

**THOMAS C. LEPPERT
MAYOR**



MAYOR ON CAPITOL HILL TO CALL FOR MAIN STREET STIMULUS PACKAGE

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Monday morning, December 8th, Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert will join other mayors on Capitol Hill in calling for a Main Street Stimulus package to help jump start the nation's economy.

Mayor Leppert says the nation's economy cannot recover until the country's metro economies recover. He says that will take a laser-like effort aimed at cities.

"A shotgun approach with a stimulus package will not have the impact the economy needs," says Mayor Leppert. "These must be projects that have a major ripple effect. They have to benefit the public, create jobs and businesses, and the type that can be then leveraged to do even more of that. Putting stimulus funding directly to use in the cities can have that kind of impact."

Mayor Leppert, who is on the Advisory Board for the US Conference of Mayors, chairs the group's Metro Economies Committee.

The news conference will be held in the U.S. Capitol in Room H-137 at 9:30AM (EST).

Also participating in the news conference will be New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Miami Mayor Manny Diaz and other key leaders of the US Conference of Mayors. Several members of Congress are also expected.

The mayors will call for Congress and President-Elect Barack Obama to provide funds from any major stimulus package directly to local governments. Metropolitan economies drive the nation's economy, comprising 90% of our gross domestic product. Investing in these economies is the most direct path reversing the current economic downturn.

The USCM has surveyed hundreds of cities for projects that are ready to go and will create immediate jobs. They include road, water, energy, rail and green infrastructure projects. The cities' lists will be released Monday at the news conference.

Immediately following the press conference, mayors will meet with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in her office at 10:30am; and then with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Assistant Senate Majority Leader Richard Durbin at 11:30am. Those meetings are closed to the press.

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