



The United States Conference of Mayors

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Friday, June 18, 2010

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U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS TO BRING MAYORS TO GULF COAST

Mayors to Tour BP Oil Disaster Waters, Meet with Fishermen, Develop Future Strategy Over Fresh Catch Louisiana Seafood Lunch In New Orleans Restaurant

New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu to Host Mayors on Monday, June 21

New Orleans – The President of The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, along with USCM Second Vice President Philadelphia (PA) Mayor Michael Nutter and USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran, will lead the nation's mayors on a mission to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast Monday, June 21 to stand in solidarity with New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and the mayors of the region impacted by the BP oil disaster, and to push Washington and BP to accept the recommendations on response to and recovery from the disaster adopted last week at the 78th Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors. **Media representatives ARE invited to join the mayors for the day (bus departs from hotel at 7:45AM).**

At least 16 cities from across the country will be represented, including Santa Barbara and Long Beach (CA), Houston and Denton (TX), Baton Rouge and Lafitte (LA), Biloxi and Prentiss (MS), Mobile (AL), Clearwater and Fort Myers (FL), and Everett (MA), as well as officials of the municipal leagues of the Gulf Coast states. The mayors will join Mayor Landrieu for a briefing by Coast Guard officials, a bus trip to Lafitte to meet with local fishermen and tour the damaged area by boat, and a press conference at the Bon Ton Café in New Orleans followed by a local seafood lunch. Mayors also will discuss Fair Share legislation, supporting Mayor Landrieu's call for funds from new oil and gas leases to be shared with the four Gulf energy-producing states for coastal protection and restoration earlier than the currently legislated 2017.

Last week, during the Conference of Mayors' Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, U.S. mayors passed a resolution on the oil disaster, calling on the Obama Administration to establish a special task force of appropriate senior federal officials, including a Gulf Oil Disaster commander, to direct the actions of all the federal agencies involved, to provide timely and updated information to mayors and local officials on mitigation efforts, and to ensure that lead federal agencies are coordinating closely with cities and local governments in ALL PHASES of the national response.

Schedule for Monday, June 21 (subject to change):

7:45AM	Depart Roosevelt Hotel by bus for Lafitte. Briefing on bus by Michael Hecht, CEO of GNO, Inc., and Ewell Smith, Ex. Dir., Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board. (123 Baronne St.)
8:45-9:30AM	Briefing at Lafitte Emergency Operations Center (4900 Block of Treasure Drive) by Incident Commander Captain Roger Laferriere, U.S. Coast Guard.
9:45AM	Arrive boat dock in Lafitte (Intersection of Elizabeth Street and Jean Lafitte Blvd.), Greetings by Lafitte Mayor Tim Kerner and Robert Barham, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Boat tour, including meeting with local fishermen on jack-up barge and viewing the oil damage in area marshes.
12:45PM	Return to Lafitte boat dock.
1:00PM	Depart Lafitte for return to New Orleans. Briefing on bus by Mayor Landrieu and Conference CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran.
1:45-3:00PM	PRESS CONFERENCE followed by working seafood lunch at Bon Ton Café (401 Magazine St.). NOTE: Media are invited to photograph mayors during lunch.

Participants expected include:

Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, Burnsville, MN
Mayor Mike Nutter, Philadelphia, PA
Mayor Mitch Landrieu, New Orleans, LA
Mayor Kip Holden, Baton Rouge, LA
Mayor Tim Kerner, Jean Lafitte, LA
Mayor Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara, CA
Mayor Bob Foster, Long Beach, CA
Mayor Frank Hibbard, Clearwater, FL
Mayor Randall Henderson, Jr., Fort Myers, FL
Mayor Sam Jones, Mobile, AL
Mayor Charley Dumas, Prentiss, MS, and President-Elect of Mississippi Municipal League
Mayor A.J. Holloway, City of Biloxi, MS
Mayor Annise Parker, Houston, TX
Mayor Mark Burroughs, Denton, TX
Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Jr., Everett, MA
Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director, The U.S. Conference of Mayors
C. Scott Dudley, Florida League of Cities
Carrie Blanchard, Chief Of Staff, Mayor of Tallahassee, FL
George E. Lewis, Executive Director, Mississippi Municipal League
Don Borut, Executive Director, National League of Cities

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

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