

Date: May 26, 2005

To: Neighborhood Council Leaders

From: Greg Nelson, General Manager, Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment

Subject: NEW MAYOR'S APPLICATION PROCESS. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM? COOL IDEA #10 – BRING BACK THE WELCOME WAGON.

NEW MAYOR'S APPLICATION PROCESS

Mayor-elect Villaraigosa has a place on his website for those who wish to be on his staff, or to be appointed as a commissioner. Go to www.antonio2005.com/apply.

My unsolicited advice is to visit his home page, read his vision and those news releases that speak about his hopes and plans, and then ensure that your application includes information that convinces him that you will be able to help him accomplish his goals.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM?

Is this an idea worth pursuing as a means of focusing more public attention on Neighborhood Councils? We're looking for some quick feedback.

There are three questions that we're looking to get answered?

1. Would you want to attend, and how many other friends and relatives do you would want to join you?
2. Which date should we pick? I suggest picking a date that likely wouldn't be a sell out, so that we will be assured that seats will be available. So that would eliminate the most popular teams and the give-away nights, such as the Steve Twining Bobblehead Doll Night. We're thinking about Wednesday night, August 10 vs. the Phillies. To view the schedule [click here](#).
3. Which price seats would you prefer? The choices are Pavilion (the bleachers where alcohol isn't sold) or the Top Deck at \$6 each. The upper rows of the Reserve Level at \$10 each. Or the lower rows of the Reserve Level at \$12 each. If 30-299 tickets are sold, the Neighborhood Councils will be acknowledged on the message board. If 300-999 tickets are sold, four people will also be able to be on the field before the game and be introduced to the crowd. Our thought is that those four would be selected randomly from those who purchased tickets and who wished to be on the field.

The City Attorney has advised that our department should not be involved in handling the money, and that City money should not be used to purchase the tickets. The Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils has agreed to receive

the checks from the individuals who want tickets, and to then take that money to the Dodgers and reserve the seats. The Dodgers require all of the money upfront.

So, give me your thoughts. You are not being asked to commit yourself to anything. We just need some feedback in order to decide if there is enough interest to give it a shot.

COOL IDEA #10 – BRING BACK THE WELCOME WAGON

Am I the only one around here old enough to remember the Welcome Wagon? I don't know who they were, but these volunteers would visit people who had just moved into the neighborhood and give them valuable information, such as lists of civic organizations, discount coupons from local merchants, important phone numbers to call within government, and so on.

So maybe Neighborhood Councils, as a means of reaching out to new neighbors, would like to revive this concept which not only seems to exist in a few small towns in the nation.

Neighborhood Councils could easily create their own brochure (we provide a [template](#) on our website), elected officials have their information, governments have information (you can visit the city departments at the Congress of Neighborhoods on June 25), and the local Chamber of Commerce would probably know if any merchants are providing or want to provide discount coupons.

The trick is in knowing when someone moves into an area. Apartment buildings are easy because that just requires establishing a relationship with the leasing office folks in the large complexes. We may have to ask for help from those reading this newsletter for the best ways to know about new homeowners. The County Assessor's website at <http://assessor.co.la.ca.us/extranet/default.aspx> provides some valuable information after you click on Property Sales and Maps and accept the agreement. Enter an intersection and you can find information about recently sold properties in the area.

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