Leaders from the nation’s largest counties to set 2013 priorities at annual meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Leaders from the nation’s largest counties are meeting this week in Fulton County, Ga./Atlanta to discuss the needs and concerns of Americans living in metropolitan communities and decide how best to influence federal legislation, regulations and funding affecting county programs and services important to urban centers.

Members of the National Association of Counties’ (NACo) Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC), representing about 130 million people, will meet Nov. 28-30 and adopt the group’s 2013 legislative priorities.

Participating are 27 elected county officials representing 16 states: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas.

Hosting the meeting will be LUCC Chair Helen Holton, council member, Baltimore City, Md.

“The elections are behind us and the great challenges are right before us,” Holton said. “County officials representing our metropolitan counties are uniquely positioned to make an enormous impact on the lives of millions of Americans in this stubborn economic recovery. Our task is to serve our constituents at home – especially families most in need – and communicate as best we can to Washington, D.C. the tools and resource necessary to ensure economic growth and opportunity for everyone.”

Topics to be discussed include addressing ongoing county revenue challenges and the advantages of “globalizing” urban counties. Participants will also tour DeKalb County’s renewable energy facility.

Click here to review the full meeting agenda.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.