



2021 DC Fly-In Speaker Profiles

(in order of their presentations)

Speaker Bios

Tracy Zea, President and CEO, Waterways Council Inc.

Zea has served as Waterways Council Inc. President and CEO since July 2020. With a broad range of Capitol Hill, policy development and government relations expertise, Zea most recently served as WCI's vice president-government relations, advocating for WCI's goals for authorizations and appropriations that support a modern, efficient, reliable inland waterways transportation system. His work also enhanced WCI's stakeholder relationship with the Corps of Engineers and the Inland Waterways Users Board. Zea joined WCI as its director-government relations in August 2015, transitioning from the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. During his time on the T&I Committee, he assisted in Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization and Map-21 highway reauthorization and played an integral part in the enactment of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. Prior to joining the T&I Committee, Zea worked for Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.). Zea earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from South Dakota State University.



Brent Leggs, Executive Director, African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, National Trust for Historic Preservation and a Paducah native

A Harvard University Loeb Fellow and author of *Preserving African American Historic Places*, Leggs is a national leader in the U.S. preservation movement and the 2018 recipient of the Robert G. Stanton National Preservation Award. Over the past decade, he has developed the Northeast African American Historic Places Outreach Program, to build a regional movement of preservation leaders saving important landmarks in African American history. Leggs is a Paducah native and a graduate of Paducah Tilghman High School. He became the first African American to complete the University of Kentucky's graduate program in Historic Preservation (part of its School of Architecture). He has taught at Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania, and Boston Architectural College, and he is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Maryland's Graduate Program in Historic Preservation.



Treon Glenn, Senior Director of Government Relations, U.S. Travel Association

In his role as senior director of government relations, Glenn focuses on issues related to business travel, federal appropriations, and tax policy. Prior to joining U.S. Travel, he served in the U.S. Senate for over 10 years in several different capacities, advising Senators on matters related to financial services, international trade, tax policy, consumer protection, and economic development. Glenn is originally from Wisconsin and holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Norwich University in Vermont and a bachelor's degree in Legal Studies from the University of Wisconsin.



Speaker Bios

Nolen V. Bivens, President and CEO, Americans for the Arts

Bivens is a former U.S. Army General and serves as chair of the National Leadership Advisory Council, the National Initiative for Arts & Health Across the Military (NIAHM); military community advisor for the National Endowment for the Arts Military Healing Arts Network's Creative Forces program, and senior Policy Fellow on Arts & Military. Bivens is president of Leader Six, Inc. and has executive leadership experience delivering successful results for public, private sector, and nonprofit organizations with \$1B (+) in annual revenue. He has been guest speaker for national nonprofit conferences, the Aspen Seminar for Leadership in the Arts; and is a contributing writer for the Smithsonian Institution, HuffPost, and American for the Arts' social media. Bivens holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from South Carolina State University, a master's degree in Management from the Naval Post Graduate School, and a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the National Defense University.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce:

Curtis Dubay, Senior Economist, Economic Policy

Before his current role at the U.S. Chamber, Dubay was Senior Economist at the American Bankers Association and Research Fellow in Tax and Economic Policy at The Heritage Foundation. He has also worked at the accounting firm PwC and the Tax Foundation. Dubay has researched and published frequently on a wide range of tax and economic issues. He has appeared regularly in the media, including on CNBC, Fox News, Fox Business, MSNBC, CNN and C-SPAN. Dubay received his master's degree in Economics from the University of Connecticut and his bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond.



Ron Eidshaug, Vice President, Congressional and Public Affairs

As vice president of the Congressional and Public Affairs Division, Eidshaug helps oversee a team of 15 full-time Capitol Hill lobbyists. Eidshaug has a unique ability to translate Washington-speak into language that business leaders can understand. Eidshaug is also the Chamber's chief lobbyist on environmental, energy, and regulatory reform issues. He joined the Chamber team in 1999 and has served in a variety of roles. A native New Yorker, Eidshaug worked in the New York State Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform from 1995 to 1999 during the George Pataki administration. Eidshaug has both a master's and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the State University of New York at Albany.



Edward Mortimer, Vice President, Transportation and Infrastructure

Mortimer oversees the development and implementation of the Chamber's transportation infrastructure policy and represents the Chamber on Capitol Hill as well as before the administration and industry organizations. He also leads the Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM) Coalition, a collaborative effort by business, labor, transportation stakeholders, and concerned citizens to advocate for improved and increased federal investment in the nation's aging and overburdened transportation system. Mortimer was previously with AECOM, an engineering and construction company, where he served as director of government relations. Mortimer received a bachelor's degree in Political Science from American University and completed an executive management program at Georgetown University.



U.S. Department of Transportation:

Bob Bouchard, Director, Office of Port Infrastructure Development, MARAD

Bouchard is the Deputy Associate Administrator, and Director, Office of Port Infrastructure Development at MARAD. In this position, he oversees a portfolio of port investment and infrastructure development projects totaling nearly \$2 billion in federal funds which cover ports in thirty-five states and two territories. Bouchard has more than 40 years of experience in transportation, warehousing, and distribution. He holds a bachelor's degree in Marine Transportation from the United States Merchant Marine Academy and a master's degree in Administration from Central Michigan University.



Vince Mantero, Director of the Office of Ports and Waterways Planning, MARAD

Mantero currently serves as the Director of the Office of Ports and Waterways Planning at MARAD. His office oversees America's Marine Highway Program as well as the Port Development and Intermodal Planning Program. As a professionally certified planner with over 20 years of experience, Mantero previously served as the Team Leader for Freight Analysis and Research in the FHWA Office of Freight Management and Operations in Washington, D.C. Mantero has served as a planning consultant, supporting public agencies on transportation and freight transportation initiatives, and as a Program Manager with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Mantero received a bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University.



Winsome Lenfert, Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

Lenfert was appointed Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports in February 2017. Each year, the FAA awards approximately \$3.3 billion in airport grants and approves passenger facility charge collections totaling approximately \$2 billion. The office is also responsible for national airport planning, establishes policies related to airport rates and charges, compliance with grant assurances and airport privatization. Lenfert graduated from Indiana State University with a double major in Professional Pilot Technology and Aviation Administration with a minor in Business Administration and from Indiana University with a master's degree in Public Affairs. She began her aviation career working for the Indiana Department of Transportation as Chief Airport Inspector. She began her career with the FAA as an Airport Certification Safety Inspector. Since then she has held many positions with the FAA including Airport Certification/Safety Specialist in Washington, DC; Community Planner for the O'Hare Modernization Program in Chicago, Illinois; Assistant Manager of the Detroit Airport District Office in Detroit, Michigan; and both Manager of Regional Operations and Director for the Airports Division Southern Region in Atlanta, Georgia.



U.S. Department of Energy:

William "Ike" White, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Environmental Management (EM)

William "Ike" White is the Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Environmental Management (EM). In this role he provides leadership for the safe cleanup of the environmental legacy brought about from five decades of nuclear weapons development and government-sponsored nuclear energy research. Before joining EM, he served as the Chief of Staff and Associate Principal Deputy Administrator for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).



David Turk, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Prior to his nomination as Deputy Secretary, Turk was the Deputy Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), where he focused on helping countries around the world tackle their clean energy transitions. He also directed reports on the digitalization of energy systems, the future of clean hydrogen, and a project tracking progress on a wide range of clean energy technologies. During the Obama-Biden Administration, Turk coordinated international technology and clean energy efforts at DOE. During this time, he helped spearhead the launch of Mission Innovation—a global effort to enhance clean energy innovation.



Kentucky Congressional Delegation:

Congressman Brett Guthrie (R-KY-2)

Congressman Guthrie represents Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District. Guthrie serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. The Energy and Commerce Committee is the oldest standing legislative committee in the House with broad jurisdiction over our nation's energy, health care, telecommunications and consumer product safety policies. Guthrie graduated in 1987 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with degree in economics and went on to service as a Field Artillery Officer in the 101st Airborne Division – Air Assault at Fort Campbell. He earned a master's degree from Yale University in Public and Private Management. Following his military service, he joined Trace Die Cast, the Bowling Green-based manufacturing business that was started by his father. He was first elected to public office in 1998. Congressman Guthrie represented the 32nd District in the Kentucky Senate. **Committee:** Energy and Commerce.



Congressman James Comer (R-KY-1)

Congressman Comer was elected to Congress in 2016 to represent Kentucky's 1st Congressional District, which covers 35 counties from the Mississippi River to Central Kentucky. He currently serves as the Republican Leader of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, where he aggressively advocates for reducing waste, fraud and abuse in government. Comer grew up in Monroe County and graduated from Western Kentucky University with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture. Comer was elected to serve as Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture in 2011 and serves as the only formerly-elected Commissioner of Agriculture in Congress. **Committees:** Oversight and Reform (Ranking Member); Education and Labor.



Congressman Andy Barr (R-KY-6)

Congressman Barr has served as the U.S. Representative for Kentucky's Sixth Congressional District since January 2013. He is a member of the Committee on Financial Services and is the Chairman of the International Development and Monetary Policy Subcommittee. Barr is focused on strengthening Kentucky's signature bourbon, equine, coal, agriculture and manufacturing industries. He is the Chairman of the Congressional Horse Caucus and is the Co-Chair of the Bourbon Caucus. These industries are unique to the Bluegrass and employ thousands of Kentuckians. Barr earned his bachelor's degree in Government and Philosophy from the University of Virginia in 1996, and received his law degree from the University of Kentucky in 2001.

Committees: Financial Services Committee; Foreign Affairs Committee.



Mark D. Marin, Staff Director, Committee on Oversight and Reform, Ranking Member Congressman James Comer (R-KY-1)

In this position, Marin is responsible for overseeing the investigative and legislation activities of more than 30 attorneys and professional staff pursuing the Committee's broad oversight jurisdiction over "any matter at any time" per the rules of the House. In addition, the Committee has legislative jurisdiction over federal regulations, the federal workforce, government information technology, and the U.S. Postal Service. Marin first joined the Committee in 2008. In addition to his work with the Oversight Committee, Marin has served as Staff Director of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for former Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX).



Senator Rand Paul (R-KY)

Elected to the United States Senate in 2010, Dr. Paul has proven to be an outspoken champion for constitutional liberties and fiscal responsibility. As a fierce advocate against government overreach, he has fought tirelessly to return government to its limited, constitutional scope. Dr. Paul lives in Bowling Green, where he owned his own ophthalmology practice and performed eye surgery for 18 years. He grew up in Lake Jackson, Texas, and attended Baylor University. He graduated from Duke Medical School in 1988. Dr. Paul completed a general surgery internship at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta, GA, and completed his residency in ophthalmology at Duke University Medical Center. In 1995 Dr. Paul founded the Southern Kentucky Lions Eye Clinic, an organization that provides eye exams and surgery to needy families and individuals.

Committees: Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP); Homeland Security and Government Affairs; Small Business and Entrepreneurship (Ranking Member).



Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

Mitch McConnell is the United States Senate Republican Leader. He is the longest-serving Senate Republican Leader in American history, unanimously elected to lead the conference eight times since 2006. From 2015 to 2021, McConnell served as Senate Majority Leader. He is only the second Kentuckian to ever be Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate. The first, Senator Alben Barkley, led the Democrats from 1937 to 1949. McConnell previously served in leadership as the Majority Whip in the 108th and 109th Congresses and as chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee during the 1998 and 2000 election cycles.

Recently, Senator McConnell introduced and led to Passage the bipartisan Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act. The CARES Act was signed into law by President Donald Trump and became the biggest rescue package in history. He graduated with honors from the University of Louisville College of Arts and Sciences, where he served as student body president. He also is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was elected president of the Student Bar Association.

Committees: Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; Appropriations; Rules and Administration.

