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February 21, 2012

INVOICE
City of Mason City
2012 DC Trip Expenses

Airfare:	2 @ \$656.80 =	\$1,313.60
Hotel:	2 @ \$570.22 =	1,140.44
Metro/Cabs:	2 @ \$46.08 =	92.16
Group Meals:	2 @ \$190.46=	380.92
Administrative:	2 @ \$125.00 =	250.00
Tickets:	0 @ \$23.00 =	(billed separately)
TOTAL:		\$3,177.12

Please make check payable to: **Mason City Area Chamber of Commerce**
9 North Federal Avenue*
Mason City, IA 50401

*address effective March 1, 2012

Washington, D.C. Trip Itinerary & Information February 15-17, 2012

The entire party is traveling together. If possible, check-in within 24 hours of the flight at delta.com using your confirmation number. If you have a frequent flyer number, you can report it to the gate agent in Mason City. If you plan to check your bag, it is less expensive to pay online at the time of check-in. A carry-on and one personal item (purse, laptop bag, brief case) is allowed at no additional charge. If anyone has a Delta SkyMiles American Express card, you can check up to nine (9) first bags for free. I have one, so will try to get the majority of the group a free bag.

It is unlikely that news media will cover our departure since we are leaving so early.

OUTBOUND—Wed. Feb. 15

LV 5:06AM MCW
AR 6:00AM MSP
LV 7:37AM MSP
AR 11:10AM DCA

RETURN—Friday, Feb. 17

LV 6:40PM DCA
AR 8:30PM MSP
LV 9:56PM MSP
AR 11:05PM MCW

When we arrive in DC, we'll collect our luggage and take cabs from the airport to the hotel. Dave, Brent W, and Robin will have "cab cash".

Residence Inn by Marriott/Capitol Hill
333 E Street SW
Washington, DC, 20024
Phone: 202.484.8280
Fax: 202.554.0484

\$249 per night for two nights, check in February 15 and depart February 17. Each of you have received a folio number for your hotel room. Present a credit card at the time of check-in for incidental expenses. The Chamber has a direct-bill arrangement with the hotel for your regular room costs, and your organization will be billed after the trip.

Attire

For our meetings Wednesday - Thursday, men will be most comfortable in suits or jackets and ties. Women should wear blazers and skirts/slacks, etc. **Wear comfortable shoes. We'll be doing lots of walking.** The weather forecast is for temperatures in the 40s with the chance of "frozen mix". Please bring a supply of your business cards.

Issues

Each issue has a designated spokesperson(s), but please feel free to participate in discussions—always keeping in mind that we are most interested in hearing from THEM. The purpose of this trip is to demonstrate we are unified in our priorities for moving our region forward. We're glad you have made the effort and investment to join us!!

Media Contacts

We will have regular contact with the local media throughout the trip. Robin will arrange for individuals from our group to call back to local media contacts. If she asks you to give an interview, please DO!

Wednesday, February 15

- 4 AM Meet at the Mason City Municipal Airport for our 5:06AM flight.
Come dressed for the day.
- 12:30PM We'll drop our bags at the hotel, but we won't be able to check into
our rooms until evening.
- 1:15 PM Assemble in hallway outside Longworth 1131
- 1:30 PM **Congressman Steve King**
- 2:15 PM Assemble in hallway outside Rayburn 2217
- 2:30 PM **Congressman Tom Latham**
- 3:30 PM Assemble in hallway outside Hart 731
- 3:45 PM **Senator Tom Harkin**
- 4:15 PM Assemble in hallway outside Hart 135
- 4:30 PM **Senator Charles Grassley**
- 5 PM? Walk or cab to hotel to check in and relax before dinner.
- 7:30 PM? Group Dinner—Georgetown

J Pauls Saloon
3218 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20007
202.333.3450

Old Glory
3139 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20007
202.337.3406

Thursday, February 16

Breakfast on your own (hotel provides a complimentary hot breakfast).

- 8:30AM Meet in hotel lobby to depart for US Chamber by metro.
- 9-10:30AM U.S Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street NW
202-659-6000
- GROUP PHOTO**
- Issues Briefing
--Transportation
--Small Business Policy
--Energy
--Education & Workforce Development
- 11AM EAS Meeting with Dennis DeVany and Kevin Adams
(Osgood, Schoneman, Willett, Bookmeyer—this group will get lunch on their own)
- 11:45AM Group Lunch—The Caucus Room
401 – 9th Street NW (9th and D Street NW)
Washington, DC
202.393.1300
- 2PM Group convenes in hallway outside Hart 607
- 2:15PM Clear Lake Public Safety/City Services Project – Hart 607 (Crabb)
- 2:30PM Renewable Energy—Hart 607 (Willett, Anderson)
- 3:00PM Water Infrastructure – Hart 607 (Bookmeyer, Trout)
--Water Treatment Plant Improvement
--Storm Sewer Projects
- 3:15PM Flood Recovery—Hart 607 (Bookmeyer, Trout, Anderson)
- 3:30PM Transportation – Hart 607
--Airport (Osgood, Schoneman, Willett)
- 4:00PM Transportation—Hart 607
--Surface Transportation (Bookmeyer, Trout)
- 5:45 PM Assemble in hotel lobby to go to Pre-Theatre Dinner.
- 6:00 PM Group Dinner--701 Restaurant
701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
202.393.0701
- 8:30 PM The Riot Act Comedy Theater (Judy Gold)
801 E Street NW
202.697.4900

Friday, February 17

- Morning Breakfast on your own (hotel provides a complimentary hot breakfast).
- Check out of your hotel room and leave your bags at the desk.
Give Robin a copy of your hotel statement. Check-in for afternoon flight at hotel business center.
- Casual dress for today.**
- Free Time to visit monuments and museums.
- ~~10 AM~~ Pick up luggage at hotel; cabs depart for ^{6:40 pm} ~~12:00 Noon~~ flight
- OPTION Group Lunch
- 4:30 PM Depart for airport via cab.
- 8:45 PM Time permitting--group dinner at MSP.

RETURN FLIGHT

Depart: 6:40PM DCA
Arrive: 8:30PM MSP
Depart: 9:56PM MSP
Arrive: 11:05PM MCW

Contact Robin Anderson at 641.425.9751 or randerson@masoncityia.com with any questions regarding this schedule.

Executive Summary—Mason City/Clear Lake 2012

Careful thought and consideration have been put into assembling an agenda of the key issues pertinent to the future of North Iowa. The issues outlined in this booklet have been chosen based upon the benefit and impact each has on the future development of our county and have broad-based support.

ECONOMIC GROWTH & JOB CREATION

1) Water Treatment Plant Improvements—Mason City

The City of Mason City has implemented an aggressive program to provide the safest, most reliable system for providing clean water to citizens and businesses (and to the region in the event of a disaster.) Unfortunately, city utility rates are now among the highest in the state, creating a competitive disadvantage for recruiting additional food processors, bio-fuel manufacturers, and other large water users to the community. These high rates make it difficult for our existing manufacturers to compete within their corporations for increased volume and expansion opportunities. Research demonstrates that installation of a Pressure Sand Filtration System will increase the effectiveness of the current system, reduce chemical use at the plant, and save money.

REQUEST: \$2,080,000

2) Mason City Municipal Airport

Air service and continued investment in the infrastructure of the Mason City Municipal Airport continue to be a major priority for the North Iowa region. The Essential Air Service program ensures our region has access to commercial air service, and the Federal Airport Improvement Program enables our airport commission to complete important safety projects.

REQUEST:

- Support for EAS program at an overall funding level of \$210 million—which is sufficient to continue air service at all eligible communities without the addition of a local cost-share program.
- Passage of a five-year reauthorization bill at \$3.5 billion funding level.
- AIP—maintain primary entitlements at 95%; authorize the use of AIP funds to develop revenue generating facilities at non-hub airports.
- Ensure adequate AIP funding is available to complete the Terminal Parking Lot Reconstruction Project.
- Provide full funding for the Contract Tower Program and the Small Community Air Service Grant Program.
- Fee Structure—increase Passenger Facility fee to \$7.50 and incorporate an index to inflation; maintain current fuel and ticket tax structure.

3) Industrial Thoroughfare Widening—Mason City

With increased industrial and vehicular traffic, safety is a growing concern on North Eisenhower Avenue and 12th Street NW. These thoroughfares provide access to some of Mason City's largest employers and manufacturers as well as tourists and citizens seeking health care services. The project includes widening Eisenhower Avenue and 12th Street NW as well as a key bridge replacement.

REQUEST: \$525,000 to complete Phase 1 (Design) of the project.

4) **Renewable Energy Opportunities**

North Iowa has established itself as an energy hub. North Iowans see the opportunity to build upon this reputation by attracting additional energy operations. The federal government can assist our efforts by providing incentives such as tax credits and tax rebates; increasing federal standards for renewable fuels; increasing funding for research and development; and perhaps most importantly, increasing the federal investment in energy transmission infrastructure.

REQUEST: Support for programs that expand the renewable fuels industry.

PUBLIC SAFETY

5) **Construction of a Public Safety/City Services Complex—Clear Lake**

The Clear Lake Police Department has requested funding for needed organizational improvements to ensure the health and safety of the police officers and the citizens they serve. The proposed project includes:

- Replacement of original dispatch equipment
- Incorporation of vehicle and pedestrian sally ports
- Safe Interview Rooms
- Holding Cells (currently non-existent)
- Locker Rooms
- Offices
- Squad Room
- Debriefing Room
- Public Lobby/Waiting Room (currently non-existent)

REQUEST:

Assistance in determining federal funding opportunities for this important project.

6) **Flood Recovery/Storm Sewer Projects—Mason City**

As a community that was severely affected by the 2008 floods, the need to control the collection of water run-off in an aging storm sewer system is apparent. Citizens currently pay a Storm Water Utility charge each month. These funds will be used for replacement and repair, but are not adequate

to complete the most urgent of the identified needs.

REQUEST:

- \$800,000 to install 5000' of storm sewer pipe to relieve street and localized flooding.
- \$1.5 million to replace 5000' of existing CMP storm pipe with RCP storm pipe. The deterioration of existing pipe has created sink holes in the street right-of-way. Spot repairs have proved ineffective.

7) **National Flood Center**

Currently, Iowa is the only state with a flood center. This university-based flood center has the capability for real-time forecasting technology that can assist states and communities with flood preparation. The federal agencies that currently assist with flood forecasting and safety measures do not have the expertise of the Iowa Flood Center.

REQUEST: Designation of the Iowa Flood Center at the University of Iowa as the National Flood Center. Provide funding for a national flood program that will enable states and communities to minimize flood losses through better prediction and protection methodology.