

## Honolulu and Chicago to host future conventions

**T**he NALC Executive Council has announced the sites and dates for the next two national conventions following the one in Detroit next year. The Council voted to hold the 72nd national convention in Honolulu Aug. 17-21, 2020, and the 73rd convention in Chicago Aug. 8-12, 2022.

Following an announcement seeking bids from branches that wished to host a national convention, only branches from those two cities submitted requests. However, several other cities were considered as part of the Council's search process.

Certain minimum requirements are crucial for potential host cities to make a successful bid for a convention that can bring between 5,500 and 8,000 delegates, requirements that eliminate many cities that lack facilities large enough to hold an NALC convention. To find and help the Executive Council select potential sites, the Convention Site Committee considers the following criteria:

- The convention facilities must have theater seating for approximately 8,000 delegates, as well as space for registration, voting, committee functions, workshops and more.
- NALC requires at least 3,500 hotel rooms, with preference given to unionized hotels.



- All of these must be available during NALC's constitutionally mandated convention window, between the Fourth of July and the third full week of August.

After eliminating many cities because they could not meet the requirements mentioned above, the Convention Site Committee visited five cities up for consideration for the two conventions. The Committee recommended that 2020's be in the Western part of the country and that 2022's be in the Eastern part of the country.

As a result, the Convention Site Committee provided site reports for the 2020 convention from Honolulu and Las Vegas. As part of its report to the Executive Council, the Convention Site Committee explained that the city of Honolulu had made a very competitive bid, offering its convention center facilities to NALC for free, offering financial assistance to

help pay for the shuttles between hotels and guaranteeing the hotel rates without any percentage increase—something few other cities do. That deal, along with the branch's request to host the convention and the long period of time since the convention was last held in Honolulu—it will have been 16 years since the 2004 convention there—were enough to convince the Executive Council to host the convention there.

The Convention Site Committee also provided site reports for the 2022 convention for Chicago, Minneapolis and Boston. For many years, Chicago has submitted bids to host NALC conventions, but in the past, the bids have not been as attractive as those offered by other cities. Most notably, the bids have required large costs for renting the convention center facilities and have offered less desirable facilities. For this latest round of bidding, the city greatly reduced the costs while offering the use of its newest facilities. The Executive Council took into account the competitive economic bid put forward by Chicago, the branch's request to host the convention and the 22 years it will have been since the last convention in Chicago in 2000, and voted to host the convention there.

The Convention Site Committee will soon start its process again, searching for sites for the 2024 and 2026 NALC national convention (see below). **PR**

## Seeking host branches for 2024 and 2026 conventions

**B**ranches interested in hosting the 2024 or 2026 Biennial NALC Convention should notify Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine in writing by Jan. 15, 2018.

To host the convention, a city should have at least 3,500 hotel rooms within a reasonable distance from the convention facility. The convention center

must seat 8,000 delegates on one level and have appropriate meeting room space for workshops and offices. In choosing a host branch, the availability of unionized facilities is a top consideration.

In keeping with the *NALC Constitution*, cities that hosted the two immediately prior conventions are ineligible

to host again. The *NALC Constitution* is available on [nalc.org](http://nalc.org).

Letters of interest should be directed to: Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine, NALC Headquarters, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. The NALC Executive Council chooses convention sites after hearing reports from the Convention Site Committee. **PR**