean Air Act Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Permitting, \$6 million to develop GHG standards for transportation sources, \$7.1 million for carbon capture and sequestration, and \$7.5 million in GHG New Source Performance Standards.

Job Training Programs (Staff Contact: Kathy Amoroso)

The President's budget for the Department of Labor (DOL) calls for \$3.93 billion in funding for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs – with a \$209 million increase in WIA formula funding streams over the FY 2010 funding levels. WIA Adult formula grants would be funded at \$907 million and Dislocated Worker job training grants would be funded at \$1.25 billion, modest increases of \$45 million and \$62 million respectively over FY 2010 levels. The budget funds the Dislocated Worker national reserve at \$229 million.

Youth training would see a \$100 million increase to \$1.025 billion for WIA Youth formula grants, with a requirement that 30 percent of the funding be allocated to Summer Youth activities. Also, the YouthBuild program would be funded at \$120 million, a \$17 million increase over the current fiscal year.

The President's budget provides \$98 million for Reintegration of Ex-Offenders, which includes Youth Offender Reentry programs. This represents a decrease of \$ 11 million in funding over the FY 2010 level. The Job Corps program remains at the FY2010 level of \$1.7 billion. Included in this amount is funding for operations, construction, rehabilitation and acquisition of Job Corp centers, and other necessary expenses of the Office of Job Corps.

The Administration's budget also calls for the creation of a new \$261 million program for a Workforce Innovation Partnership fund, to be administered in jointly by the Departments of Labor (DOL) and Education – \$154 million of the Youth formula funding stream would go to the Youth Innovation Fund to pilot innovative models for delivering Summer and year-round work experiences and comprehensive services to disconnected youth. Five percent of the Adult and Dislocated Worker formula funding streams would go to support and test "Learn and Earn" strategies like apprenticeships and on-the-job training; promote regional and sectoral collaborations; and support other innovations.

DOL would work closely with the Department of Education to administer the innovation grants and use them as a mechanism for encouraging cities and states to work across programs to improve service delivery and participant outcomes.

The budget provides \$85 million for green jobs training, a \$45 million increase over FY 2010, as well as \$40 million for transitional jobs as part of funding for Pilots, Development and Research.

Finally, the President's budget establishes a transparent accountability system to support efforts to overhaul performance measures and incentives to discourage "creaming." This Workforce Data Quality Initiative is funded at \$13.75 million, a \$1.2 million increase over FY 2010 levels and establishes competitive grants to support the development of longitudinal data systems to integrate education and workforce data.

Education (Staff Contact: Kathy Amoroso)

For FY 2011, the President's budget request includes \$49.7 billion for the Department of Education's discretionary programs, an increase of \$3.5 billion over FY 2010. The budget provides a \$3 billion increase in K-12 education programs to \$28 billion for programs authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), plus up to \$1 billion in additional funding if Congress successfully completes an overhaul of ESEA. Together, this represents the largest funding increase for ESEA programs ever requested, and represents the consolidation of 38 K-12 programs into 11 new programs outlined below.

The budget provides \$14.5 billion for college and career-ready students, which replaces grants to local education agencies. Funds would be allocated via formula for programs that provide academic support to help students in high-poverty schools meet college- and career-ready standards.

The budget funds Excellent Instructional Teams at \$3.86 billion to increase teacher effectiveness and reduce disparities in access to high quality teachers for disadvantaged students. This funding consolidates nine existing programs into three programs: Effective Teachers and Leaders (\$2.5 billion), Teacher and Leader Innovation Fund (\$950 million) and Teacher and Leader Pathways (\$405 million).

The Effective Teaching and Learning for a Complete Education proposal is funded at \$1.015 billion and builds on the Administration's efforts to raise academic standards and

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Comparison of Funding Levels for Key Municipal Programs

Prepared by The United States Conference of Mayors • February 4, 2010

(Dollars in Millions)	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Proposed	(Dollars in Millions)	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Proposed
ARTS, HUMANITIES, MUSEUMS AND PARKS							
National Endowment for the Arts	155	168	161	Port Security Grants	400	300	300
National Endowment for the Humanities	155	168	162	Public Transportation Security Grants	400	300	300
Museum Grants	35	34	35	Operation Stonegarden	90	60	50
Urban Parks	---	---	---	Intercity Bus Security Grants	12	12	---
Land and Water Conservation Fund	20	40	39	Trucking Industry Grants	2	---	---
Travel and Tourism Promotion	---	---	---	Buffer Zone Protection	50	50	50
Urban and Community Forestry	30	30	30	Interoperable Communication	50	50	50
EDUCATION							
College- and Career-Ready Students (includes grants to LEAs)	---	---	14,492	REAL ID Implementation Grants	100	60	---
Race to the Top	---	---	1,350	Assistance to Firefighter Grants	565	390	305
School Turnaround Grants	---	---	900	Fire Department Staffing Assistance Grants	210	420	305
Effective Teaching and Learning (Literacy, STEM and Well-Rounded Education)	---	---	1,015	Metropolitan Medical Response System/Medical Surge Grants	41	41	---
Investing in Education	---	---	500	Urban Search and Rescue	32	33	28
Excellent Instructional Teams (Effective Teachers and Leaders, Teacher and Leader Innovation Fund and Teacher and Leader Pathways)	---	---	3,855	Citizen Corps	15	13	---
Expanding Educational Options	---	---	490	Emergency Management Performance Grants	314	340	345
College Pathways and Accelerated Learning	---	---	100	Bio-Terrorism (HHS State & Local Capacity)	747	761	758
Supporting Student Success (Promise Neighborhoods, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and Successful, Safe and Healthy Students)	---	---	1,786	HHS Preparedness and Response	1,515	1,549	1,533
Adult Education	554	628	612	CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL			
TRIO	848	853	853	COPS Funding	551	792*	690**
GEAR UP	323	323	323	Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program	546	519	519
ENERGY							
Nuclear Waste Repository (Yucca Mountains)	289	197	---	Juvenile Justice Program	369	424	290
Vehicle Technologies (FreedomCar/Plug-in Hybrids)	267	311	325	Violence Against Women Act Grants	415	419	438
Hydrogen Technology (Hydrogen Fuel Cells)	165	174	137	Border Prosecution Initiative	31	33	---
Building Technologies Program (Residential/Commercial)	138	222	230	Drug, Mental Health and Problem-Solving Courts	57	57	57
Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy				State Criminal Aliens Assistance Program	400	330	330
Biofuels/Biomass Systems	217	220	220	Weed & Seed	25	20	---
Solar Energy	172	247	302	Second Chance Act/Prisoner Reentry (OJP)	25	100	100
Wind Energy	54	80	122	Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	10	30	30
Geothermal Technology	43	44	55	Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities National Programs	140	191	---
Weatherization Assistance Grants	450	210	300	Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities State Grants	295	---	---
State Energy Program	50	50	75	Substance Abuse Partnership Block Grant	1,699	1,799	1,720
Renewable Energy Production Incentive	5	---	---	Substance Abuse Prevention	201	202	223
ENVIRONMENT							
Clean Water State Revolving Loan Funds	689	2,100	2,000	Substance Abuse Treatment	412	455	478
Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Funds	829	1,387	1,287	*This includes \$298 million for hiring grants.			
Superfund	1,249	1,306	1,293	**This includes \$600 million for hiring grants.			
Brownfields Assistance to Local Governments	97	101	138	HOMELESS ASSISTANCE			
Army Corps of Engineers	5,300	5,400	4,881	Homeless Programs	1,677	1,865	2,055
FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE							
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Formerly "Food Stamps"	50,396	58,278	68,207	Emergency Food and Shelter (DHS)	300	200	100
WIC	6,860	7,252	7,603	Education for Homeless Children & Youth	65	65	65
Commodity Assistance Program (TEFAP)-Total	234	251	250	PATH Formula Grants	60	65	70
Child Nutrition Programs	15,000	17,034	18,392	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
HEALTH							
Medicare	419,921	444,003	468,601	Community Development Block Grant (Formula)	3,642	3,990	3,990
Medicaid (outlays)	216,627	275,383	296,841	HOME Investment Partnerships	1,825	1,821	1,647
Ryan White CARE Act	2,213	2,265	2,330	Public Housing Operating Subsidies	4,455	4,775	4,829
CDC AIDS, STD, TB	1,006	1,045	1,083	Public Housing Capital Fund	2,450	2,500	2,044
Health Centers	2,146	2,200	2,436	HOPE VI	120	125	---
Family Planning	307	317	327	Housing Opportunities For People with AIDS	310	335	340
Healthy Start	102	105	110	Section 202 Elderly/Section 811 Disabled	1015	1,125	363
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	662	662	673	Section 8 Rental Assistance (Tenant Based)	16,817	18,184	19,557
Immunizations & Respiratory Disease	703	718	736	Community Development Financial Institutions	208	248	251
Health Promotion	1,020	1,074	1,081	Brownfields Assistance	10	18	---
HOMELAND SECURITY							
State First Responder Formula Grant Program	890	890	1,000	Economic Development Administration	422	270	261
High-Threat Urban Areas Program	837	887	1,100	Choice Neighborhoods	N/A	65	250
				HUMAN SERVICES			
				Temporary Assistance to Needy Families			
				17,044			
				17,059			
				17,409			
				Child Care Development Block Grant			
				2,127			
				2,127			
				2,927			
				Head Start			
				8,502			
				7,234			
				8,224			
				Social Services Block Grant			
				1,700			
				1,700			
				1,832			
				Low-Income Home Energy Assistance			
				5,100			
				5,100			
				5,108			
				Community Services Block Grant			
				700			
				700			
				700			
				Administration on Aging Programs			
				1,491			
				1,516			
				1,583			
				Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**			
				13,028			

				Refugee and Entrant Assistance			
				633			
				692			
				796			

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instruction and consolidates 15 existing programs into three new programs each with a dedicated focus on one of the following academic areas: literacy (\$450 million); science, technology, engineering and math (STEM - \$300 million); and other subjects that contribute to a well-rounded education including history, civics, arts and foreign language (\$265 million).

The Expanding Educational Options proposal is funded at \$490 million, and supports increasing the supply of high-quality educational options available to students in low performing schools including charter schools, and by implementing comprehensive systems of public school choice. This proposal consolidates five existing programs into one.

The budget provides \$900 million in School Turnaround grants to permanently support grants to states to help local education agencies turn around their lowest achieving schools by implementing one of four rigorous school intervention models.

The President's budget permanently establishes the Race to the Top program, which was created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and funds it at \$1.35 billion to create incentives for state and local reforms and innovations designed to lead to improvements in student achievement, high school graduation rates and college enrollment rates, along with significant reductions in achievement gaps. The budget expands the competition for Race to the Top funding from states

to school districts that are ready for comprehensive reform.

Supporting School Success is funded at \$1.8 billion and promotes comprehensive strategies to create safe and drug-free learning environments for students. This proposal consolidates six programs into the new Successful, Safe and Healthy Students program (\$410 million); and incorporates Promise Neighborhoods (\$210 million) and 21st Century Community Learning Centers (\$1.17 billion).

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and 2009 appropriations bill increased the maximum Pell grant by more than \$600 for a total award of \$5,350, which increases to \$5,550 in 2010. The President's budget proposes to make that increase permanent, make Pell grant funding mandatory rather than an entitlement funded through an annual appropriations process, and put Pell grants on a path to grow faster than inflation every year, to ensure that adequate Pell grant funding is available every year (for a maximum Pell grant of \$5,710 in the 2011-2012 school year).

Finally, the budget supports the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA) that has passed the House and is pending in the Senate that would reform student lending to eliminate tens of billions of dollars in subsidies to banks and provide loans directly to students. These savings would be used to make historic investments to increase college access, including a proposal to increase the Perkins Loans total annual amounts available to students to \$6 billion from the current \$1 billion begin-

ning on July 1, 2011. In addition to expanded Pell grants, these investments include \$10.6 billion for the American Graduation Initiative that will strengthen and support community colleges, focus on college completion and graduate five million more students by 2020.

Health and Human Services (Staff Contact: Crystal Swann)

The Budget request includes \$290 million for health centers to provide affordable high quality primary and preventive care to underserved populations. Additionally, the budget includes a \$1 billion increase for child nutrition programs to support the child nutrition program reauthorization, including the Child and Adult Care Food Program. It also includes a \$1.6 billion increase for CCDBG (Child Care Development Block Grant), the largest increase in funding in more than 20 years, of which \$800 million would be discretionary funds (appropriated on annual basis and which does not require a state match) and \$800 million would be mandatory funds (which would require a state match). Mandatory funding would be adjusted each year for inflation after FY 2011.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided HHS \$650 million to implement evidenced-based prevention and wellness strategies through the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Initiative. As part of this initiative, CDC will mobilize local resources at the community-level and strengthen the capacity of

States to implement strategies that improve physical activity and nutrition, address obesity, and decrease smoking prevalence and exposure to second-hand smoke. In FY 2011, CDC will continue to provide programmatic support to communities and States participating in this initiative. The increased FY 2011 investments in Health Promotion include \$20 million for the CDC Big Cities Initiative to reduce the rates of morbidity and disability due to chronic disease in up to ten of the largest U.S. cities.

The President's FY 2011 budget invests \$3 billion in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to expand access to affordable health care and prevention services for HIV/AIDS. It also expands and strengthens early education and child care programs by further extending ARRA's expansion of Head Start and Early Head Start, providing an increase of \$1.6 billion for child care including a \$989 million increase for a total of \$8.2 billion for Head Start and Early Head Start.

National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities (Staff Contact: Tom McClimon)

The Administration is requesting \$161 million each for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities in FY 2011, which, in both cases, would be a slight reduction from the \$168 million available for both programs in FY 2010.

COMPARISON CHART from page 11

(Dollars in Millions)	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Proposed	(Dollars in Millions)	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Proposed
Compassion Capital Fund **SCHIP - \$18,685 (2009 through 2013)	47	---	---	One Stop Career Centers/LMI	52	64	64
JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS				ETA Program Administration	131	148	162
Adult Training	862	862	907	Job Corps	1,684	1,705	1,707
Youth Training	924	924	1,025	Green Jobs Training	---	40	85
Dislocated Worker Assistance	1,465	1,413	1,475	TRANSPORTATION			
Native Americans	53	53	55	Livable Communities	---	---	527
Migrant & Seasonal Farmworkers	83	85	87	National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund	---	---	4,000
YouthBuild	70	103	120	National Infrastructure Investment Grants (NII)	---	600	---
P, D&R	49	94	47	Federal Transit Formula/Bus General Fund	---	---	---
Evaluation	7	10	12	Federal Transit Formula/Bus Trust Fund	8,261	8,343	8,272
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders	109	109	98	Federal Transit Capital Investments (New Starts/Small Starts)	1,809	2,000	1,820
Career Pathways Innovation (Formerly Community Based Job Training)	125	125	125	Federal-Aid Highways Obligation Limitation	40,700	41,107	41,363
Comm. Service Employ. For Older Americans	572	825	600	Federal-Aid Highways General Fund	---	650	---
Unemployment Comp	2,834	3,977	4,294	Federal Aviation Administration Operations	9,042	9,350	9,793
State Operations	2,822	3,196	3,515	Federal Aviation Administration Facilities/Equipment	2,742	2,936	2,970
National Activities	11	11	11	Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program	3,515	3,515	3,515
Employment Services State Allotments	704	681	681	Federal Railroad Administration - Amtrak	1,490	1,565	1,637
Employment Services National Activities	21	21	21	Federal Railroad Administration - High Speed/Intercity Passenger Rail	---	2,500	1,000
				Federal Railroad Administration - Intercity Passenger Rail	90	---	---



The United States Conference of Mayors

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Immediate Release
Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Contact: Elena Temple
[202-861-6719/etemple@usmayors.org](mailto:etemple@usmayors.org)

STATEMENT OF U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS PRESIDENT BURNSVILLE, MN MAYOR ELIZABETH KAUTZ ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S FY'S 2011 BUDGET

While Key City Priorities Affirmed, No Energy Block Grant is Missed Opportunity

Washington, D.C. – On behalf of the nation's mayors, The U.S. Conference of Mayors President Burnsville, MN Mayor Elizabeth Kautz released the following statement in response to President Obama's FY 2011 Budget:

"The nation's mayors are pleased that the President's budget proposes significant boosts to programs that impact MainStreet America because investment in cities and metropolitan areas makes for a strong national economy. Specifically, we welcome the doubling of COPS hiring grants, direct and flexible transportation grants, increased homelessness assistance, and summer youth jobs funding and level funding for Community Development Block Grants.

"And while the Administration has made new green industries and other energy investments a priority for job creation, we are disappointed that the Department of Energy's budget does not fund green job and clean energy block grants to help accelerate the momentum of green actions by cities all across the country.

"Through targeted energy block grant funding [i.e., EECBG] included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, mayors throughout the country are creating green jobs with these Department of Energy funds as a response to the double-digit unemployment many cities are experiencing.

"And mayors have been leading the way both in this country and internationally in the green revolution with more than 1,000 U.S. cities committed to climate protection by reducing carbon pollution and greening their economies.

"Without continued funding in the 2011 Budget, mayors will be further constrained as they work to build upon the success of EECBG funds they received last year -- resources that are so essential for green job growth.

"Speaker Pelosi and many others in Congress support the mayors' Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program as an established method for creating green jobs in our cities and metro areas where jobs are needed most.

"The nation's mayors will come to Washington, D.C. on February 24th and 25th to work with lawmakers to ensure this program is funded now and over the long-term.

"As the debate on budget priorities unfolds, we call upon the Obama Administration to further engage with America's mayors to help working families and build stronger communities where people can thrive."

Reprint from **THE TIMES-PICAYUNE**

A Blueprint to Overhaul the Stafford Act: An Editorial

By Editorial page staff, *The Times-Picayune*

February 01, 2010, 6:35AM

New Orleans officials are intimately familiar with the flaws in the federal Stafford Act, which has frequently put a stranglehold on recovery following Hurricane Katrina, and tapping into that experience to reform the law is a smart move.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors appointed a task force led by New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin to review the law. The resulting white paper that Mayor Ray Nagin presented to the group's executive committee last month offers needed and sensible guidelines for change that should help communities recover more quickly from large-scale disasters.

Indeed, one of the key points is that the law must distinguish between a disaster that is serious but limited in scope and catastrophes like Hurricane Katrina. The report recommends the creation of a catastrophic disaster designation that would give the president authority to waive Stafford Act provisions and provide 100 percent federal funding for all categories of eligible work for the duration of the disaster.

Among other things, it calls for the federal government to immediately release funding for 50 percent of the preliminary damage assessment estimate for all grant programs. That's in contrast to the 60 to 90 days that it now takes to release what's known

as "Immediate Needs Funding," money that doesn't arrive quickly enough for initial work on critical needs such as public safety facilities and equipment.

The paper urges FEMA to finalize the National Disaster Housing Plan and points out that it must address the needs of communities hit by disasters as well as those that host evacuees from affected areas. The task force targets the Community Disaster Loan program as an impediment to recovery. That program provides operating funds for governments suffering loss of revenue during disasters, but its cap of \$5 million and 50 percent of revenue loss is inadequate for the needs of large cities. The task force also wants alternate projects to get 100 percent federal funding instead of reduced funding. Such projects can be a more efficient and effective use of money than rebuilding facilities that are no longer needed, the task force notes. The task force seeks change in the appeals process, too. When disagreements with FEMA arise over damage assessments, cost estimates, project scope or other issues, there should be a timely, neutral third-party appeals process, with arbitration used only as a final step in larger projects.

"I just hope that we don't have to wait for another catastrophe to change this law," Mayor Nagin said. That would be a shame, and Congress and the Obama administration should use this report as a blueprint for reform.

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Mayors Nagin, Johnson Ask Colleagues to Achieve Stafford Act Reform

New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin and Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, Chair and Vice Chair of the Conference's Stafford Act Reform Task Force, wrote to mayors February 9 asking them to contact their congressional delegation and urge them to support the development and passage of legislation that incorporates the Task Force's recommendations. Those recommendations were adopted as Conference of Mayors policy during the recent Winter

Meeting. The Stafford Act is the primary federal statute that guides the nation's response to natural and man-made disasters.

The mayors' memo and a sample letter are posted on the Conference's Stafford Act Reform Web page <http://usmayors.org/chs/staffordact.asp>. Questions should be sent to the Conference of Mayors Director of Public Safety Laura DeKoven Waxman at lwaxman@usmayors.org.

USCM Vice President Villaraigosa Announces \$7.5 Million Recovery Act Grant to Increase Broadband Access for Job Opportunities

By Ron Thaniel

Conference of Mayors Vice President Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, joined by U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (CA), and Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA) at the South Los Angeles WorkSource Center, announced on January 13 a \$7.5 million Recovery Act grant that will upgrade and expand 188 computer centers that provide the public with free broadband access to the Internet. The investment will help bridge the technological divide in Los Angeles and will work to improve access to job training and educational opportunities.

"With access to computers and broadband Internet that many of us take for granted, more Angelenos will have the opportunity to use the tools of the 21st century to get jobs of the 21st century," Villaraigosa said. "With this ARRA funding, we will take another step towards bridging the digital divide in our communities and getting the hard working people of Los Angeles back to work."

The grant was awarded to the Los Angeles' Computer Access Network (L.A.-CAN). The L.A.-CAN project proposes to double the number of workstations available throughout the city at public computer centers in libraries, workforce centers, and youth and family centers in low-income and non-English speaking communities. The majority of the 188 proposed centers would be located



Left to right, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (CA) and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa at the South Los Angeles WorkSource Center.

within three miles of federal and state designated "Enterprise Zones."

"This critical investment will expand computer and Internet service access to Los Angeles residents most in need, helping to make them full participants in today's 21st century information economy," Locke said. "Having access to the Internet's economic, health and educational benefits should be as much of a fundamental American right as attending a quality school or feeling safe when you walk down the street."

The project proposes to:

- Expand and upgrade free public computer centers at 73 public library locations, 43 WorkSource and OneSource job centers, and

72 recreation centers, senior centers and child care centers - connecting 35 youth and senior centers to broadband Internet service for the first time.

- Expand broadband Internet access to vulnerable populations: 128 of the proposed centers are located in or near areas where 50 percent of the households are non-English speaking.
- Expand broadband Internet access to low-income communities: 158 of the proposed centers are located in areas where 50 percent of the households are at low or moderate income levels.
- Provide city residents with access to job and computer training and

online search engines, including the library's recently developed Job Hunting Guide.

"I am so pleased to stand with Secretary Locke today as he announces this crucial funding for the L.A.-CAN Project, which will help community centers, libraries, workforce and youth centers across Los Angeles upgrade and expand their computer centers and high speed Internet access, and support computer literacy and educational training programs," Boxer said.

"This grant represents the beginning of our commitment to use Recovery Act funds to broaden access to technology and close the digital divide," Waters said. "Many residents have not been able to afford broadband and thus do not have access to it, but the South Los Angeles WorkSource Center - Community Centers Inc. and other public computing centers receiving funding will now make broadband available for free to our community."

Los Angeles also recently received \$4 million from the Department of Labor for the Pathways Out of Poverty Program. The program is aimed at providing employment and training services to at-risk, and hard-to-serve populations that are currently unemployed, or seek to upgrade their skills. This citywide project will include the city's WorkSource Centers to outreach, recruit, and provide supportive services to residents enrolling into training programs that will lead into full-time, permanent employment.

Including the \$4 million from Pathways out of Poverty and the \$7,496,157 from Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), Los Angeles has been awarded approximately \$485 million in federal funds through the Recovery Act.

Lt Governor Landrieu Wins by Landside for Mayor of New Orleans

By Elena Temple Webb

Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu was elected the 61st mayor of New Orleans on February 6. With over 60 percent of the vote, Landrieu easily avoided a run-off, making it "the first time in the city's modern history that a mayoral race not featuring an incumbent was settled in the primary," as reported *The Times Picayune*.

Landrieu will be the first white mayor since his father left office in 1978, over three decades ago. Landrieu carried 58 percent of the black votes cast.

The mayor-elect called Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran after his election and pledged an active and total participation within

the Conference of Mayors. They discussed transition assistance and the continued strong relationship between New Orleans and the Conference of Mayors since New Orleans was a founder of the organization in 1932.

Landrieu's father, Moon Landrieu - elected mayor of New Orleans from 1970 to 1978 - served as President of the Conference of Mayors from 1975 to 1976.

In the same vein, Richard Daley Sr. served as mayor of Chicago from 1955 to 1976, and his son has served as mayor from 1989 to the present. Also, Ernest "Dutch" Morial served as mayor of New Orleans from 1978 to 1986, and his son Marc Morial served as mayor of New Orleans from 1994 to

2002. Former Mayor Moon Landrieu and these four men all served as President of the Conference of Mayors during their mayoral tenures: 1959-1960; 1975-1976; 1996-1997; 1985-1986; and 2001-2002 respectively.

Landrieu was instrumental in the Conference of Mayors' effort to assist the city in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina by lending office space and helping to coordinate a meeting with New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, the New Orleans city council and Conference of Mayors leadership.

Landrieu had run for mayor of New Orleans twice before, but the third time proved to be the charm for the 49 year-old former state lawmaker from the Broadmoor neighborhood, who has

served as Louisiana's Lieutenant Governor for six years.

When Landrieu is sworn in May 6, he will "inherit a fits-and-starts recovery, a stubborn crime problem and a fragile city budget that has been slashed in key areas," according to news reports.

As he prepares to assume what is arguably the most powerful political job in the New Orleans region, Landrieu's sister, US Senator Mary Landrieu, begins her thirteenth year in the U.S. Senate; and another sister, Madeline sits on the Civil District Court bench. According to the New Orleans Times Picayune newspaper, "his victory cements the Landrieu clan's status as Louisiana's preeminent political dynasty."

USCM President Kautz, Trenton Mayor Palmer, USCM CEO Executive Director Cochran Hold "Mayors Town Hall" at Franchise Association Convention

By Tom McClimon

"We want to work together," was the message conveyed by the Conference of Mayors leadership attending the 50th Convention of the International Franchise Association held February 5-8 in San Antonio (TX). Representing the Conference of Mayors at a "Mayors Town Hall" meeting was Conference President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz, Conference Past President Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, and Conference CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran. The "town hall" format allowed the Conference leadership and attendees to engage in a dialogue about ways to work together.

"Mayors understand the importance of small businesses in their cities," stated Kautz. She cited how small business development is one of the items contained in her "Metro Agenda" for the organization. Kautz met with the US Small Business

Administrator Karen Mills prior to the Town Hall forum, where Mills pledged to work with the Conference on small business issues.

Palmer echoed the same theme of cooperation. "We recognize the importance of businesses and communities working together," he said. This was Palmer's third appearance at an IFA Convention as a Conference Past President and Chair of the Small Business and Franchising Task Force. Cochran reviewed the Conference's policy that calls for increased federal action to assist small businesses by using TARP funds, and committed that the partnership between the two organizations will continue for "many years to come."

Issues discussed by the mayors and the small businesspersons included challenges presented by local menu labeling ordinances, access to capital, and establishing mayors-small business forums.

The International Franchise Association represents thousands of



Photo by Steven E. Purcell

Left to right, USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran, USCM President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz, and USCM Past President Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer address small businesspersons during "Mayors Town Hall" forum.

individual franchisees and franchisor organizations. The franchising industry provides jobs for more than 11 million Americans. Almost one

million franchised establishments generate over \$900 billion of direct economic output annually.

USCM, AAF Establish The Joseph P. Riley Jr. Annual Design Award Honoring Charleston Mayor



Photo by David Hathcox

USCM Past President Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. was honored at the 2010 Accent on Architecture Gala on February 5 in Washington (DC). The highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Award that will honor a mayor annually for leadership in urban design. Riley is the founder of the Mayors Institute on City Design, now in its 25th year. The Mayor Riley Award is co-sponsored by The U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Architectural Foundation. Presenting Riley with a certificate commemorating the award are USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran, right, and American Architectural Foundation President and CEO Ron Bogle.

Miami Mayor Regalado Kicks Off Jobs Initiative

Miami Mayor Tomas P. Regalado welcomed Miami residents to the first of a series of Mayor's Career Fairs January 26 at historic Miami city hall in the city's Coconut Grove neighborhood. "Keep Miami Working" is Regalado's initiative to ensure that Miami residents connect with employers and get the resources they need to assist them to enter or return to the workforce. Participating organizations assisting Miami residents with skills training and to find employment included Census 2010, Mercy Hospital, Per Scholas, South Florida Workforce, Hospitality Institute, Office of the State's Attorney, Suited for Success, ACCESSMiamiJobs.com, and Miami's Office of Communications.

The economic recession has hit hard in Miami where unemployment has topped 11 percent following the downturn in the economy. The Miami metro area economy is the largest in Florida and the 11th largest in the country. Services at the event were provided at no cost to participants.

Individuals attending the Career Fair accessed resources and information on prospective employers,



Miami Mayor Tomas P. Regalado, center, speaks with Miami residents at the Mayor's Career Fair at Miami city hall January 26.

job searches, how to dress for successful interviews and how to prepare résumés. Participants also had the opportunity to have professional portrait photos taken to include in résumés.



USCM Concerns from First Round Addressed

By Ron Thaniel

The Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced on January 15 the availability of \$2.6 billion in Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) ARRA grants to expand broadband access and adoption. This is the last round of funding.

Of the \$2.6 billion in BTOP, approximately \$2.35 billion will be made available for infrastructure projects. NTIA is adopting a "comprehensive communities" approach as its top priority in awarding infrastructure grants, focusing on middle mile broadband projects that con-

Last Round ARRA Broadband Funds Available: Deadline March 15

nect key community anchor institutions – such as libraries, hospitals, community colleges, universities, and public safety institutions. Furthermore, a victory for the Conference of Mayors, NTIA will no longer require an infrastructure project serve an unserved or underserved area, which was a key concern for the Conference of Mayors in the first round.

In an August 17 letter to U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, and again in Comments submitted to NTIA in late November, the Conference of Mayors "...urged the Administration to give careful attention to reconsidering the restrictive criteria that requires public safety and anchor institutions meet an underserved or unserved test before being eligible for broadband funding in the first round of the Broadband Technology and Opportunities Program (BTOP) in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)." The letter said, "Unless amended, these critical institutions, which in many cases serve our most vulnerable populations, will not meet ARRA requirements for

funding under the BTOP." However, NTIA will give priority to projects that are located in such areas and does intend to evaluate the extent to which proposed projects overbuild existing broadband infrastructure.

In addition, NTIA plans to award at least \$150 million of the funding for Public Computer Center projects, which will expand access to broadband service and enhance broadband capacity at public libraries, community colleges, and other institutions that service the general public. NTIA also plans to award at least \$100 million for Sustainable Broadband Adoption projects, which include projects to provide broadband education, training, and equipment, particularly to vulnerable population groups where broadband technology has traditionally been underutilized.

Other improvements include modifying the service area delineations from Census blocks to Census tracts and block groups, which was another concern for the Conference of Mayors in the first round. The August Conference of Mayors letter stated, "The underserved test to determine

the availability of broadband by census block depends on data that the U.S. Census does not gather."

Other key points to remember – applicants are required to provide matching funds of at least 20 percent or request a waiver. Additional consideration will be given to projects that propose to contribute a non-federal cost share/match that equals or exceeds 30 percent of the total eligible costs of the project. Also, applicants must demonstrate that the project could not have been implemented during the grant period without federal assistance. Applicants are encouraged to complete their projects within two years and must complete them within three years.

Application packages for electronic submission will be available at www.broadbandusa.gov/. The electronic portal for submitting round two applications will be on February 16, and close on March 15. Awards will be announced on a rolling basis beginning in June and all awards must be made by September 30.

USCM President Kautz Urges FCC to Reject Broadband Proposals That Would Undermine Local Authority, Budgets

By Ron Thaniel

Conference of Mayors President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz on January 27 urged the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to "reject proposals that would limit local authority to manage rights-of-way and/or would negatively impact local budgets" as the Commission enters final deliberations on a National Broadband Plan. Kautz said, "Congress recognized the importance of local control in Section 253 of the Communications Act." And she said, "Moreover, any local government revenue loss in these difficult economic times could very well result in additional cutbacks of critical city services."

Speaking to the ongoing recession, Kautz said, "Cities of all sizes in all parts of the nation have been forced to institute layoffs, furloughs, service reductions, and fee increases. The next fiscal year looks even worse for cities, with more than four in five cities anticipating a budget shortfall. The nation's mayors do not believe Congress or the Obama Administration intended for the National Broadband Plan to be used as a vehicle to take revenue from city budgets in order to subsidize private entities."

Her January 27 letter was in response to increasing reports that the communications lobby is having success in convincing FCC staff that local rights-of-way management and fees are hindering broadband

deployment – a claim the Conference of Mayors strongly challenged in Reply Comments to the Notice of Inquiry regarding the National Broadband Plan on July 21, 2009.

Referencing that cities and their metropolitan areas are where 84 percent of our people live and more than 90 percent of future economic growth will occur, Kautz said, "Mayors understand the role that broadband can play in enhancing educational opportunities, promoting economic development, improving health care delivery, assisting in achieving energy efficiency goals, and quite simply, determining if our cities can compete in the world economy."

"We also believe that rights-of-way management has served to pro-

note, not retard, universal access to broadband services, while at the same time protecting public health and safety and keeping rights-of-way accessible for safe transportation," she added.

As part of the Recovery Act, the President and Congress charged the FCC with developing a National Broadband Plan. The plan should provide a roadmap toward achieving the goal of ensuring that all Americans reap the benefits of broadband and should be submitted to Congress by March 17.

LET'S MOVE! from page 1

ville," an initiative that is aimed at improving school food offerings and increasing children's daily physical activity, is recognized nationally as a model program for municipal governments. The initiative, started in 2004 by Curtatone, is about "engaging community members of all ages and backgrounds, and from all sectors of community life, to transform the health of our community. Our guiding principles [Somerville] have been eat smart, play hard, live well," said Curtatone. "Every policy decision is influenced by these tenets," he added.

"One of the easiest and most important public policy changes was requiring developers and businesses to build sidewalks when building subdivisions or redesigning businesses. We've put in miles and miles of sidewalks, and the people of Herndon haven't had to pay for any of it," stated Johnson. The mayor also described how he established a soccer league in his town by leasing a parcel of land from a local resident for \$1 a year.

During the Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting in January, the First Lady asked the mayors to join her in her national campaign and praised the work that mayors have done across the nation to combat childhood obesity. "The idea here is very simple: to put in place common sense, innovative solutions that empower families and communities to make healthy decisions for their kids," stated Obama.

Major components of the Let's Move! Campaign include:

- The working with food manufacturers and retailers to make food labels more "customer-friendly." The nonalcoholic beverage indus-

try said Tuesday it would start putting calorie information on the front of its products.

- The American Academy of Pediatrics is encouraging doctors to monitor children's body mass index or BMI during each child wellness visit. BMI, which is a calculation of height and weight, is used to measure body fat.
 - Serving healthier food in schools. The administration is asking lawmakers to invest \$10 billion over the next decade to give schools more money to make needed changes. Additionally, the leading food providers including Sodexo and Aramark have agreed to participate by offering menu options that include more fruit, juice, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat and fat-free milk in reimbursable school lunches.
 - Offering \$400 million in tax breaks to encourage grocery stores to move into "food deserts," areas with limited supplies of nutritious food, and spending \$5 million more to establish and promote farmers' markets, with the goal of eliminating "food deserts" in seven years.
 - Encouraging children to exercise more; an hour a day is recommended.
 - A Web site with tools and resources - <http://www.letsmove.gov/>. Additionally, to support this effort, Obama announced the creation of an independent foundation - The Partnership for a Healthier America - to serve as a nonpartisan convenor across the private, non-profit and public sectors to accelerate the implementation of the campaign's overall goals of ending childhood obesity within a generation.
- Conference of Mayors President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz issued a statement praising the



Somerville (MA) Mayor Joseph Curtatone discusses his city's "Shape Up Somerville" anti-obesity initiative during the First Lady's event to launch her national childhood obesity campaign, "Let's Move."



U.S. MAYOR
1620 I Street NW, Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20006

First Lady's campaign and pledging the support of the nations mayors to achieve her goals. She cited "the proven track record" of the Conference of Mayors for holding summits and sharing best practices for many years, and pledged to provide the Conference of Mayors' best information about mayoral leadership on the issue as they go forward -

totally supporting the new national campaign.

Earlier in the day, President Barack Obama signed an executive memorandum setting up a interagency task force that includes members of his cabinet and other officials, who have 90 days to draw up a master plan to combat the scourge of childhood obesity.

Statement of USCM President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz on First Lady Obama's Campaign to End Childhood Obesity

Washington (DC) - "On behalf of the nation's mayors, I want to commend First Lady Michelle Obama for championing a national movement to end childhood obesity, and providing the national leadership that is desperately needed.

"As the First Lady acknowledged in her remarks to our 78th Winter Meeting on January 20, mayors are leading the way in cities across the nation to promote access to healthy food, as well as designing cities that enhance and encourage physical activity. For many years, our organization has - through summits and meetings - helped mayors share best practices and provided them with the latest research on strategies for addressing obesity. Mayors have a proven track record of changing personal behaviors. But now, we will have the support at the national level that is needed to create a broad consensus for action, and put in place policies that promote healthy lifestyles and access to healthy foods.

"The U.S. Conference of Mayors salutes the First Lady for taking up this movement, and we stand ready to work with her and the entire Administration in the days, months and years ahead as we address what is truly a preventable crisis."

