MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS PRESIDENT DON PLUSQUELLIC JOINS ASCE TO RELEASE 2005 REPORT CARD ON INFRASTRUCTURE

America’s Overburdened Infrastructure Eroding Quality Of Life

Washington, D.C. – The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) President and Akron, OH Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic, along with USCM Transportation Committee Chair and Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, will join the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) in a press conference releasing their 2005 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure on Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 10:30am at the National Press Club.

The report card will examine the trends affecting our nation’s infrastructure – roads, bridges, transit, rail, aviation, schools, drinking water, wastewater, dams, solid waste, hazardous waste, navigable waterways, public parks and recreation, security and energy. The report will also assess the progress and decline of America’s infrastructure since 2001 when ASCE gave it a grade of D+.

Traffic congestion and overcrowded schools are daily reminders that the nation’s aging infrastructure is struggling to meet the needs of its growing population. The report card asks the critical question: Are we making any strides toward raising the grade of America's infrastructure above the D+ it earned four years ago?

WHO:  William P. Henry, President, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
       Patrick J. Natale, Executive Director, ASCE
       Akron (OH) Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic, USCM President
       Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, USCM Transportation Committee Chair
       Tom Trice, President, American Public Works Association

WHAT:  PRESS CONFERENCE: Release of ASCE 2005 Report Card on America’s Infrastructure

WHEN:  Wednesday, March 9, 2005
        10:30 a.m. EST

WHERE:  National Press Club
        529 14th Street NW, 13th Floor – Murrow Room
        Washington, D.C. 20045

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.

Founded in 1852, ASCE represents more than 137,000 civil engineers worldwide and is America’s oldest national engineering society. ASCE celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2002.