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**QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS HOSTS BORO PRESIDENT FERRER
MONDAY, MAY 15, 7:30 P.M.
Queens Civics to Adopt 2000 Platform & thank “student-webmaster”
at Calvary Baptist Church in Southeast Queens**

Borough President Fernando Ferrer of the Bronx addresses the next meeting of the borough-wide Queens Civic Congress [QCC], Monday, May 15, 7:30 p.m., at Calvary Baptist Church, 110-10 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, in southeast Queens, announced President Sean M. Walsh. The meeting also includes plans to adopt a revised Queens Civic Platform, advised Executive Vice President Patricia Dolan. “As an umbrella group of 97 civic, co-op, tenant and other community organizations, the Queens Civic Congress membership represents almost every community in the borough,” said Executive Vice President for Public Affairs Corey Bearak.

The Queens Civic Congress will also make a presentation to 13-year old Jonathan Bearak, who developed and maintains *The Queens Civic Congress Online* website (<http://www.queensciviccongress.org>).

“Civic leaders founded the Civic Congress as an outgrowth of the Federation of Queens Civic Councils, founded in 1962, and its two remaining regional civic councils, the Eastern Queens Civic Council and the United Civic Council,” explained Dolan. “In June 1997, these organizations voted to merge and form the Civic Congress to better meet the challenges of the new century.”

“Through our platform, the Congress can act quickly to advocate community concerns on various issues that public officials consider each day,” explained Bearak. “The process for adopting the Platform enables us to bring together the various communities of Queens through their civic and community associations to exchange ideas and forge an agenda to meet common concerns.”

Noting previous addresses by City Comptroller Alan Hevesi and Council Speaker Peter F. Vallone, President Walsh stated, “We plan to invite the announced mayoral candidates to address the Congress over an eighteen month period so they can hear first hand the issues our members consider important.” The Civic Congress rotates its membership meetings at different sites across the borough. Previous meetings in southeast Queens took place at the Allen A.M.E Church and York College.