



Office of the Town Council

Trip Report

Purpose: 2015 National League of Cities Congressional City Conference

Date: March 8 – 11, 2015

Location: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, D.C.

Attendees: Councilmember Bill Garner
Councilmember Mike Zinkin

Summary:

The National League of Cities (NLC) 2015 Congressional City Conference is an annual legislative forum that brings together more than 2,000 elected and appointed city leaders to focus on the federal policy issues that are important to local governments. In addition to providing opportunities to learn about innovative practices implemented at the local level, the conference connected city leaders from across the country with NLC - the organization that members of Congress, the White House, and federal agencies look to for solutions to addressing the nation's most pressing challenges. The Conference offered city leaders from across the country a unique opportunity to gain valuable insights into and influence actions in Washington that impact local communities, and to learn of available federal programs, funding opportunities and resources.

Key federal policy issues addressed at the conference included:

- Using federal tax credits and bond financing for community and economic development
- Workforce development strategies for local officials
- Telecommunications opportunities and impacts
- Federal programs and opportunities for local government
- Ongoing changes in immigration reform
- Environmental regulations and city planning decisions

Councilmember Zinkin has been appointed to the NLC 2015 Community and Economic Development Steering Committee. Letter of appointment, additional notes and conference schedule are attached.

Report submitted to the Town Clerk on March 23, 2015

Bill Garner
Councilmember

Mike Zinkin
Councilmember



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January 20, 2015

Dear Community and Economic Development Steering Committee member:

On behalf of the National League of Cities (NLC), I am writing to congratulate you on your appointment to the 2015 Community and Economic Development Steering Committee. Your experience and commitment will bring great value to NLC, communities around the country and the efforts of the committee. Your term begins with the receipt of this notification and concludes at the adjournment of the 2015 Congress of Cities in Nashville, Tenn., in November.

This year's committee leadership team consists of Chair Mike Wojcik, councilmember, Rochester, Minn. and Vice Chair(s) Craig Thurmond, mayor, Broken Arrow, Okla. and Johnny DuPree, mayor, Hattiesburg, Miss. The NLC staff contact for your committee is Michael Wallace. Mike can be reached directly at 202-626-3025 or by e-mail at Wallace@nlc.org. All of us at NLC look forward to working with you in this capacity this year.

I hope you are already planning to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference March 7-11, 2015, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C., and to join us for important committee meetings that will take place during the conference. Your participation at these meetings is important as the committee will begin developing a work plan for the year. To assist you in preparing for the meetings, NLC will e-mail meeting materials and room locations in early March. Optional events may take place before the committee meetings, and we will send you that information as soon as it is available.

To register for the Congressional City Conference, click [here](#).

Finally, attached is a hometown press release, which I encourage you to personalize and share with your local media. If you have any questions regarding media relations, please contact Thomas Martin at martin@nlc.org.

Again, congratulations on your appointment and I look forward to working with you next year.

Sincerely,

Ralph E. Becker
President
National League of Cities

NLC 2015 Congressional City Conference Supplemental Notes

The National League of Cities University now has a FREE course available online in Foreclosures. This course can be accessed from the National League of Cities' web site www.nlc.org. Please contact me for help to get to the course, if needed. There will soon be another free course available called "Advocacy 101" (or something like that). I encourage all, staff and elected, to look at the available course and take it. It does not have to be completed on the day you start, therefore can be taken at your leisure.

As I have reported in the past, the tax-free status of Municipal Bonds remains one of the NLC legislative priorities. Through the Arizona League, we had the opportunity to have a "give and take" with both Senators McCain and Flake. In discussions with Sen. McCain, I was assured that he felt this proposal would go nowhere. This was very reassuring.

Both Senators McCain and Flake are aware of the problem with the sales tax "loophole" provided by online sales. They both felt that the new bill, The Marketplace Fairness Act of 2015, which was recently introduced by last week by a bipartisan group of senators had a good chance of passing the Senate. This same bill passed in 2013 and did not get through the House.

Mike Zinkin
Councilmember
Town of Oro Valley



NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES CONGRESSIONAL CITY CONFERENCE

MARCH 7-11, 2015 | WASHINGTON, D.C.

Preliminary Conference Schedule

*Main Conference Events: Monday, March 9– Tuesday, March 10
(note times are subject to change)*

Monday, March 9

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Celebrate Diversity Breakfast*
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Opening General Session
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. General Session
5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. State League Caucuses and Receptions
Constituency and Special Group Meetings/Events*

Tuesday, March 10

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Concurrent Workshops
10:30 a.m. – Noon Concurrent Workshops
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. General Session and Lunch
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Delegates' Pre-scheduled Capitol Hill Visits
5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. State League Caucuses and Receptions
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The Capitol Steps

Wednesday, March 11

All-Day-Delegates' Pre-scheduled Capitol Hill Visits

Pre-conference Activities:

Saturday, March 7

9:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. NLC University Seminars*
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Constituency and Special Group Meetings/Events*

Sunday, March 8

8:30 a.m. – Noon NLC Board of Directors Meeting
NLC Advisory Council Meeting
9:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. NLC University Seminars*
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Policy and Advocacy Committee Meetings/Events*
5:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Constituency and Special Group Meetings
5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Orientation to NLC for First Time Attendees

** Additional fees may apply*