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Metro Chamber Highlights Key Wins from 2023 “Cap-to-Cap,” Announces Dates for 2024 Advocacy Effort

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Produced by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, a local contingent of more than 400 regional business leaders, elected officials and changemakers traveled to Washington D.C. earlier this year to attend the 51st Annual Capitol-to-Capitol (or Cap-to-Cap) federal advocacy effort. A powerful and impactful institution since 1970, Cap-to-Cap included nearly 110 elected officials and more than 100 first-time participants. The purpose of the annual advocacy program is to meet with federal officials to champion a successful future for the region.

With a contingent comprised of 12 policy teams that covered a wide range of topline issues, listed below are a number of key “wins” that were a direct result of the 2023 Cap-to-Cap advocacy effort:

- **Air Quality** – The team participated in meetings with USDA Forest Service and EPA and Committee on Ag and Forestry which elevated important regional wildfire issues such as air district regulations from preventative burns.
- **Community Resources** – The team met with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, National Alliance to End Homelessness, Low-Income Housing Coalition, and Congressman Kevin Kiley’s Chief of Staff, which resulted in new contacts for further discussions on key policy issues.
- **Economic Development** – The team advocated for the use of federal stimulus dollars to provide mental health staffing in police departments and schools.
- **Flooding** – The team secured a meeting with the US Army Corps of Engineers to discuss rural levee improvements.
- **Food & Agriculture** – The team met with Congresswoman Doris Matsui to discuss food technology innovation and provided suggestions for the upcoming Farm Bill.
- **Health Care** – Since Cap-to-Cap, Congresswoman Doris Matsui has introduced the bipartisan Telemental Health Care Access Act, which arose from conversations she had with the health care team.
- **Public Safety** – The team met with the Department of Justice to discuss COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) grant opportunities and advocate for more flexibility in grant use.
- **Transportation** – The team discussed improving the region’s light rail system with the Federal Transit Administration administrator Nuria Fernandez. In May, the FTA awarded

SacRT a \$45 million grant for light rail car replacement, which will be used to build 16 new low-floor light rail cars.

- **Workforce & Education** – The team met with the Department of Labor staff and was provided with useful information for receiving grants for students and educational programs in our region.

A more comprehensive listing of “wins” – plus a rundown of top priorities shared by congressional representations – from the 2023 Cap-to-Cap is available [here](#).

“The top level, in-person team meetings and networking opportunities with our representatives in Washington D.C. are simply invaluable,” said Jenna Abbott, Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives for the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. “The impacts of our Cap-to-Cap advocacy efforts cannot be understated as new doors continue to open and conversations are ongoing on critically important issues affecting our region. We look forward to generating more forward movement and momentum in 2024.”

Representing the largest and longest-standing regional chamber delegation of its kind, Cap-to-Cap continues to drive steady and consistent advocacy that results in significant advances for business development, an inclusive economy, and a vibrant and connected region. Each year the delegation from the capital region includes an influential group of business leaders who unite to advocate and stand for policies that help ensure the region is poised for growth and greater success.

A Metro Chamber Production, the 2023 Cap-to-Cap program was supported by Sutter Health, Dignity Health, UC Davis & UC Davis Health, Kaiser Permanente, SMUD, Los Rios Community College District, Raley’s, Paratransit, and FOX40.

The next Cap-to-Cap advocacy effort will take place April 13-17, 2024, and registration will open in mid-December.

For more information about the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, please visit www.metrochamber.org.

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About Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

The Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce advocates for and supports the inclusive economic prosperity of our Capital Region by leading efforts for business. Established in 1895, Metro Chamber is the largest, most prominent, and established voice for business representing 1,400 members and their workforce in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. The Metro Chamber provides businesses and individuals with the programs, services and advocacy needed to build vibrant



communities, a ready workforce, connected region and strong business.

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