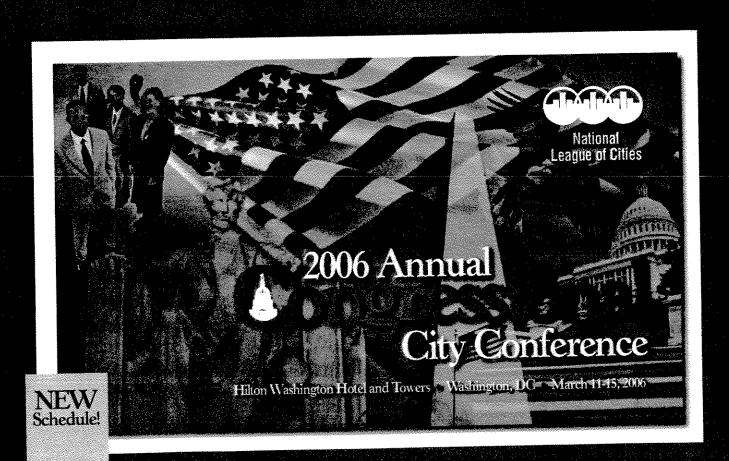
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National League of Cities Institute 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004



Loboying for America's Cities

A United Voice for Cities and Towns

n 2006, the 109th Congress and the President will focus on a range of issues that matter to America's cities, villages, and towns.

From telecommunications tax reform to emergency preparedness and response, from federal tax reform to funding for affordable housing, from protecting local programs in the federal budget process to managing rising health care costs, city and town leaders need to be well informed and well positioned to ensure the best outcomes for their communities on critical issues.

The National League of Cities provides the resources, the connections, and the collective power to help city leaders have an impact on Capitol Hill.

And, the 2006 National League of Cities Congressional City Conference, March 11-15, 2006, in Washington, DC, offers the best opportunity to learn about the issues, present a strong and unified municipal voice in Congress, develop and strengthen relationships with members of Congress, and advocate local positions on key priorities.

A NEW Schedule to Maximize Connections

We've adjusted the conference schedule in 2006 to give city leaders more time to connect with their Congressional delegations.

Leadership meetings, policy discussions, and legislative briefings will begin on Sunday, March 12, with general sessions and workshops scheduled on Monday, March 13, and Tuesday March 14. City Lobby Day will be held on Wednesday, March 15. The schedule offers two full days when members of Congress will be in Washington to connect with city officials both in general sessions at the hotel and in meetings on Capitol Hill.

Leadership Training Institute Seminars – which provide value-added skill development opportunities when you come to Washington to work on federal advocacy issues – will be offered on Saturday, March 11, and Sunday, March 12.

Come to Washington, DC, March 11-15, 2006, to educate and advocate on behalf of the 225 million people we collectively represent. The strength of the National League of Cities, as the voice in Congress for cities, villages, and towns throughout this country, depends on thousands of local officials – including each of you – coming together to speak with a loud, clear, and unified voice on a shared set of priorities.

There is a lot at stake for cities and towns in the 109th Congress. Join with your colleagues to demand a renewed federal-local partnership to address the issues critical to cities and towns across America.

The Action Plan

Sunday, March 12

City officials gather at the Hilton Washington and Towers for leadership meetings, policy discussions, and legislative briefings to learn about current federal issues and priorities for America's cities and towns.

Monday, March 13

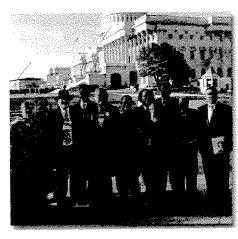
NLC's leaders and general session speakers set the stage for the action to come by outlining the opportunities and challenges and building capacity to make a difference on key federal issues.

Tuesday, March 14

President Bush and Congressional and administrative leaders are invited to discuss their priorities and reactions to the National League of Cities agenda. The program will wrap up with a closing general session to review the agenda and confirm plans for City Lobby Day.

Wednesday, March 15 – City Lobby Day
Buses take all conference delegates to the
Capitol for strategic meetings with
Congressional leaders to talk about
NLC's priorities for federal action and
expectations of Congress and the
Administration.

Be part of the national voice of America's cities and towns in 2006.







Preliminary (

The Conference will provide a range of education, networking, and strategy sessions to maximize the value of this event for city officials. This preliminary schedule provides an outline of major events during the conference to help delegates make travel plans.

Saturday, March 11

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Leadership Training Seminars

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Orientation to the Conference for First Time Attendees

Constituency and Special Group Meetings 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 12

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Policy and Advocacy Committee Meetings

Community and Economic Development (CED) Information Technology and Communications (ITC) Transportation Infrastructure and Services (TIS)

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NLC Board of Directors Meeting

NLC Advisory Council Meeting Leadership Training Seminars

1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Policy and Advocacy Committee Meetings

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR)

Finance, Administration, and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR)

Human Development (HD)

Public Safety and Crime Prevention (PSCP)

5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Constituency and Special Group Meetings

Monday, March 13

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Steering Committee Work Sessions

Community and Economic Development (CED) Information Technology and Communications (ITC) Transportation Infrastructure and Services (TIS)

8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. - Noon

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Celebrate Diversity Breakfast Opening General Session Roundtable Networking Lunch

Steering Committee Work Sessions

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Finance, Administration, and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR)

Human Development (HD)

Public Safety and Crime Prevention (PSCP)

1:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Workshop Sessions General Session

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

State League Caucuses and Receptions Constituency and Special Group Meetings/Events

Tuesday, March 14

9:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. General Session Workshop Sessions

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Roundtable Networking Lunch

2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Workshop Sessions Closing General Session

5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

State League Caucuses and Receptions Reception and The Capitol Steps

Wednesday, March 15

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

City Lobby Day on Capitol Hill

Visit the NLC website at www.nlc.org and read Nation's Cities Weekly for updates on specific program plans.

Special Events

Monday, March 13

Celebrate Diversity Breakfastt

8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Fee: \$40 (\$50 on site)

The 20th annual Celebrate Diversity Breakfast will feature a keynote speaker who will provide a perspective on "diversity" issues facing America's cities and towns. The breakfast is sponsored by five NLC constituency

Tuesday, March 14 The Capitol Steps 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Capitol Steps will perform on Tuesday as part of a conference wrap up to energize the delegates for City Lobby Day on Wednesday morning. This troupe of former Congressional employees provides bi-partisan fun for everyone.

Dates to Remember

February 6, 2006: Deadline for advance registration and housing requests. All requests must be postmarked by this date. After this date, all delegates must register on-site at higher rates.

February 6, 2006: Deadline for Cancellations. Cancellation letters must be postmarked by this date and are subject to a \$50 cancellation fee. There are no refunds for cancellations after this date.

How to Register

To register for the 2006 Congressional City Conference, fill out the registration form and return it with your check, city purchase order, or credit card information to the NLC Meeting Services, postmarked by February 6, 2006, or register online at www.nlc.org.

- * Each delegate, guest, speaker, member of the press, and any other conference participant must register. There is a \$75 youth delegates fee. There is no charge for press registrations with proper press credentials.
- ★ No telephone registrations or cancellations will be accepted.
- ★ Payment (check, city purchase order, or credit card) must be included with advance registrations.
- * People unable to meet the February 6 deadline will have to register on-site at the meeting and make their own hotel reservations.

Refunds will be made for cancellations received by February 6, 2006, subject to a \$50 cancellation charge. Cancellation letters must be postmarked by this date. No telephone cancellations will be accepted. No partial refunds will be made if you decide not to attend particular functions.

Hotels

- * If you need hotel accommodations, please check the appropriate box on the registration form.
- ★ NLC will make a hotel reservation for you when you register for the conference.
- * Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served
- All conference sessions will be held at the Hilton Washington Hotel.

Leadership Training Institute

Congressional City Conference * March 11-12, 2006

These special institute seminars are offered to delegates for a separate registration fee. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

FULL-DAY SEMINARS Saturday, March 11, 2006

L01: Community Meetings: Practical Tools for Effective Public Forums

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$160 Competency: Collaborator

Explore how to engage citizens in a positive, productive forum. Learn practical tools, techniques and tips for effective public meetings and recognize when community meet ings are most useful. Know how to plan successful meetings and how to make the sessions more productive as you learn how to prepare and design a meeting.

Instructors:

Pam Plumb, Principal, Pam Plumb & Associates, Portland, Maine Dee Kelsey, Principal, Dee Kelsey & Associates, Portland, Maine

L02: Building Accountability and Commitment: The Restoration of Community

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m Registration Fee: \$160 Competency: Competent Practitioner

Broaden your set of tools for building accountability and commitment in your community as you develop a road map for creating a culture of accountability back home. Rethink the way you integrate the 'doing' and 'managing' of your work as a local leader. Learn new tools to change the conversation, so in effect you can change the community.

Bill Brewer, Trainer and Director of Client Relations, Designed Learning, Oxford, Ohio

MORNING SEMINARS Saturday, March 11, 2006

L03: Developing an Effective Emergency Preparedness Plan 9:00 a.m. – Noon Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Competent Practitioner

Is your community ready? Is your plan into-date and does it fully cover the short term operations of restoring vital services to the community, as well as the long term focus of restoring the community to a normal or improved condition? Examine the key components of an Emergency Preparedness Plan and your responsibilities as a local city official.

Robert Zienkowski, City Manager, City of Brunswick, Ohio

AFTERNOON SEMINARS Saturday, March 11, 2006

L/4: Building Public Trust through Performance Leadership 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Cornerstone

Leaders who want to win back public trust must do so by achieving performance results that matter to citizens and stakeholders.

Evaluate your own performance by asking yourself key questions: What are we doing? How are we doing? How do we lead change: Examine those key leadership attributes of vision, participation, collaboration and inspiration in an effort to build public trust in your performance leadership

Kevin Baum, Founder and Principal, InCentergy, Austin, Texas

L05: Community Leadership and System Change 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Catalyst

Too often communities embark on a significant change with the goal of enhancing serv-ices and supports to the community, only to ask, "When did this become so difficult?" Elected officials are expected to lead a change process but are rarely given the tools to ensure success of their efforts. Examine your role as a local community leader as you iocus on current changes and their challenges in your community.

Gary DeCarolis, President, Center for Community Leadership, Burlington,

L0x: Diversity Awareness: More than Just Black and White 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Collaborator

'Hold up the mirror' and explore the many differences that are present around your everyday experience. Take a deeper look at biases, stereotypes and assumptions. Craft an action plan to leverage diversity both inside and outside your daily activities as a local city leader. Discover unique ways to integrate diversity, making it a process that is part of an everyday way of doing business as a city official.

Instructor

Floyd 'Sonny' Massey III, Principal, SOKAKI & Associates, Corona, California

L07: Managing Communication Style Differences 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Communicator

Individuals have different predispositions and preferences in communication styles, particularly in stressful conditions. Assess your own communication style by examining different styles under both 'calm' and 'storm' conditions. Identify different communication styles, appreciate their unique contributions and challenges, and become more adept in working with them to manage interactions with others in a constructive manner.

Instructor

Dr. Neil Katz, Director of Organizational Training and Development, Executive Education, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

FULL-DAY SEMINAR Sunday, March 12, 2006

L08: Negotiation Skills and Strategies 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$160 Competency: Collaborator

It is true that high quality negotiation skills are a key factor in meeting needs, particularly in an environment of scarce resources and increased competition. Examine the strengths and limitations of your current negotiation style, explore the advantages of negotiation preparation, and develop competence in utilizing an interest-based process for negotiations to achieve substantive, procedural and relationship outcomes.

Dr. Neil Katz, Director of Organizational Training and Development, Executive Education, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

MORNING SEMINARS Sunday, March 12, 2006

L09: Five Steps to a Great Meeting with Effective Parliamentary

Procedure 9:00 a.m. - Noon Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Cornerstone

Recognize the mechanics of leading a great meeting. Learn how to handle both the basic and essential parliamentary processes to handling motions, amendments, taking votes and handling debate. Engage in the opportunity to exercise judgment in posed difficult situa tions to craft solutions based on the principles that have governed the democratic process

Wally Carson, Trainer, A Great Meeting, Inc., Silver Spring, Maryland

L10: Leading Your Community Through Effective Strategic Communications 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Registration Fee: \$100
Competency: Communicator

Whether you are a veteran elected official or new to public service, understanding the intricacies of message development and the media can ensure you are successful in office. Learn how to develop your message, communicate with the media, and create an effective communications campaign. Learn valuable strategies to get your message out to your constituency and opinion leaders to further your policy agenda and ensure com Instructor

Marcelo Gaete-Tapia, Senior Director of Programs, National Association of Latino Elected Officials Education Fund, Los Angeles, California

Lt1: Community Branding: Whose Job Is It: 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Catalyst

Learn how to help guide your community to its preferred future through a community branding initiative that marshals the resources of your community to their best use. Understand brand marketing, what it is, and its value and unique application to communities. Learn the skills and steps necessary to make your community unique. Learn from case-studies and explore the development of strategic branding applications for your community. instructor:

Don McEachern, CEO, North Star Destination Strategies, Nashville, Tennessee

LTI LUNCHEON Sunday, March 12, 2006

L12: Leadership Luncheon

Noon - 1:30 p.m. Registration Fee: \$40

Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze recipients in the NLC Certificate of Achievement in Leadership program will be recognized. Facilitators:

Leadership Training Council

AFTERNOON SEMINARS Sunday, March 12, 2006

L13: Building Communities from the Inside Out: An Asset Approach 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Competent Practitioner

Rediscover community strengths and assets as the foundation for community building, rather than focusing on the needs, problems, and deficiencies. Learn practical approaches to increasing citizen involvement, building resident ownership and strengthening neigh borhood pride. Learn how city governments can surface new community leaders and engage them in community renewal and community asset development. Instructor:

Henry Moore, Faculty, Asset-Based Community Development Institute, Northwestern University, HMBC, Inc., Savannah, Georgia

L14: Local Elected Officials Guide to Managing Media Mania 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Communicator

Local leaders need to handle media inquiries with confidence by communicating simply and precisely in a language that conveys leadership, competence and integrity. Learn to focus on what the media wants and needs; learn how to work with reporters to achieve your communication goals. Learn technaques to be proactive, provide timely and accurate facts, and avoid reporters' traps. Instructor

Beverly R. Silverberg, President, Beverly Silverberg Communications, Inc., Hyattsville, Maryland

L15: Performance Leader: Taking Responsibility for Results 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Fee: \$100 Competency: Cornerstone

Discover a simple model of what it takes to be a successful performance leader and outline action steps to enhance your personal effectiveness as a leader. Performance leaders exercise power. Power is making decisions that people implement through their actions and are then held accountable for the results. Instructor:

Lyle Sumek, President, Lyle Sumek Associates, Inc., Heathrow, Florida

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

allows local elected officials to organize their protessional development around critical skills necessary for effective leadership. The program is built around five core leadership competencies for local elected officials, with each Leadership Training Institute Semmar addressing one of the following competency areas

(1) Cornerstone;

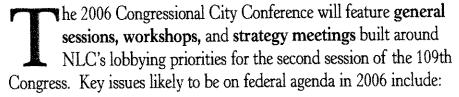
(2) Competent Practitioner,

(3) Communicator; (4) Collaborator;

(5) Cataket

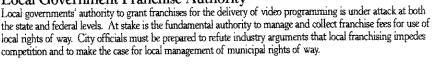
To obtain more information or enroll in the Certificate of Achievement in Leadership program, contact the Leadership Training Institute at (202) 626-3170.







Local Government Franchise Authority





Federal Tax Reform

The President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform included in its recommendations the elimination of the deduction for state and local property, income, and sales taxes. If enacted, this would impose a federally mandated double taxation on taxpayers in cities and towns throughout the country. Congress is likely to address this and other tax reform proposals during the coming year, and city leaders need to be prepared to protect local revenue in that process.



Eminent Domain for Economic Development

Both Congress and many state legislatures are considering legislative proposals to constrain local governments' use of eminent domain in the wake of the Supreme Court decision in the Kelo v. City of New London case. That decision affirmed that exercising eminent domain for economic development is a "public" use. Sessions will cover the latest developments on the federal and state levels and strategies for managing this politically charged issue.



Spectrum for Public Safety

Local recovery efforts during Hurricane Katrina underscored the need for reliable, interoperable communication systems for local emergency response. Congress is addressing proposals to set a specific date for the release of broadcast spectrum that can be designated exclusively for public safety purposes and to authorize funding for interoperable public safety communications equipment.



Community Development and Affordable Housing

Despite NLC's success in preserving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and securing increased funding for Section 8 Housing Vouchers this year, these programs will face continued challenges in the next federal budget. The Administration will continue to push its Strengthening America's Communities Initiative to combine, cut, and move CDBG, and to reform the Section 8 program to contain its increasing costs.



The Fiscal Year 2007 Federal Budget

The next federal budget will face intense pressure including the cost of rebuilding communities devastated by recent hurricanes, continued support for the war in Iraq, the cost of implementing the President's proposed tax cuts and Social Security reform, and achieving the President's promised deficit reduction goals. This means that federal programs important to cities and towns including CDBG, housing, public safety, homeland security, and education could be under attack in the budget process.



Telecommunications Tax Reform

The migration of telecommunications services to a non-taxed, Internet platform will continue to shrink traditional sources of revenue for cities and towns across the country and lead to inequitable tax treatment of telecommunications services based on the delivery technology rather than the service provided. At the same time, telecommunications companies argue that taxes on telecommunications services are too high and that the collection and administration of local telecommunications taxes must be streamlined and centralized at the state level. As a result, pressure for reform of telecommunications taxes is increasing on both the federal and state levels.



Health Care Reform

The rising cost of providing health care benefits to employees has had a dramatic impact on municipal budgets. Recommendations by an NLC Health Care Task Force to address the cost of health care will be the basis for increased federal advocacy for health care reforms in the coming year.



Educational Reform

The No Child Left Behind Act is scheduled to be reauthorized next year. An NLC Task Force has developed a set of recommendations for reforming the Act to close the gap between its requirements and feasible implementation. City officials — many of whom are blamed when schools fail — must be prepared to advocate for needed reforms and for the funding required to meet Act's requirements.

Visit the NLC website at www.nlc.org for regular updates on key issues and advocacy priorities.

NLC 2006 Congressional Gry Conference ESTATION And Holling Holling Form Washington, DC - March 11 - 15, 2006 Advance Registration and Housing Reservation, Res

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SG \$35 Spouse/Partner (non-refundable)	\$		h Club Level*	\$239/\$259	Omni Shoreham	\$199/\$199
7 \$75 Youth Delegate 8 \$75 Youth Chaperone (not applicable to elected officials)	\$ \$	Churchill		\$189/\$209	Renaissance Mayflower	\$212/\$212
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(Saturday, March 11, 2006) You must be registered for the conference in order to attend. L1 \$160 Community Meetings: Practical Tools for Effective Public Forum L2 \$160 Building Accountability and Commitment: The Restoration of Community Building Public Trust through Performance Leadership L5 \$100 Community Leadership and System Change L6 \$100 Diversity Awareness: More Than Just Black and White L7 \$100 Managing Communication Style Differences Registration for Leadership Training Institute Sermit (Sunday, March 12, 2006) You must be registered for the conference in order to attend. L8 \$160 Negotiation Skills and Strategies 9 \$100 Five Steps to a Great Meeting with Effective Parliamentary	All checks, government purchase orders, vouchers or claims must be submitted to the hotel with 6 digit REG ID indicated on NLC Meeting Services confirmation FOUR WEEKS prior to your arrival but are subject to hotel approval. Registration Fee Payment Information: [You must check one of the options below.] Charge my REGISTRATION FEES to VISA, MasterCard or AMEX listed below. Check for REGISTRATION FEES made payable to National League of Cities. Purchase Order for REGISTRATION FEES—copy must be enclosed & payment must be received by March 3, 2006. Hotel Deposit Payment Information: [You must check one of the options below.] Charge my HOTEL DEPOSIT to the credit card listed below. Check for HOTEL DEPOSIT—please submit to hotel address noted on confirmation FOUR WEEKS prior to your arrival—subject to hotel approval. Purchase Order for HOTEL DEPOSIT—submit to hotel address noted on confirmation					
Procedures L10 \$100 Leading Your Community through Effective Strategic Communications L11 \$100 Community Branding: Whose Job Is It? L13 \$100 Building Communities from the Inside Out: An Asset Approach L14 \$100 Local Elected Officials Guide to Managing Media Mania	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	FOUR WEEKS prior to your arrival – subject to hotel approval Credit Card Authorization: NLC Meeting Services is authorized to use the card below to pay all applicable registration fees and guarantee my hotel reservation. I understand that one night's room charge will be billed through this card if I fail to show up for my assigned housing on the confirmed date, unless I have cancelled my				
L15 \$100 Performance Leader: Taking Responsibility for Results	\$	reservation with	the hotel at least	72 hours in advan	ce.	
Special Events Pl \$40 Celebrate Diversity Breakfast (On-site rate is \$50 after 2/6/06)	\$	Visa/MC/AME	X #:		Exp. Date	
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