



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065

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April 20, 2011

TO: Mr. Clayton Wong, Fiscal Officer
FROM: Councilmember Ernest Y. Martin
RE: 2011 NACo Legislative Conference Trip Report

Attached is the report and findings of the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., March 5-9, 2011.

If you have questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Attachment

Sunday, March 6, 2011

Arrive in Washington, D.C.

Monday, March 7, 2011

Register for Conference

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 am Educational Session Block I

❖ *Workforce Development in a Changing Economy: The Future of Workforce Investment Act*

○ Guest Speakers:

- Honorable Carol Holden, Commissioner, Hillsborough County, NH
- Ms. Julie Castro Abrams, Chief Executive Officers, Women's Initiative for Self Employment
- Ms. Polly Trottenburg, Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C.

- Speakers described how the Workforce Investment Act and other legislation are used to grow businesses and job opportunities within counties.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon Educational Session Block II

❖ *Year One Review: Federal Partnership for Sustainability*

○ Guest Speakers:

- Honorable Peter Corroon, Mayor, Salt Lake County, UT
- Ms. Shelly Poticha, Director, Office of Sustainability, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Workshop outlined various ways counties have benefited from the millions of dollars in federal funding received to address sustainability issues.

- Speakers discussed the different type of funding opportunities available for counties in 2011.

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Attended Opening General Session

- ❖ President Glen Whitley welcomed NACo members and provided opening remarks

❖ Guest Speakers:

○ *Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman, U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff*

- Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told NACo members that Counties should make every effort to help military veterans and their families by providing employment opportunities.
- Adm. Mullen noted that all counties can greatly benefit from this untapped workforce.
- Adm. Mullen stressed the concept that returning vets ready and able to work and will use the job skills and strong work instincts to contribute as a many of your community.

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- Adm. Mullen also stressed that Americans have a duty to help veterans to reintegrate into their communities.
 - Adm. Mullen noted the importance of helping veterans, some of whom face great challenges such as growing rates of homelessness and mental illness,
 - Adm. Mullen noted that the departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs can't do it alone nor should the effort be Washington-based.
- ***U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder***
 - U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder identified his main goals for justice reform: 1) increasing the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system; and 2) improving access to legal services.
 - U.S. Attorney General Holder stated that the current juvenile justice system does not spend resources wisely and we must do a better job in intervention and prevention.

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

8:30 am – 10:15 am Attended 2nd General Session

- ❖ President Glen Whitley welcomed NACo members and provided opening remarks
- ❖ Guest Speakers:

- ***HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan***

- HUD Secretary Donovan stated that HUD has worked closely with counties to improve the economy through the Federal Recovery Act.
 - Sec. Donovan stressed that through counties' efforts, government was able renovated and developed over 410,000 homes and reached over 850,00 men, women and children who were either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
 - Sec. Donovan urged county officials to contact their members of Congress to defend Neighborhood Stabilization funds. The program has invested \$7 billion across the country to buy foreclosed and abandoned properties which helped reduce vacancy rates in those neighborhoods by 50 to 75 percent.
- ***Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.)***
 - Sen. Chris Coons spoke to delegates about how his first term in the Senate is challenging because of the unyielding focus on budgets this year, i.e. the national deficit.

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- He stressed to counties that Congress cannot simply solve this deficit crisis by cutting programs that counties need to thrive, such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
 - CDBG funds are critical because they allow counties to support such programs as affordable housing, anti-poverty programs and infrastructure development.
 - Coons concluded with how important Restore the Partnership is not only on the county level but also on the federal level.
 - Coons said he would work on the county, municipal and state levels to legislatively and inductively restore and sustain a partnership with the federal government.
- **Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.)**
 - Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.) provided another perspective about Washington politics and the federal government's budget planning.
 - Rep. Walden stressed that we must get debt under control and back to manageable level.
 - He lauded procedural reforms in the house that he said would make the legislative process more transparent
 - He praised county government for being an idea incubator in a way he said federal and state government could not.

10:45 am – 12:00 pm Attended Educational Session Block III

❖ *The Economic Development Administration and Your Community*

- Guest Speakers:
 - Honorable Lee May, Commissioner, DeKlab County, GA
 - Ms. Angela Ewell-Madison, Director, Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Washington, D.C.
 - Ms. Angela Belden Martinez, Professional Staff, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Washington, D.C.
 - Mr. Phil Paradice, Professional Staff, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Washington, D.C.
- Workshop speakers explained the priorities and initiatives of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) and its impact to county government.
- Speakers stressed the importance of comprehensive regional planning in applying for economic development grants.

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12:15 pm – 2:30 pm **Attended Luncheon**

- ❖ **President Glen Whitley welcomed NACo members**
- ❖ **Guest Speaker:**
 - ***Rep. John Mica (R-Fla.)***
 - **Rep. Mica spoke to delegates about improving our nation's infrastructure and how transportation is important both on a national and county level.**
 - **Rep. Mica is the Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and spoke about the Reauthorization Transportation Bill or "Highway Bill." Rep. Mica stressed how he believes a long-term bill (6 to 10 years) to fund transportation projects must be passed for the betterment of counties and states.**
 - **Mica continued about how important it is to improve our nation's infrastructure specifically by putting more money towards transportation.**
 - ***Dr. David Brown, Psy.D***
 - **Dr. Brown, psychiatrist for the Defense Centers of Excellence, shared his insights on issues facing service members when reintegrating into their civilian communities.**
 - **Dr. Brown noted that is it important for counties to understand the veterans' culture and situation so that service providers can their communication more effectively with service members and their families.**

2:45 pm – 4:00 pm **Attended Educational Session Block IV**

- ❖ ***Keeping Cool When the Heat is On***
 - **Guest Speakers:**
 - **Mr. Brett Scott, President, National Association of County Information Officers, Dover, DE**
 - **Mr. Don Kappel, Director of Public Affairs, Chesterfield County, VA**
 - **Ms. Kathy Reiffenstein, President, And Now...Presenting**
 - **Workshop outlined different strategies in dealing with the media and anger management.**
 - **Speakers discussed the impact and best practices of using Social Media**

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: March 23, 2011

Traveler: Ernest Y. Martin
 Event: NACo 2011 Legislative Conference
 Location: Washington, D.C.
 Dates: From March 5, 2011 To March 9, 2011

Description	Amount	Notes:
1. Registration Fee	490.00	
2. Airfare	1100.00 <i>1070.69</i>	<i>Based on a report of 6 airfares</i>
3. Hotel	728.22	Please see attached documents as record of receipt for
4. Meals	160.16 <i>154.71</i>	conference registration, hotel, ground transportation, tips
5. Ground Transportation	33.00	meals and airfare.
6. Tips	16.00 <i>23.00</i>	
7. Other	50.00	Baggage Fee = \$50.00 <i>\$25.00 each</i>
Other	19.90	Internet Fee = \$19.90 <i>\$9.95 each</i>
Other		Ground Transportation (\$22.00 + 11.00) = \$33.00
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	2597.28 <i>2561.52</i>	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:



 Signature of Traveler

3/23/2011

 Date