



CAPITOL CA — TO — DC CAPITOL

A Metro Chamber Production

OUR DELEGATION WINS BIG DURING THE 51ST ANNUAL CAPITOL-TO-CAPITOL

Our 12 policy teams attended 148 appointments on Capitol Hill, resulting in many productive dialogues with key Congressional representatives, NGOs, and other government agencies.



AIR QUALITY TEAM

The Air Quality 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.

The Air Quality team also participated in relevant discussions with key congressional staff about necessary regional and state policy changes to allow for biomass plant reopenings.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES TEAM

The Community Resources Team met with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, National Alliance to End Homelessness, Low-Income Housing Coalition, and Congressman Kiley's Chief of Staff which resulted in new contacts for further discussions on key policy issues.

The Community Resources team received a personal briefing from the Executive Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. The briefing previewed the federal

homelessness initiative before the public announcement on May 18, and the team was able to discuss how the new federal plan works with our regional plan through Sacramento Steps Forward.

The Community Resources team also submitted a \$6 million earmark request to Senator Padilla for a new community wellness campus on Stockton Boulevard, which he has since submitted it to the Committee on Appropriations.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The Economic Development Team advocated for the use of federal stimulus dollars to provide mental health staffing in police departments and schools.



FLOOD TEAM

The Flood Team secured a meeting with the US Army Corps of Engineers to discuss rural levee improvements.

The Flood team met with Senator Feinstein's staff to secure support and send letters for flood control funding in the region.



FOOD & AGRICULTURE TEAM

The Food and Agriculture team met with Congresswoman Doris Matsui to discuss food technology innovation and provided suggestions for the upcoming Farm Bill.



PUBLIC SAFETY TEAM

The Public Safety team met with the Department of Justice to discuss COPS grant opportunities and advocate for more flexibility in grant use.



WORKFORCE & EDUCATION TEAM

The Workforce & Education 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.

CONGRESSIONAL PRIORITIES

Leadership meetings gave our congressional representatives a chance to share their highest priorities.

Congressman Bera shared his vision for Sacramento to become the leading food technology hub in the United States and discussed strategies with team leaders to bring funding for incubators.

Congressman Garamendi emphasized the need to develop our region's workforce, and how local employers must take a leading role in growing the educated workforce that they now need. Large companies, colleges and universities, and local governments must all take active roles.

Freshman **Congressman Kevin Kiley** took a particular interest in working with the Chamber to rectify the shortage of trades workers in the region.

Congressman Tom McClintock wants to work with local law enforcement to address the new challenges provided by drones: in particular by changes FAA regulations and allowing law enforcement more jurisdiction over near airspace.

With **Congressman LaMalfa**, we discussed how to exercise his support for buy-local food programs, and his chagrin that 81% of growers in his district shipped their food far away. We also solidified the congressman's support to double Urban Search & Rescue funding and improve flexibility for COPS grants.

Congressman Thompson continues to work tirelessly on his three top priorities of gun violence prevention, climate change mitigation, and supporting our region's thriving agriculture.

Congresswoman Matsui has brought crucial transportation infrastructure and flood protection funding to the region in recent years and, as a coauthor of the CHIPS act, is working to close the digital divide and make Sacramento a technology leader for long to come.

THE 'BIG WINS' CONTINUE

And the victories haven't stopped since we left D.C.—in fact, they're just picking up momentum.



HEALTH CARE TEAM

Since Cap-to-Cap, Congresswoman Matsui has introduced the bipartisan Telemental Health Care Access Act, which arose from conversations she had with our health care team. The bill removes the requirement that doctors see Medicare beneficiaries in-person within six months of being treated virtually, which allows patients and doctors to make the most efficient use of telehealth possible.



TRANSPORTATION TEAM

In D.C., the Transportation 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. SacRT was the only FTA Region 9 recipient of this competitive grant.

KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING

We are tremendously proud of the advocacy work of this year's delegation. We will continue recording the progress out of Capitol-to-Capitol as wins continue through-out the year.

Help us capture all the 'big wins' from this year's program please contact **Director of Public Policy and Governmental Affairs, Jack Blattner** at jblattner@metrochamber.org to submit your team's 'big wins'.