



**MILLENNIAL
MAYORS
CONGRESS**

COMING 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009

CONTACT: SHARON CARNEY
(248) 546-2380
sharon@suburbsalliance.org

CITIES LOOKING FOR YOUNG LEADERS *New Regional Initiative Engages Young Adults as Partners*

FERNDALE – Five Detroit-area cities today announced calls for young leaders to participate in a new initiative that pairs mayors with 18-35-year-olds to address impediments to regional prosperity.

The cities of Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Lincoln Park and Wayne are among the 23 cities that are together launching the Millennial Mayors Congress. The Congress will serve as a regional forum for inter-generational collaboration and problem-solving around challenges impeding New Economy prosperity.

“We need to make metro Detroit a place where talent wants to be,” said Lincoln Park Mayor Frank Vaslo. “What better way to do that than engage the next generation of leaders as partners in creating the kinds of places and opportunities that will keep them here?”

Each participating city will send a two-person delegation to serve on the Millennial Mayors Congress: its mayor and a young citizen aged 18-35. All representatives will work together to develop actionable goals to address an issue of regional significance. Implementation of the goals will be pursued at the local level.

The selection of a focus issue and adoption of goals will be decided by consensus. Goal development will be supported by researchers and technical experts. The Michigan Suburbs Alliance, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, will provide administrative support to the Millennial Mayors Congress.

The first meeting of the Millennial Mayors Congress will take place in spring 2009.

“Millennial” representatives will participate in bi-monthly meetings, engage their peer network and help develop the Congress agenda. Term length is one year, beginning in May 2009. They will attend an orientation session and have access to periodic training and skill development opportunities. Applications and full instructions are available at www.millennialmayorscongress.org.

“The Millennial Mayors Congress goes beyond asking twentysomethings ‘What do you want?’” said Project Director Sharon Carney. “These city officials are asking young leaders to step up as partners in creating positive change and shaping a vision for the future of metro Detroit.”



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Residents of Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village and Wayne interested in serving as a Millennial representative can download an application at www.millennialmayorscongress.org. Applications must be submitted to Sharon Carney at the Michigan Suburbs Alliance by Sunday, March 29, 2009 by mail, fax or email.

Sharon Carney, Special Project Director
Michigan Suburbs Alliance
300 E. Nine Mile Rd.
Ferndale, MI 48220
fax: 248-546-2369
email: sharon@suburbsalliance.org

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