



Bernard F. Lynch
City Manager

*In CC packets
5/21/09 by
Bntelles*

TO: Mayor Edward Caulfield
And
Members of the Lowell City Council

FROM: Bernard F. Lynch, City Manager *B*

DATE: May 20, 2009

SUBJECT: **MOTION OF 5/12/09 BY COUNCILOR R. MERCIER
"REQUEST THE CITY MANAGER HAVE THE SPECIAL
EVENTS COORDINATOR ARRANGE TO HAVE EACH OF
THE PARTICIPATING ETHNIC/OTHERWISE
ORGANIZATIONS FLAGS TO FLY IN THE JFK PLAZA
DURING THE 2009 FOLK FESTIVAL".**

In regards to the above mentioned motion I have been in contact with CASE/COOL Director, LZ Nunn. LZ has informed me that C.A.S.E. staff members have explored the option of doing a flag raising ceremony with all 21 ethnic groups as part of the kick-off to the Lowell Folk Festival on Friday, July 24, 2009. The Lowell National Historical Park and Folk Festival Foundation have mentioned that this new event would be a natural fit with the Folk Festival's international cultural appeal. With the support of so many diverse cultural groups in the City, this multi-ethnic flag raising ceremony can boost visibility for the ethnic groups and involve our local community in the opening of the festival weekend.

The event will take place in front on JFK Plaza on Friday, July 24, 2009, time TBD. Nineteen flags will be raised in the plaza. Two ethnic groups will be drawn by a lottery for placement on the two poles and raised there on either side of the front entrance of City Hall.

After the ceremony, each of the participating ethnic groups will join the Friday Folk Festival kick-off parade at 6:00 PM

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.