

**Subject:** Night Note 11/28  
**From:** "Langdon, James C." <james\_c.\_langdon@who.eop.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, 28 Nov 2005 19:36:20 -0500  
**To:** Karl Rove <kr@georgewbush.com>, "Rove, Karl C." <k\_rove@who.eop.gov>, "Hughes, Taylor A." <taylor\_a.\_hughes@who.eop.gov>, "Jackson, Barry S." <barry\_s.\_jackson@who.eop.gov>, "Smith, Heidi M." <heidi\_m.\_smith@who.eop.gov>, "Kavanaugh, Brett M." <brett\_m.\_kavanaugh@who.eop.gov>, "West, Christal R." <christal\_r.\_west@who.eop.gov>, "Weinstein, Jared B." <jared\_b.\_weinstein@who.eop.gov>, "Boyer, Matthew W." <matthew\_w.\_boyer@who.eop.gov>, "Kropp, Emily L." <emily\_l.\_kropp@who.eop.gov>, "Katz, Jeremy L." <jeremy\_l.\_katz@who.eop.gov>, "Ralston, Susan B." <susan\_b.\_ralston@who.eop.gov>, "Kane, M. Lauren" <mary\_l.\_kane@who.eop.gov>, "Hoare, Thomas H." <thomas\_h.\_hoare@who.eop.gov>, "Hook, Brian H." <brian\_h.\_hook@who.eop.gov>, "Langdon, James C." <james\_c.\_langdon@who.eop.gov>, "Rove, Karl C." <k\_rove@who.eop.gov>, "Hughes, Taylor A." <taylor\_a.\_hughes@who.eop.gov>, "Jackson, Barry S." <barry\_s.\_jackson@who.eop.gov>, "Smith, Heidi M." <heidi\_m.\_smith@who.eop.gov>, "Kavanaugh, Brett M." <brett\_m.\_kavanaugh@who.eop.gov>, "West, Christal R." <christal\_r.\_west@who.eop.gov>, "Weinstein, Jared B." <jared\_b.\_weinstein@who.eop.gov>, "Boyer, Matthew W." <matthew\_w.\_boyer@who.eop.gov>, "Kropp, Emily L." <emily\_l.\_kropp@who.eop.gov>, "Katz, Jeremy L." <jeremy\_l.\_katz@who.eop.gov>, "Ralston, Susan B." <susan\_b.\_ralston@who.eop.gov>, "Kane, M. Lauren" <mary\_l.\_kane@who.eop.gov>, "Hoare, Thomas H." <thomas\_h.\_hoare@who.eop.gov>, "Hook, Brian H." <brian\_h.\_hook@who.eop.gov>, "Langdon, James C." <james\_c.\_langdon@who.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** "McMillin, Stephen S." <stephen\_s.\_mcmillin@who.eop.gov>, "McMillin, Stephen S." <stephen\_s.\_mcmillin@who.eop.gov>  
[Pending Issues 11-28.doc](#)  
[Policy Time Calendar 11-28.doc](#)  
[Working Group Calendar 11-28.doc](#)  
[Cabinet Member Schedule 11-28.doc](#)

**Pls note- this information is sensitive; eyes only**

Attached are the Pending Issues, the Policy Time Calendar for this month, the Working Group Calendar for this week and next, and the Cabinet Member Schedule for the following week.

Thanks,  
James  
x61475

November 28, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR ANDY CARD, KARL ROVE, JOE HAGIN, and MIKE GERSON

FROM: STEVE MCMILLIN, BRIAN HOOK, and JEREMY KATZ

RE: NIGHT NOTE

**NASA.** NEC hosted a Principals meeting today to discuss implications for international partners of the U.S. cutting back or eliminating future shuttle flights. The meeting was little different from the one held last week, with the same participants making very similar arguments. The shuttle is required to complete the international space station and without the shuttle various pieces of the space station constructed by our international space partners like Japan and Europe would not be put into service. The international partners feel strongly about the U.S. obligation. State and NSC are continuing to look into options addressing partner needs. NEC Principals will reconvene later this week with the goal of having a memo to the President by early next week and policy time with the President soon after.

**NAS Report.** Al and Keith led a discussion with OSTP and CEA today with a Principals meeting planned for later in the week to discuss policy options in response to the National Academies report “Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future”, including targeting selected areas of physical science research for an increase in budget, making it easier for high-skilled workers to immigrate, and improving math and science education.

**Foreign Exchange Report.** Treasury released its Foreign Exchange Report late this afternoon. The report reviews developments in international economic policy, including exchange rate policy, focusing on the second half of 2004. The report is required under the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988. China is not designated as a “currency manipulator” in the report, however, no country is. (The WSJ had already reported on the China action during the President’s recent trip.) Treasury did call on the IMF managing director to engage in special consultations with China under the IMF fund’s supplemental surveillance procedures – a process used twice previously in Sweden in 1982 and Korea in 1987. Treasury also announced it would seek consultations with Malaysia on its exchange rate policies. Treasury reached out beforehand to both countries to give them a heads up. We expect criticism to arise from industry and certain members of Congress who are eager for more aggressive action against China.

**Health IT.** DPC hosted a meeting last Tuesday with HHS and OMB to discuss the status of the health IT initiative. David Brailer, national coordinator for health IT at HHS, reported that all planning efforts are completed, the AHIC is moving rapidly on a series of targeted health IT applications, and his office is working through contractors to build the infrastructure to share health information nationwide. The AHIC will meet again tomorrow to determine its targeted projects, and together with Dr. Brailer’s office will develop specific timelines for its further work. In addition, today a Newt Gingrich led group called “Center for Health Transformation” released a report strongly supporting the establishment of Regional Health Information Organization (RHIOs) and suggesting that the Federal Government should dedicate 1% of all discretionary spending – roughly \$7 billion a year – towards Health Information technology. It should be noted that DPC has previously given Secretary Leavitt guidance not to endorse RHIOs, but rather to explore cost

effective ways of sharing information through internet based technology. To that end, HHS awarded contracts to 4 groups to develop prototype national network models and to make recommendations by October 2006.

## Other Issues

- Agriculture Disaster Package (Sommers/NEC; Katz) – Senator Martinez introduced an agriculture disaster package on 11/17 that CBO scores at \$2.1 billion. The bill would provide disaster money for production losses that have occurred as a consequence of five hurricanes (Dennis, Katrina, Rita, Ophelia and Wilma). The bill would assist with losses to program crops, nurseries, citrus, livestock, sugar, timber, and fisheries. This proposal does not address damages incurred as a consequence of other natural disasters (drought, flood, etc). Cochran is rumored to be working on a more comprehensive bill which could be as high as \$4 billion. It is likely that any agriculture disaster bill will be attached to the last appropriations bill moving before Congress leaves for the year -- probably the Defense Appropriations bill.
- Airlines (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – On 11/16 the Delta pilots union asked the bankruptcy judge to recuse herself because she had made comments in court about pilots' high compensation. The judge denied the motion and has not yet ruled on voiding the pilots contract to make way for further cuts.
- *Air Traffic Control Commercialization (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – Today, FAA Administrator Marion Blakey requested Federal mediation to bring the air traffic controller contract negotiations to a close. The union must agree to mediation and has not yet done so. If mediation fails (could be weeks or months), the FAA can declare an impasse and notify Congress of its intent to enforce its contract. If Congress does not act to alter the contract in 60 days, FAA can impose its terms. In addition, Deputies met on 11/21 to discuss DOT's proposal for reshaping the governance and fee structure of our air traffic control system and to consider an alternative proposal endorsed by DPC, NEC, and OVP. The current taxes and fees expire on September 30, 2007. Under DOT's plan, air traffic control assets and operations would remain within the Federal government, under the control of a stakeholder board, rather than the FAA. Under the alternative, system assets and operations would be spun off into a private, non-profit corporation under the control of a stakeholder board. These proposals are under consideration as part of next year's budget process even though legislation is not required until 2007. Deputies and their representatives expressed concerns about the political viability of these proposals, particularly the private, non-profit corporation, but agreed that staff should continue to explore both options. Finally because budget decisions must be made very soon, they recommended these policy options be considered outside the budget, through the regular policy process, to give EOP offices and DOT more time to come to consensus.*
- Amtrak Reform (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – The week before last, both the House and Senate passed the Transportation, Treasury, and HUD Appropriations conference report. While the bill includes \$1.3 billion for Amtrak, the Conference Report also includes language that requires the Secretary of Transportation to approve all operating and capital grant requests, restricts spending on food and beverage service and first class service losses, requires Northeast Corridor commuter agencies to pay their share of capital costs on the corridor, and prohibits Amtrak from discounting ticket prices by more than 50%. These provisions will not result in major changes at Amtrak, but they do represent incremental progress toward a rational business model with a rational cost cutting strategy.
- Asbestos (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- Associated Health Plans (Leggitt/DPC; Katz)
- *Avian Flu (Venkaya/HSC; Katz) – Tomorrow afternoon HSC, DPC, OLA, OPL, HHS and DOJ are scheduled to have a conference call to discuss the current status of our liability proposal related to pandemic. OPL along with HSC and DPC are attempting to schedule a meeting later in the day with Phrma President Billy Tauzin to discuss ways in which Phrma can be helpful in*

*facilitating resolution on both funding and liability proposals. Today USDA reduced restrictions placed on imports of live birds and poultry products from mainland British Columbia following a November 19 detection of avian influenza in commercial ducks. Because the pathogenicity of the virus was initially unknown, USDA restricted imports from all of mainland British Columbia. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has since confirmed that the virus is one of the low pathogenicity forms of avian influenza, and based on that fact and information that Canada has provided on survey and eradication measures, USDA modified the quarantine area to a designated 5-kilometer zone within the province.*

- Aviation Agreement between U.S. and E.U. (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – Last week, negotiators from DOT and State Department met with their European Union (EU) counterparts and agreed upon the text of a U.S.-EU Air Transport Agreement, which essentially provides for “open skies” between the U.S. and EU. The EU side made it clear that in deciding whether to proceed with the agreement, the European Commission and its member states will consider the results of DOT’s recently initiated rulemaking on expanded opportunities for foreign citizens to invest in and participate in the management of U.S. air carriers. These new investment opportunities will only be available to those countries who offer reciprocal access. (DOT expects the rulemaking to conclude during the first quarter of next year.) The agreement will be reviewed at the December 5 meeting of the EU Transport Council, whose next meeting after that will occur in June. Assuming that the agreement is favorably received at the December Council meeting, and that the Commission and the Council are satisfied with the results of our rulemaking, the agreement could be signed and effective next October.
- Brazil Compulsory Licensing of HIV/AIDS Drugs (Hunter/NSC; Katz) – On 11/17, the Brazilian health ministry determined that the incidence of HIV/Aids in Brazil no longer constitutes a national emergency that would warrant breaking patents in the “public interest”. While NSC is cautiously optimistic they note that Brazil has made positive statements in the past, but not always followed through. Abbott earlier reached an agreement with Brazil, but neither Gilead nor Merck have done so. Gilead negotiators are going to Brazil this week at the invitation of the Brazilian government to continue negotiations. The Gilead reps feel somewhat optimistic because they had not expected to hear from the Government of Brazil so soon after the Abbott deal was announced. NSC will get a better readout of the Gilead meetings in Brazil on December 1<sup>st</sup> when Gilead meets with NSC.
- BSE (Sommers/NEC; Katz)
- Bahrain FTA (Daly/NSC; Katz) – Ways and Means held a mark up the legislation on 11/17 with an expected floor vote the week of December 5<sup>th</sup>. Senate Finance held a mark up with a vote likely the week of December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Boeing Advocacy (Daly/NSC; Katz)
- Boxing Commission (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – A bill to regulate the boxing industry through a U.S. Boxing Commission at the Department of Commerce failed on the House floor on 11/17, 233-190.
- CAFE (Sharp/DPC; Hook)
- Campaign Finance Reform (Taylor/OPA; Hook)
- Canadian Corn Dispute (Sommers/NEC; Katz) – On 11/15 Canadian Border Services ruled against the United States for dumping subsidized corn on the Canadian market. The Ontario Corn Growers Association says the U.S. subsidies are driving down the price of corn around the world, making it difficult for Canadian farmers to survive. The Ontario group filed a complaint with Canadian Border Services in September about the impact of American subsidies on Canadian farmers. The Canadian corn farmers want duties imposed to raise the price of corn in Canada, and for Ottawa to file a complaint with the WTO to force the U.S. to get rid of its

subsidies. The amount of the resulting duties will be released Dec. 15, about midway into the meeting of the WTO in Hong Kong. Many view this as an effort by the Canadian government to secure rural support for their potential upcoming elections.

- Canadian Lumber (Hunter/NSC; Katz)
- *CFIUS (Daly/NSC; Katz) – On Friday, Nov. 25, Check Point Ltd. (the Israeli computer security company) notified Treasury that, based on unresolved compliance issues from an earlier CFIUS filing, it was withdrawing its request for a CFIUS review of its proposed acquisition of Sourcefire (a U.S. internet security company maker of anti-spyware software). Therefore, this review will not go to investigation on Tuesday, Nov. 29. Check Point is still intent on going through with the acquisition of Sourcefire and a CFIUS review following an expedited resolution of their compliance issues. However, even if Check Point and CFIUS agencies work through the unresolved compliance issues from the earlier CFIUS filing, serious national security issues remain a challenge for their proposed acquisition of Sourcefire.*
- Clear Skies (Stolpe/CEQ; Hook)
- Conflict-of-Interest-Reporting (Sharp/DPC; Hook)
- Doha (Hunter/NSC; Katz)
- Drug Reimportation (Leggitt/DPC; Katz)
- Education/Katrina (Troy/DPC; Hook)
- EEO-1 (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – On 11/17 the EEOC voted 3-1 to approve minor changes to the EEO-1 form. Employers use EEO-1 to report the race and ethnicity of their workforce. OMB will review the new form before it becomes final.
- Endangered Species Act (CEQ; Hook)
- Energy (Hannegan/NEC; Katz) – NEC hosted a Principals meeting on 11/21 to further discuss energy policy options. A discussion on CAFE reform took up most of the meeting, which NEC believes could be proposed to blunt Congressional calls for higher fuel economy standards. Principals confirmed their support for legislative authority for NHTSA to reform the CAFE system for passenger cars, and enable credit trading among manufacturers. Concern was raised whether a strong push for legislation would spark Congressional interest in increasing fuel economy standards generally, or weaken the currently strong State preemption language in statute. A further meeting is planned to discuss strategy. On refining, two options were framed for further discussion: a streamlined process for all Federal lands with a State “opt-in”, or a streamlined process for all lands, which would be required of States for non-Federal land unless they developed their own similar program (“opt-out”). Although NEC has withdrawn its support for repealing the tariff on imported ethanol, DOE and Commerce questioned whether there was benefit to repealing it just for sugar-based ethanol. CEQ and DOE were directed to consult further on the design of a “Manhattan Project” style program for renewable and alternative energy, though DOE suggested funds from the repeal of oil and gas tax incentives would be better directed to science education and GNEI. OCS and natural gas reserves issues were not discussed due to lack of time. NEC will reconvene Principals again later this week.
- Farm Bill (Sommers/NEC; Katz)
- FDIC Reform (Warsh/NEC; Katz)
- *Federal Sentencing Guidelines (Ho/DPC; Hook) – The Supreme Court has declined to confront the question of retroactive application of its decision in Booker v. U.S. limiting federal sentence enhancements based on facts not found by a jury. The Court denied review in 11 cases on the issue, including one case in which it had sought the Solicitor General's views. As usual, there was no explanation for the denials. The Solicitor General had argued that Booker should not be applied retroactively, because it failed the "new rule" test of the Supreme Court's 1989 decision in Teague v. Lane.*

- Reforming FHA (Streeter/DPC; Katz) – OMB and DPC met with Brian Montgomery (now our FHA commissioner) and his HUD team on 11/17 to discuss proposed reforms to FHA. FHA is proposing to adopt risk-based pricing that would allow it to charge lower premiums for those with better credit scores and higher downpayments than the average borrower. They are also proposing to roll out the Zero Downpayment concept again for borrowers who meet a minimum credit threshold but lack downpayment funds, but this time to pursue a different legislative strategy: rather than proposing distinct legislation to create it as a program, they would propose removing statutory limitations in the current FHA program and then writing regulations immediately on the Zero Down program. This may be more promising than the former strategy. In addition to Zero Down, FHA is proposing to create a Payment Incentive program for borrowers who have lower credit scores but have the funds to make a downpayment. DPC and OMB agree with FHA that it needs to reform itself to better serve the customers it was designed to serve. Its market share has dropped from 14 to 4 percent in the past five years as many lower-income families have turned to subprime loans from conventional lenders. DPC and OMB have asked FHA to explain how the new products will enable us to reach the President's homeownership goals in a way better than staying the current course.
- Fiduciary Duties of Union Officials (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – DOL has formally submitted to OMB clearance a request for information regarding the fiduciary duties of union officials under the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act.
- Flood Insurance (Warsh/NEC; Katz) – The House passed \$5 billion in new borrowing authority, only enough to last through December. Shelby, Oxley and House Leadership are negotiating a framework that would provide enough borrowing authority to last through the end of January, with either “non-controversial reforms” or no reforms at this time. OLA has reiterated the Administration’s commitment to get stronger reforms thereafter. Senator Gregg had been objecting to consideration of the bill, and says he wants to champion robust reforms to the program.
- Florida Everglades (Hannegan/CEQ; Hook)
- FMLA (Sharp/DPC; Hook)
- GSEs (Warsh/NEC; Katz)
- Health Care Big Ideas (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)
- Helping America’s Youth (Medina/DPC; Hook)
- Homesteading (Streeter/DPC; Hook)
- Immigration (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- Indian Trust/Cobell (Ho/DPC; Hook) – On 11/15 the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ruled that the district court owes substantial deference to Interior's proposed \$335 million accounting plan (and may not impose Judge Lamberth's \$12 billion substitute).
- Katrina Lessons Learned/Faith-Based Outreach (Townsend/HSC; McMillin)
- Katrina Reallocation Package (Kaplan/OMB; McMillin) – Both House and Senate appropriators remain strangely quiet about the Administration’s \$17b package. The House is waiting for Cochran to show his hand, but he is unlikely to do so until after Thanksgiving. He is reportedly looking to add to our request, but will face substantial challenges with the House, and even his own committee. House approps staff reports a growing sentiment that “none of this is urgent” and a reallocation could wait until next year. Gregg reportedly wants to add a supplemental for immigration if Cochran adds to the Administration request. Since all of this will likely be resolved in the DOD appropriations conference, chances are that Cochran will be able to include some Katrina package, though he will have a difficult time adding to it substantially.
- MCC (Shirzad/NSC; Katz)
- Medicaid Clawback (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)

- Medicaid Commission (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)
- Medicare Drug Coverage (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)
- Medical Liability (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- Methamphetamine (Leggitt/DPC; Katz)
- *Microsoft (Altbach/NSC; Katz)* – The Korea Free Trade Commission (KFTC) has yet to rule on the Microsoft case even though Microsoft has settled with all the Korean domestic parties that raised the grievance. *NSC notes that press reports indicate a decision may be announced on Wednesday of this week.*
- *MLK (Troy/DPC; Hook)* – Allen Weinstein called last week to notify DPC that he and the head of the forthcoming African American Museum in DC had secured a commitment of private sector funding for purchasing the Martin Luther King papers. *Weinstein is seeking administration support for an appropriation to help pay for the papers. He is going to add this item to his budget request, and hopes the administration will support this request. In addition, he recommends that the President announce his support for this purchase in remarks on Martin Luther King day this January.*
- Municipal Finance (Warsh/NEC; Katz)
- Native Hawaiian (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- NCLB (Medina/DPC; Hook)
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Split (Ho/DPC; Hook) – The Department of Justice (DOJ) has sent a views letter to Chairman Sensenbrenner expressing support for splitting the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In its letter, DOJ explains that "dividing the 9th Circuit would improve the administration of justice," as the "sheer size of the 9th Circuit has led to serious administrative difficulties that have adversely affected its ability to render justice efficiently." Senator Ensign, who has introduced legislation with Senator Murkowski to that effect, issued a press release "applauding" DOJ's action. House Republicans are seeking to fast-track legislation splitting the circuit (and adding new federal judgeships across the country) by including the legislation in a pending budget reconciliation bill. That effort is meeting some opposition in the Senate, particularly from Sen. Feinstein, who has asked Chairman Specter to assert his jurisdiction over the issue and argue against including it in the budget reconciliation.
- *Partial Birth Abortion Plan (Ho/DPC; Hook)* – *A unanimous three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit affirmed the district court's decision striking down Missouri's law banning partial-birth abortion. The Eighth Circuit panel agreed that the law was unconstitutional because the State could not show that the factual situation existing now, regarding whether "substantial medical authority" requires a health exception for the mother, differs from that in Stenberg v. Carhart (2000), in which the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Nebraska law prohibiting partial-birth abortions because, in the Court's view, the lack of a health exception made the law unconstitutional.*
- Patriot Act (Mitnick/HSC; Hook)
- *Pensions (Blahous/NEC; Katz)* – *Senator Enzi and Congressman Boehner wrote a letter to OMB asking for details on PBGC's funding model, and additional information about how PBGC's projections are developed. Counsels of OMB and PBGC are working to determine what is appropriate to provide.*
- Personal Stockpiles (Rapuano; HSC; Hook)
- Postal Reform (Sharp/DPC; Hook) – On 11/15 Deputies met to discuss postal reform legislation. The House passed an expensive bill in July, but the Senate bill has stalled because of a disagreement between Senators Collins and Bond over a rate-setting provision. The Administration has supported reform, but does not particularly like either bill and included a senior advisors' veto threat in the House SAP against the bill's price tag. The Administration

has been assured that these and other objectionable provisions will be removed in conference, but there is no clear plan for making these corrections. Deputies agreed that we should not intervene to settle the Senate dispute at this time, given the lack of urgency to move the postal bill and other pressing issues that Senator Bond is associated with.

- Physician Payments (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)
- Prison Industries (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- *RU-486 (Levin/DPC; Katz) – Last Wednesday, the NY Times reported that the FDA's website has been updated to reflect two additional deaths resulting from an off-label use of the abortion drug RU-486, bringing to four the number of deaths now linked to this use of the drug. Contacted by the Times for a statement, the FDA informed the paper of plans for a joint FDA/CDC meeting to discuss concerns regarding this risk.*
- Saudi Arabia WTO (Hunter/NSC; Katz)
- SBA Loans (Warsh/NEC; Katz)
- Social Security (Blahous/NEC; Katz)
- Steroids (Ho/DPC; Hook) – On 11/14 Major League Baseball and its player's union announced today a tough new steroids policy. The new plan is essentially what Commissioner Selig proposed earlier this year: a 50-game suspension for a first offense, a 100-game suspension for a second offense, and a lifetime ban for a third offense. After a two-year period, players could appeal a lifetime ban. Although discussions on the Hill between Commissioners and Members are ongoing, the agreement may preempt the passage of any steroid bills.
- Stem Cells (Levin/DPC; Hook)
- Strengthening America's Community Initiative (Streeter/DPC; Hook) – HUD's Dep Sec Bernardi presented an alternative SACI proposal at a deputy meeting on 11/21 in which the CDBG program would be reformed but would stay at HUD. Consolidation of other SACI programs was not directly addressed in the HUD proposal. The CDBG formula would be updated to target need more effectively, and a minimum grant threshold would reduce by 300 the number of communities receiving funds directly from HUD (these smaller communities would be eligible subgrantees of their States). It would also include a bonus in the formula for communities that attract private investment at certain levels and develop regional strategies. While HUD's proposal claims that new performance measures would prompt communities to focus more clearly on real results (e.g., new jobs, new investment, new homeowners), it is not clear that their proposal actually rewards results or requires accountability as a condition of receiving funds (key elements of SACI). EOP offices at the meeting (plus DOC) strongly advocated re-proposing SACI, whether housed at DOC or HUD, rather than a simple reform of the CDBG program. DPC and OMB will ask HUD and Commerce for specific details on the merits of housing SACI in each department to inform subsequent discussions. Sec. Jackson is likely to continue to object to a SACI initiative at DOC.
- TANF (Streeter/DPC; Hook)
- Tax Reconciliation (Hennessey/NEC; Katz)
- Tax Reform (Hennessey/NEC; Katz)
- Telecom (Russell/NEC; Katz)
- TRIA (Warsh/NEC; Katz)
- Tricare Rx (Leggitt/DPC; Katz)
- Uncompensated Care/Katrina (Ramthun/NEC; Katz)
- Union Officer Conflict of Interest Reporting, LM-30 (Sharp/DPC; Hook)
- Veterans (Leggitt/DPC; Katz)
- Voting Rights Act (Ho/DPC; Hook)
- Vouchers (Pardue/DPC; Hook)

- *White House Conference on Aging (Leggitt/DPC; Katz) – HHS reports that Dorcas may try and contact the Chief about the President’s unavailability for the opening session of the conference. We have informed HHS and the WHCOA that Claude will provide the keynote speech for the opening of the conference.*

## POLICY TIME – NOVEMBER 2005

SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
27	28 NO TIME	29 NO TIME	30 2:15-3:00 OMB: FY07 Discretionary Budget (45 min)	1 2:20-3:05 Rove (45 min)	2 1:05-1:50 NEC: Pensions (45 min)	3
4	5 NO TIME	6 9:20-9:50 NSC/NEC: WTO/ Doha* (30 min)  9:55-10:25 OFB: Voucher Expansion (30 min)	7 2:35-3:20 OMB: FY07 Mandatory Budget (45 min)	8 1:05-1:35 NEC: Katrina Update* (30 min)	9 NO TIME	10
11	12 1:30-2:15 NEC: NASA* (45 min)	13 1:30-2:15 Rove (45 min)	14 TBD Rove (45 min)	15 TBD Rove (45 min)	16 TBD Rove (45 min)	17
18	19 TBD	20 TBD	21 TBD	22 TBD	23 TBD	24

11/28/05

**Possible December Policy Times: 07 Budget; China Overview; Energy II; Family Agenda; Global Nuclear Energy Initiative/Yucca; Health Big Think; Katrina Periodic Updates; NASA; Science**

\* Indicates Cabinet Member Attendance

## Working Group Calendar

### WORKING GROUP CALENDAR

Monday, November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Friday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<p>1:00 HSC: Meeting on Pandemic Tabletop and Implementation Plan – PCC (JK)</p> <p>2:00 OMB: Meeting on FY'07 Revenues – Director's Review</p>	<p>9:15 DPC: Weekly DOT call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>2:00 OMB: Meeting on FY'07 Budget Process Reform – Director's Review</p> <p>3:00 DPC: Weekly ED Call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>5:30 DPC: Weekly DOJ Call – PCC (BH)</p>	<p>11:00 DPC: Weekly Conf Call w/ DOL (BH)</p> <p>3:30 NSC: Meeting on International Containment Strategy for Pandemic Influenza – Sub PCC (JK)</p>	<p>10:00 DPC: Weekly Call w/ HHS (JK)</p> <p>1:00 DPC: Weekly Asbestos Call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>3:30 NEC: Weekly Medicare Meeting – PCC (JK)</p> <p>4:00 NEC: Weekly Medicaid Meeting – PCC (JK)</p>	<p>11:00 DPC: Meeting on Access to Recovery (ATR) – PCC (JK)</p>

## Working Group Calendar

Monday, December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, December 9 <sup>th</sup>
	<p>9:15 DPC: Weekly DOT call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>3:00 DPC: Weekly ED Call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>5:30 DPC: Weekly DOJ Call – PCC (BH)</p>	<p>11:00 DPC: Weekly Conf Call w/ DOL (BH)</p>	<p>9:00 NEC: Biweekly Pension Call – PCC (JK)</p> <p>10:00 DPC: Weekly Call w/ HHS (JK)</p> <p>1:00 DPC: Weekly Asbestos Call – PCC (BH)</p> <p>3:30 NEC: Weekly Medicare Meeting – PCC (JK)</p> <p>4:00 NEC: Weekly Medicaid Meeting – PCC (JK)</p>	

OFFICE OF CABINET LIAISON



CABINET MEMBER SCHEDULE

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TUESDAY 11/29/2005

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**Secretary Johanns, Director Bolten & Ambassador Portman**

9:30am – 10:30am      2 FL/WW      Agriculture Reconciliation Meeting

*Participants:*

White House

Karl Rove, DCoS  
Steve Hadley, NSC  
Al Hubbard, NEC  
Candi Wolff, OLA  
Faryar Shirzad, NSC  
Rod Hunter, NSC  
Michael Sommers, NEC

USDA

Chuck Conner, Deputy Secretary

**Secretary Norton**

b(6)

**Secretary Nicholson**

b(6)

**Secretary Jackson**

b(6)

1:30pm – 2:00pm      **Room 164**      Meeting with HUD Chief Procurement Officer

*Participants:*

HUD

Joseph Neurauder, CPO  
Camille Pierce, CoS  
Scott Keller, DCoS

2:00pm – 2:45pm      **Room 164**      Budget Briefing

*Participants:*

HUD

Roy Bernardi, Deputy Secretary

Camille Pierce, CoS

Scott Keller, DCoS

2:45pm – 3:00pm      **Room 164**      Briefing

**Secretary Johanns & Secretary Jackson**

3:00pm – 3:30pm      **Room 164**      Meeting with Media Affairs

**Secretary Jackson**

3:30pm – 4:00pm      **Room 164**      Partnership between FEMA and Operation Hope

*Participants:*

HUD

Camille Pierce, CoS

Operation Hope

John Bryant, Founder and CEO

Jena Roscoe, Senior VP and Chief of Governmental Affairs

**Secretary Johanns**

3:30pm – 4:30pm      **CL Conf Rm**      Kitchen Cabinet Meeting

*Participants:*

White House

Jim Connaughton, CEQ

Neil Patel, OVP

David Anderson, OMB

Megan Hauck, OLA

Peter Rowan, OLA

Michael Sommers, NEC

Greg Schildwachter, CEQ

USDA

Chuck Conner, Deputy Secretary

Dale Moore, CoS

Drew DeBerry, DCoS

Beth Johnson, DCoS

Terri Teuber, Director Of Communications

4:30pm – 5:30pm      **Room 164**      Office Time

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**WEDNESDAY 11 / 30 / 2005**

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**Secretary Nicholson**

2:00pm – 4:00pm      **Room 164**      Office Time

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**THURSDAY 12 / 01 / 2005**

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**Secretary Rice, Secretary Rumsfeld, Secretary Gutierrez, Secretary Chao & Secretary Leavitt**

9:55am – 10:15am      **Room 450**      World AIDS Day

*Participants:*

USAID

Andrew Natsios, Administrator

NIAID

Anthony Fauci, Director

NIH

Elias Zerhouni, Director

National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention

Kevin Fenton, Director

**Secretary Norton, Secretary Johanns, Secretary Chao, Secretary Leavitt, Secretary Jackson, Secretary Bodman, Secretary Nicholson and Administrator Johnson**

5:00am – 6:00pm

**Ellipse**

Pageant of Peace

*Participants:*

DOJ

Paul McNulty, Acting Deputy Attorney General

DOED

Ray Simon, Deputy Secretary

DOC

David Sampson, Deputy Secretary

DHS

Michael Jackson, Deputy Secretary

HHS

Alex Azar, Deputy Secretary

EPA

Marcus Peacock, Deputy Administrator

DOT

Maria Cino, Deputy Secretary

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**FRIDAY 12 / 02 / 2005**

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**Secretary Norton**

2:00pm – 3:00pm

**Room 164**

Meeting on Department of Interior's Hurricane Reconstruction Paper

*Participants:*

White House

Claude Allen, DPC

DOI

Lynn Scarlett, Deputy Secretary

Tom Weimer, Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget

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**MONDAY 12 / 05 / 2005**

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**Attorney General Gonzales**

10:00am – 10:30am

**2 FL/WW**

State of the Union Briefing

*Participants:*

White House

Claude Allen, DPC

Tevi Troy, DPC

**Director Bolton**

11:00am – 11:15am      **1 FL/WW**      Lessons Learned: Hurricane Katrina

*Participants:*

White House

Fran Townsend, HSC

Joel Bagnal, HSC

**Secretary Johanns**

b(6)

**Secretary Mineta**

2:00pm – 3:45pm      **Room 164**      Office Time

3:45pm – 4:15pm      **Room 164**      Lessons Learned: Hurricane Katrina

*Participants:*

White House

Fran Townsend, HSC

Joel Bagnal, HSC

DOT

Maria Cino, Deputy Secretary

**Secretary Johanns**

3:15pm – 3:45pm      **1 FL/WW**      Lessons Learned: Hurricane Katrina

*Participants:*

White House

Fran Townsend, HSC

Joel Bagnal, HSC

USDA

Chuck Conner, Deputy Secretary

**Secretary Norton**

4:15pm – 4:45pm      **Room 164**      Lessons Learned: Hurricane Katrina

*Participants:*

White House

Fran Townsend, HSC

Joel Bagnal, HSC

DOI

Tom Weimer, Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget