

Correspondence – United States Conference of Mayors

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NEWS



United States Conference of Mayors

1612 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH - MAYOR HENRY W. MAIER

Henry W. Maier, now in his fourth four-year term as Mayor of Milwaukee, entered active public service in 1950 when he was elected to the Wisconsin State Senate. He was re-elected to the Senate seat in 1954 and again in 1958. From 1953 to 1960, he was Democratic floor leader in the State Senate, where his colleagues voted him as the foremost strategist and ablest parliamentarian in the party's history. As a State Senator, Maier led the fight which brought a four year branch of the University of Wisconsin to Milwaukee.

Maier ran for Mayor of Milwaukee in 1948 at the age of 29. In 1956, he was the Democratic nominee for the United States Senate. In 1960, he was elected to his first term as Mayor of Milwaukee by a landslide upset victory over a favored U. S. Congressman. He was re-elected in April, 1964, and won again in April, 1968, with 86% of the vote -- the largest margin of victory of any mayor in Milwaukee history.

National Credits:

Mayor Maier ~~is presently serving~~ *has served* as President of the United States Conference of Mayors. Prior to his election by the U. S. Conference in June of 1971, Mayor Maier had served as President of the National League of Cities, Chairman of the Human Resources Committee of the U. S. Conference of Mayors, and is a member of its special Legislative Committee. He has also served as chairman of the Urban Renewal and Resolutions Committee of that body.

He has been a leader in the fight to gain more national attention to the problems of the cities and was one of the first to call for a re-allocation of national resources to help the central cities.



He has forcefully called for the elimination of total restrictive zoning practices which bar the poor from the metropolitan area outside the central city. He is serving as a consultant to a national study of ways to increase housing opportunities in metropolitan areas. The study is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and conducted by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment officials.

As a member of the national committee on urban growth, he has participated in forming of proposals for new housing.

He proposed the National Urban Observatory Program to provide joint city-university research to help solve urban problems. Ten cities have now joined the Urban Observatory Program -- among them Milwaukee.

He has led delegations of U. S. Mayors on official visits to South America and to Radio Free Europe.

He has served as a member of the President's Committee on Youth Employment and is a member of the government advisory committee on highway beauty of the Department of Commerce.

Local Credits:

He initiated performance budgeting in Milwaukee which has won national acclaim.

He consolidated urban renewal, city planning and public housing functions into a unified Department of City Development.

He reactivated a permanent Organization and Methods Committee in the city government.

He called for a total approach to developing and renewing the city, and as a result of his efforts, Milwaukee became the first large city in the nation to officially approve a community renewal program.

He worked successfully for a stable city debt level, achieving a reduction of debt charges.

He formed a Social Development Commission composed of representatives of all levels of government to help coordinate the attack on the problems of the young, the aged and the poor.

Mayor Maier has been a leading force for property tax reform, tax redistribution, and the reordering of national priorities to help solve the fiscal plight of the central cities. In Wisconsin he has led a "Crusade for Resources" for a reform of the state's system of shared taxes to bring more relief for high property areas and has brought together more than 1,200 communities of all sizes -- urban and rural -- across the state into a "Have Not Conference" to mobilize for reform. This long uphill battle finally realized victory in October of 1971 when Governor Lucey signed into law, Wisconsin's first State Shared Tax bill. At the National level he has long been a champion of reordering national priorities and has testified before a number of Congressional committees on revenue sharing and other measures to help the cities.

Personal Credits:

He has written articles which have appeared in such publications as the old "American Mercury" magazine, "Challenge," (a national journal dealing with economics), "Nation's Cities," "Architectural Forum," "Astronautics," and Planning 1968, the yearly publication of the American Society of Planning Officials.

He is the author of a book on urban leadership published by Bennett Cerf's Random House. The name of that book is "Challenge to the Cities." The college edition of the book has been put on the reading lists of political science and public administration departments of a number of universities.

The foreword to Mayor Maier's book was written by Dr. Robert C. Wood, then Under-secretary of federal department of Housing and Urban Development.

In his foreword, Dr. Wood says of Mayor Maier, "A professional and successful mayor of a large, complex American city, he is a practitioner who applies a systematic knowledge about politics to the daily management of public affairs... The signal contribution is that the Mayor has made theory operational -- and in the public interest. And that is what good research, reflection, and action are all about.

A Look Magazine article said of Mayor Maier... "Four names dominate Wisconsin political history... U. S. Senator Robert "Fighting Bob" LaFollette, Daniel Webster Hoan, U. S. Senator Joseph R. McCarthy and Henry W. Maier, Champion Vote getter, champion Delta Sigma Rho debator, ex-Navy Lieutenant, State Senator, Author and pipe smoker."

Mayor Maier received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and earned his Master of Science degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he specialized in public administration and urban affairs.

In addition to addressing a number of professional groups of administrators across the nation, Mayor Maier has also participated in a number of university forums, including those at the University of Iowa, Jacksonville University, Ripon College, New York University, Marquette University, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Fels Institute in Philadelphia, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Carroll College, the University of Chicago, Harvard University, and the New England Assembly at Amherst.

NEWS



of

National Conference Democratic Mayors

1625 Massachusetts Ave. Washington DC 20036

MAYORS REGIONAL HEARINGS
FACT SHEET

CONTACT: Jane Hartley
PHONE: (202) 797-5900

The National Conference of Democratic Mayors adopted in January, 1975, as its primary objective the development of a National Urban Policy Statement. The statement will be designed to serve two purposes:

- to be proposed as the Urban Plank to the 1976 Democratic Platform
- to be presented to the new Democratic Administration and Democratic Congress in 1976.

The development of the policy statement will take place at a series of hearings across the country. The first hearing is being held in Wilmington, Del., Jan. 20. At these hearings the public, elected officials and expert witnesses will examine critical urban problems and look at alternatives that offer solutions.

Other hearings already scheduled are:

Atlanta	March 1, 1975
New York	March 10, 1975
New Orleans	March 22, 1975
San Francisco	April 4, 1975
Detroit	May 12, 1975
Boston	June 9, 1975
Washington	June 1975

- more -

The Middle Atlantic Region is being coordinated by Mayor Abraham Beame of New York, N. Y. It is composed of New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Issue Topic: Revenue and Finance

1. Taxation
2. Intergovernmental Relations
3. Revenue Sharing

The Northeastern Region is being temporarily coordinated by Mayor Burt Guida of New Haven, Conn. The states in this region are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

Issue Topic: The Economic Base of Urban America

1. Economic Development
2. Poverty
3. Jobs
4. Job Training

The Plains Region is coordinated by Mayor William McNichols of Denver. The states in this region are North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Nebraska. (the date for this hearing has not been set.)

Issue Topic: Protecting the Environment of the Nation's Cities

1. Energy
2. Solid Waste
3. Air Pollution
4. Water Pollution

The Southern Region coordinated by Mayor Maynard Jackson is composed of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Issue Topic: Protecting the Public - Serving the Public

1. Public Safety
2. Criminal Justice
3. Fire Protection
4. Public Employees and Productivity

Mayor Moon Landrieu of New Orleans is coordinator of the Southwestern Region. It is composed of Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri.

Issue Topic: Mass Transportation

The Western Region is coordinated by Mayor Wes Uhlman and is composed of Alaska, Hawaii, California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington.

Issue Topic: Raising Families in Urban America

1. Health
2. Education

Mayors Richard Daley and Coleman Young are coordinators of the Midwest Region. The states in this region are Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

Issue Topic: Making our Cities Habitable

1. Housing
2. Recreation
3. Urban Renewal
4. Community Development
5. Land Use
6. Urban Growth



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DEMOCRATIC MAYORS AND PARTY POLITICS

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