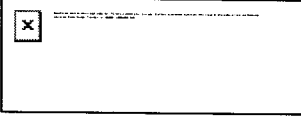
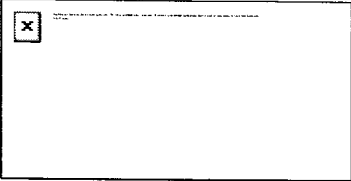
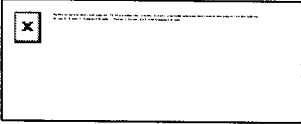


(c)

Lashway, Lisa

From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2008 12:39 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Municipal Clerks from NJLM

		
LEAGUE ALERT		
Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.		
July 15, 2008		
Re: I NOTICE: Telephonic hearing, July 31, 2008 at 10:30 am		
Re: II 2008 Budget Impact Survey		
 Re: I NOTICE: Telephonic hearing, July 31, 2008 at 10:30 am		
Dear Mayor:		
The State and Local Government Subcommittee of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy invites you to participate in a telephonic hearing on Thursday, July 31, at 10:30 am on issues related to immigrant integration at the municipal level . The call will be moderated by Mayor Michael Wildes of Englewood, panel member and chair of the League of Municipalities' Immigration Task Force.		
Established in August 2007, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy is charged with developing policy recommendations to respond to New Jersey's burgeoning immigrant population, which comprises 20 percent of the state's total population. 1 An estimated 20 to 24 percent of the state's foreign born population is undocumented, leading to new challenges in immigrant policy and integration. 2 The panel addresses these issues through two main goals: first, to advance the political, social, and economic integration of immigrants in New Jersey. Second, the panel must ensure that municipalities remain just and legal environments for immigrant individuals.		

The panel is divided into four subcommittees, each charged with specific tasks. Among other issues, the State and Local Government subcommittee must address immigrant integration at the municipal level. It therefore seeks testimony from New Jersey mayors and municipal officials through a **telephonic hearing to be held with the League of Municipalities on July 31**. The subcommittee is interested in hearing the experiences of municipal leaders' integration initiatives.

Although the full panel has already elicited testimonies from the general public through three public hearings, the State and Local Government subcommittee would benefit from input from the League of Municipalities in crafting its recommendations on general best practices for municipalities. The panel hopes to provide a resource guide for municipal leaders highlighting successful integration initiatives. The guide will be based upon the panel's research and will help communities become more cohesive by utilizing/expanding existing structures.

1 US Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey.

2 Pew Hispanic Center, "Estimates of the Unauthorized Migrant Population for States based on the March 2005 CP" Pew Research Center, 26 April 2006, <http://pewhispanic.org>.

The guide will address the following:

- Municipal IDs
 - feasibility, associated costs, pros and cons
- Welcome/community/day labor centers
 - capacity to use existing structures (e.g. attached to CBO or visitor center)
- Ensuring access to services
 - delivering services in culturally and linguistically competent manner
- Affordable housing
 - encompassing immigrant community in affordable housing plans
- Local law enforcement and public safety
 - garnering trust between law enforcement and the immigrant community

All municipal leaders with experience in immigrant integration initiatives are welcome to provide testimony to the subcommittee. Those who cannot provide telephonic testimony can submit written testimony.

If you are interested in testifying, you MUST RSVP by _____

**Wednesday, July 16 to Armand Dekaser at
armand.dekaser@gov.state.nj.us .**

Re: II 2008 Budget Impact Survey

Dear Mayor:

This year, in the face of rapidly rising energy costs, pension costs, foreclosure rates and unemployment rates, local budget makers also face declining State property relief funding. We have received no assurances that things will be better in any of these areas next year.

In order to assess the impact of these developments across the State, the Department of Community Affairs and the League of Municipalities are collaborating on a survey effort, to understand actions that local budget makers are taking to address budget pressures and the stress on municipal property taxes.

Yesterday, the Department of Community Affairs distributed the survey to all municipal clerks, with instruction to share this information with you or another appropriate official in your municipality. We also have a copy of the survey document posted on our website at <http://www.njslom.org/League-Local-Finance-Survey.html> .

We, respectfully, ask that the survey be completed and returned to us by July 18.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director