

MARCH 6-8, 2024

Hilton Washington, DC | Capitol Hill

Droft Agenda

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions and events are open to all mayors and other officially invited guests. Accommodations and meeting services are located in the Hilton Washington, DC Capitol Hill unless otherwise stated.

March 6

Congressional Reception & Dinner

6:00pm – 6:30pm, Opening Reception, Location TBA

Mayors may gather in the Hilton Capitol Hill lobby at 5:30pm to board buses for the Dinner venue.

Join La Crosse Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Vicksburg Mayor George Flaggs, and members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives for a reception and dinner for the Mississippi River Caucus.

Presiding: Mitch Reynolds, Mayor of La Crosse, WI, MRCTI Co-Chair

George Flaggs, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Remarks: Hon. John Boozman (invited) Hon. Jason Smith (invited)

Mississippi River Caucus Co-Chair
United States Senate (AR)

Mississippi River Caucus Co-Chair
U.S. House of Representatives (MO)

6:30pm – 8:30pm, Dinner, Location TBA

Mayors will welcome a new House Co-Chair of the Mississippi River Caucus and unveil their Policy Platform.

Presiding: Mitch Reynolds, Mayor of La Crosse, WI, MRCTI Co-Chair

George Flaggs, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Induction: Hon. Errick Simmons

Mayor of Greenville, MS MRCTI Mississippi State Chair

Keynote: Hon. Bennie Thompson (invited)

Co-Chair, Mississippi River Caucus U.S. House of Representatives (MS)

Unveiling: MRCTI 2024 Federal Legislative Platform

2024 Annual Mta Hon. Sharon Weston Broome

Preview: Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA

Host, MRCTI 2024 Annual Meeting

March 7

Opening Plenary Join Partnership Breakfast with the Mayors of Great Lakes Cities Sponsored by:

8:00am - 9:30am, Location TBA

Mayors may gather in the Hilton Capitol Hill lobby at 7:30am to proceed to the breakfast venue. Mayors representing the majority of the freshwater resources of North America will gather together for this joint event to hear from key national leaders and plan a larger continental strategy together including the Development of a Mississippi River Compact.

Presiding: Jerry Koch, Mayor of Coon Rapids, MN, MRCTI Minnesota State Chair

Introduction: Hon. George Flaggs Mayor Ryan Sorenson (invited)

Mayor of Vicksburg, MS Sheboygan, WI MRCTI Co-Chair GLSCI Vice Chair

Keynote: Hon. Amy Klobuchar (invited)

Co-Chair, Mississippi River Caucus Vice Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force

United States Senate (MN)

Presentation: Hon. Rick Crawford (invited) Hon. J.D. Vance (invited)

Co-Chair, Mississippi River Caucus Co-Chair, Great Lakes Task Force U.S. House of Representatives (AR) U.S. House of Representatives (OH)

Partnership: Hon. John Hoffman David Naftzger

MRCTI City/State Task Force Co-Chair Executive Director

Minnesota State Senate Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers

DAN LOGSDON

Director, National Center for Interstate Compacts

Council of State Governments

SESSION I: Accessing the Second Half of the Jobs Act and IRA

Sponsored by:

10:00am - 11:40am, Location TBA

Mayors may gather in the Hilton Capitol Hill lobby at 7:30am to proceed to the breakfast venue. The Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Bill and the Inflation Reduction Act are half-way deployed. How do cities position to access funding vehicles before they expire?

Moderating: Paul Young, Mayor of Memphis, TN

Introduction: Hon. Dan Gibson

Mayor of Natchez, MS

Keynote: Hon. John Porcari (invited)

Former Deputy Secretary of U.S. Dept. of Transportation 2009-2013 Port Envoy to the White House Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force

Presentation:

Remarks:

Plenary Lunch: Mississippi River Jobs & Innovation Summit Part 1 – Employment *Sponsored by*:

12:15pm – 2:15pm, Stantec Conference Center

MRCTI Mayors gather a vital two-part workshop on making the most of the Jobs Act and the IRA to truly build-up people and places along the Mississippi River for the future.

Presiding: Jacob Frey, Mayor of Minneapolis, MN

Welcome: David Goldwater

Vice President

Stantec

High-LevelREPRESENTATIVEREPRESENTATIVEREPRESENTATIVEPanel:CargillTargetYUM Brands

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SESSION II: Mississippi River Jobs & Innovation Summit Part 2 – Circular Solutions

2:30pm - 4:00pm, Stantec Conference Center

Mayors will reconvene for a part two that focuses on innovation in building longer-term solutions to major infrastructure challenges.

Moderating: La Toya Cantrell, Mayor of New Orleans, LA

Infrastructure Representative Representative Representative

Panel: Landscape Design Division Xylem DuPont

Smith Group

Dialogue and Dinner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers *Sponsored by*:

6:00pm – 9:00pm, Xylem Reservoir Center, 301 Water St SE, Washington, DC 20003 Mayors will be joined by leadership from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

6:00pm – 6:30pm, Reception Welcoming Guests

Presiding: Mitch Reynolds, Mayor of La Crosse, WI, MRCTI Co-Chair

George Flaggs, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS, MRCTI Co-Chair

Welcome:

Remarks: Brig. Gen. Kimberly A. Peeples (invited)

Commander, Mississippi Valley Division

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

6:30pm – 9:00pm, Dinner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Presiding: George Flaggs, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS

Introduction:

Greetings:

Keynote: MICHAEL L. CONNOR (invited)

Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

U.S. Army

Discussion:

March 8

Closing Breakfast: Community Change – Local Projects, Global Benefit(s)

8:00am – 9:30am, Hilton Washington Capitol Hill525 New Jersey Avenue, NW

Mayors can work to change their cities within for both local and global opportunities. Mayors bring together resources and enterprises at home and abroad with the EPA, USDA, and the second-largest commodity exporting nation in the world – Brazil.

Presiding: Errick Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, MS

Brad Bark, Mayor of Muscatine, IA

Introduction: Hon. Sharon Weston Broome

Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA

Presentation: MARIANNE ENGELMAN-LADO

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Presentation: Homer Wilkes, Ph.D. (invited)

Undersecretary for Natural Resources & Environment

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Remarks: Her Excellency Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti (invited)

Brazilian Ambassador to the United States

Embassy of Brazil to the U.S.

Mayors' Visit to the White House (Mayors and city staff only)

10:00am - 11:30am, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

12:00pm – Adjourn

Hotel Information

Rooms are available at a reduced rate within the currently being updated Hilton Washington, DC Capitol Hill (pictured below), 525 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001. Reservations can be made by calling 202-628-2100, ask for the block under *Mississippi River Cities & Towns*.

