

Date: June 17, 2005

To: Neighborhood Council Leaders
From: Greg Nelson, General Manager
Subject: CONGRESS UPDATE

MAYOR HAHN TO ATTEND.

As he has done at the past Congresses, Mayor Hahn will do the welcome at the opening session at 8:30 a.m. This will be an opportunity for the Neighborhood Councils to thank him for the support that he has given to this grand experiment.

HISTORIC PHOTO OPPORTUNITY. You know those historic photographs that you see hanging on walls in City Hall where all of the civic leaders gather on the steps of City Hall and have their picture taken? We're going to give this a shot at the Congress of Neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Council members are our new community leaders, and renowned photographer will record this historic moment. We won't be at City Hall though. At the end of the lunch break, just before noon, we're going to try and assemble everyone at a spot near the entrance to the West Hall. There will be plenty of signs and people to direct you. If we can do this swiftly, it doesn't detour you too much from your appointed rounds. And it's OK to smile!

CONGRESS - PROGRAM CHANGE As we get closer to the Congress on June 25, you can expect a few last minute changes. If you go to our home page and click on the Congress icon on the upper-left, you can find the program of workshops. Originally, we had three different workshops -- one to explain the new citywide election procedures, another to start training those who want to volunteer to be Independent Election Administrators, and a third to start training those who want to be Final Decision Makers of election challengers. We are not ready to begin the training sessions, so we combined everything into the workshop in the morning session about the election procedures, and we'll repeat the class in the afternoon. During these two classes, we'll talk in general about the training that is to come later. **PARKING CHANGE** You will now be parking in the West Hall parking area. Signs will direct you. This area will be exclusively for Congress attendees. Enter from Cherry Street.

GETTING THE YOUTH INVOLVED

We're very excited about the two workshops that we will be presenting along with the Museum of Tolerance. Entitled "Empowering Youth Voice and Battling the Negative Portrayal of Youth by the Media", these workshops were designed with the youth themselves. Some Neighborhood Councils are bringing in their youth in buses.