

**MAYORS ENCOURAGED TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD DAY –
SEPTEMBER 17, 2006**

WHEREAS, when President Lyndon Johnson spoke to Congress in 1965 and told them that “the American city should be a collection of communities where every member has a right to belong;” and

WHEREAS, Robert Putnam, an expert on community life at Harvard University, said “Communities work better when neighbors know one another better”; and

WHEREAS, city leaders can make a difference in building stronger communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Providence resident Lorne Adrain came up with the idea of National Neighborhood Day, one day set aside every year to inspire, build and sustain the neighborhood relationships that provide the foundation for civic action and more effective communities; and

WHEREAS, National Neighborhood Day reinforces the relationships that are the fabric of our communities; and

WHEREAS, whether a simple gathering of neighbors or a neighborhood clean-up effort, these ties help a neighborhood tackle and enjoy the myriad of challenges and opportunities we face; and

WHEREAS, September 17th has been declared National Neighborhood Day for 2006,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages all Mayors to celebrate National Neighborhood Day every year on the third Sunday in September, falling on September 17 in 2006, in their cities by organizing events and other activities and that Mayors should utilize the tools and resources of the National Neighborhood Day organization to assist in their planning.

Source: Adopted Resolutions of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, June 2-6, 2006 Las Vegas, Nevada