

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: January 21, 2009

Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT:**    ***GET ENGAGED! Commit to Serve Expo*** on Monday, January 19, 9 a.m. to Noon, at the Albany Community Center, to encourage pledges for service to the community, and broadcasting of the Presidential Inauguration on Tuesday, January 20, starting at 8:30 a.m., also at the Albany Community Center

**REPORT BY:** Beth Pollard, City Administrator

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive a verbal presentation on the *Get Engaged! Commit to Serve Expo* and the broadcasting of the Presidential Inauguration coordinated by the Albany Recreation Department.

**BACKGROUND**

There is a national movement this year to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. and his commitment to service, community, and unity on or around the MLK holiday on Monday, January 19. All over the country on Monday there are organizing efforts to encourage Americans to participate in volunteer activities and/or make a pledge of service to volunteer.

The Albany Recreation Department has organized a “*Get Engaged! Commit to Serve Expo*” in the Albany Community Center on the MLK holiday, Monday, January 19, from 9 a.m. to Noon. Residents are asked to make a pledge of service or donate a coat, blanket, or canned food item. The Expo will provide resources, contacts, and ideas to assist residents in making a pledge.

The Recreation Department is also coordinating, with support from the Library, an Albany community gathering to view the televised broadcast of the Presidential Inauguration at the Community Center on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Televisions and seating will be set up in the Main Hall and Lobby.

**DISCUSSION**

The Recreation Department deserves credit and accolades for jumping in and organizing these previously unscheduled events. Special thanks go to Recreation Supervisors Chelle

Putzer for coordinating the Commit to Serve Expo and Jeremy Allen for coordinating the televising of the Inauguration, as well as to Recreation Director Penelope Leach for her direction in making these events happen.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

Residents' volunteerism in local service makes a community stronger and more sustainable. Opportunities to gather the community together to be part of a national event contributes to the sustainability of the broader society.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Staff members will be working on a City holiday, which will require compensatory time off or pay.

Attachments:

*Get Engaged! Commit to Serve Expo* flyer