March 17

Dinner with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, sponsored by Viking River Cruises

6:30pm – 8:00pm, APA Top Floor Conference Space, 750 First Street, NE

Mayors may gather in the hotel lobby at 6:20pm to walk three blocks to dinner venue. Registration materials will be available at the dinner.

Mayors will be joined by leadership from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a sit-down dinner to discuss current challenges facing the Mississippi River as well as possible solutions.

**Presiding:** GEORGE FLAGGS, Mayor of Vicksburg, MS
ROY BUOL, Mayor of Dubuque, IA

**Presentation:** MILTON HUGH
Senior Vice President of Finance
Viking River Cruises

**Discussion:** MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL WEHR
Commander, Mississippi Valley Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

COL ANTHONY MITCHELL
Commander, St. Louis District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

EDWARD E. BELK
Chief, Operations & Regulatory Practice
Directorate of Civil Works
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DR. NORMA JEAN MATTEI
Mississippi River Commission
March 18

Environmental Leadership Breakfast
8:00am – 9:30am, National Association of Realtors Building, 12th floor 500 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Mayors will meet in the Phoenix Park Lobby at 7:45am and walk 2 blocks to breakfast venue.

Presiding: TIM KABAT, Mayor of La Crosse, WI
BELINDA CONSTANT, Mayor of Gretna, LA

Welcome: ANDY KIMMEL
Policy Manager
Mississippi River Network

Introduction: DAN BERRY
Communities Program National Director
Eco America

Discussion: KAMERAN ONLEY
U.S. Director of Government Relations
The Nature Conservancy

ADAM KOLTON
Vice President of National Advocacy
National Wildlife Federation

CAROL ANDRESS
Director of Legislative Operations for Climate
Environmental Defense Fund

CHRIS WILLIAMS
Senior Vice President of Conservation
American Rivers

EILEEN SHADER
Senior Policy Advisor
American Rivers

House and Senate Meetings (Mayors and city staff only)
10:00am – 12:00pm, House & Senate Offices, Capitol Hill

HON. AL FRANKEN (10:30am, 309 HSOB)
Energy & Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate (MN)
Presiding: David Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud, MN

JACK RUDDY, Legislative Dir. (10:00am, 1415LHOB)
Office of Congressman Sam Graves
U.S. House of Representatives (MO)
Presiding: Jo Anne Smiley, Mayor of Clarksville, MO

HON. CHUCK GRASSLEY (11:30am, S-108, Capitol)
Finance Committee
United States Senate (IA)
Presiding: Roy Buol, Mayor of Dubuque, IA

HON. STEPHEN FINCHER (11:00am, 2452 RHOB)
Mississippi River Caucus Co-Chair
U.S. House of Representatives (TN)
Presiding: AC Wharton, Mayor of Memphis, TN

HON. EDWARD WHITFIELD (11:45AM, 2184 RHOB)
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives (KY)
Presiding: David Lattus, Mayor of Hickman, KY
Capitol Hill Lunch, sponsored by EKO Flood Wall USA, LLC (Mayors and city staff only)  
12:30pm – 1:30pm, Room S-115, Senate Family Dining Room, U.S. Capitol  
Presiding: JO ANNE SMILEY, MAYOR OF CLARKSVILLE, MO

Presentation: HEINZ MUNZ  
CEO, EKO Flood Wall USA, LLC

Remarks: HON. ROY BLUNT (Invited)  
United States Senate (MO)  
HON. AMY KLOBUCHAR (Invited)  
United States Senate, (MN)

Executive Meetings (Mayors and city staff only)  
1:30pm – 4:00pm, Room S-115, Senate Family Dining Room, U.S. Capitol  
Presiding: AC WHARTON, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair  
ROY BUOL, Mayor of Dubuque, IA, MRCTI Co-Chair

Greeting: HON. THAD COCHRAN  
Chairman, Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate (MS)

Discussion: HON. JERRY ABRAMSON (Invited)  
Special Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs  
HON. STAN MEIBURG  
Acting Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA  
DR. ELLEN GILINSKY  
Senior Policy Advisor, EPA Office of Water  
MICHAEL GRIMM  
Director, Risk Reduction Division, FEMA  
JASON WELLER  
Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA  
DAVID DUCKENFIELD  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Break (Return to Hotel)  
4:00pm – 5:50pm
Congressional Dinner, sponsored by Philips and TenCate
6:30pm – 7:00pm, Opening Reception, Residence of the Dutch Ambassador to the U.S., 2347 S Street, NW
Mayors may gather in the hotel lobby at 5:50pm to board busses for the Dinner venue
Join Memphis Mayor AC Wharton, Dubuque Mayor Roy Buol, and members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives from along the Mississippi River for a reception and dinner with the Mississippi River Caucus.

Welcome: REMCO ZEEUW, Economic Minister
          Kingdom of the Netherlands Embassy to the United States

Remarks: LEE S. BRYAN
          President, TenCate Geosynthetics Americas
          JOHN POULAND
          Vice President for Government Affairs and Solutions, Philips Lighting

Greeting: AC WHARTON, Mayor of Memphis, TN
          Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative Co-Chair

7:00pm – 8:30pm, Dinner, Residence of the Dutch Ambassador to the U.S.
Opening: ROY BUOL, Mayor of Dubuque, IA
          Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative Co-Chair

Greeting: MICHAEL GOFF
          President, Northeast-Midwest Institute

Introduction: HYRAM COPELAND
              Mayor of Vidalia, LA

Remarks: HON. BILL CASSIDY, United States Senate (LA)
          Mississippi River Caucus Co-Chair

Discussion: MAYORS of the Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative
            MEMBERS of the Mississippi River Caucus in U.S. House & Senate
March 19

Breakfast: Update on Pending Environmental Encyclical of His Holiness, Pope Francis
8:00am – 9:00am, Power Court Room, Phoenix Park Hotel

Presiding: AC WHARTON, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
ROY BUOL, Mayor of Dubuque, IA, MRCTI Co-Chair

Update: HIS Eminence CARDINAL THEODORE E. MCCARRICK
Archbishop Emeritus of Washington, DC

Container-on-Vessel Stakeholders Coordination Meeting
10:00am – 12:00pm, Department of Transportation Headquarters, 1200 New Jersey, Avenue, SE
Mayors will hold a container-on-vessel stakeholders meeting to coordinate the various efforts by the states and Federal entities to return container movement back the Mississippi River.

Welcome: MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ
Deputy Maritime Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation

Greetings: CHRISTOPHER MASINGILL
Federal Co-Chair, Delta Regional Authority, USDA

MATT ERSKINE
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, EDA Chief Operating Officer

Remarks: SHERRI LEBAS
Secretary, Louisiana Department of Transportation

GENE HIGGINBOTTOM
Commissioner, Arkansas Waterways Commission

Introductions: AC WHARTON
Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair

LARRY “Butch” BROWN
Mayor of Natchez, MS

Discussion: HUGH MCCONNELL
President, Inland River Port & Terminal Association

ADAM HEMPHILL
Director of Federal Government Relations, Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

MICHAEL DENDAS
Senior Manager, Federal Government Relations, The Home Depot

SCOTT SIGMAN
IL Soybean Association

DAN MECKLENBORG
Senior Vice President, Ingram Marine Group

DENNIS WILSMSMEYER
Executive Director, America’s Central Port
Mayors’ Press Conference
12:00pm – 12:30pm, Department of Transportation Headquarters, 1200 New Jersey, Avenue, SE
Mayors will hold a press conference immediately following the container-on-vessel stakeholders meeting.

Moderating: AC Wharton, Mayor of Memphis, TN, MRCTI Co-Chair
ROY BUOL, Mayor of Dubuque IA, MRCTI Co-Chair

12:30pm – Adjourn

Hotel Information
Rooms are available at a reduced rate within the historic Phoenix Park Hotel (pictured below), 520 Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. Reservations can be made by calling 202-638-6900, ask for the block under the Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative, group number19539.