

# THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER CITIES & TOWNS INITIATIVE

## Capitol Meeting

### Agenda

March 17-19, 2015 Washington, DC

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions and events are open to all mayors and other officially invited attendees.  
Official functions and meeting services are located in the Phoenix Park Hotel unless otherwise stated.



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mississippi River  
Cities & Towns Initiative  
Capitol Meeting  
**March 17-19, 2015**



## 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, 12<sup>th</sup> 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*



**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 ERKSINE  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, EDA Chief Operating Officer

*Remarks:* SHERRI LEBAS  
Secretary, Louisiana Department of Transportation  
GENE HIGGINBOTHAM  
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 WILMSMEYER  
Executive Director, America’s Central Port

LORI LOUVIERE  
Commercial Manager, Port of New Orleans

*Address:* HON. ANTHONY FOXX  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation

### **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 number 19539.



520 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
p 202.638.6900  
f 202.638.4025