



**Greg Isakson, P.E.**  
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TO: Scott Arneson, County Administrator  
Budget Committee

FROM: Greg Isakson, Public Works Director

RE: 21 Feb 23 Budget Committee Meeting – **CONSENT AGENDA**  
**Out of State Travel 2023**

Date: 15 Feb 23

It is requested that the Budget Committee and the County Board approve Out of State Travel for the following conferences. The costs for these conferences are included in the 2023 Budget.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Estimated &amp; Budgeted</u>	<u>Dates of Event</u>
- Washington Fly-In – Washington DC (Engineer + 3 Co Staff)	\$8,300	September 18-21, 2023
- NACE Annual Meeting	\$1,500	April 15-20, 2023

### **Washington Fly-In**

Since 2002, the County has sent four representatives consisting of one or two commissioners, the County Administrator, the County Engineer, the Assistant County Engineer and/or our Legislative Liaison to the 'Transportation Alliance Washington Fly-In,'. With the exception of 2019, when Commissioner Anderson, Commission Drotos, and the Public Works Director traveled to Washington DC in September with the Olmsted County Engineer, the Mayor of Zumbrota, and a Zumbrota City Council member. No County representatives attended in 2020, 2021 and 2022 due to COVID-19 and coordination issues.

Our visits to Washington DC have enabled us to develop relationships with our Congressional delegation and their staff, and keep them informed about the needs, concerns, projects and funding of Goodhue County. Goodhue County has received several appropriations in past years and will continue to request federal funds in future years. Therefore, establishing and maintaining these relationships is very important. The cost for the Fly-In can range from approximately \$1,600 - \$2,300 per person depending on airfare, etc., the estimated cost mentioned above was included in our 2023 Conference & Training budget line item.

The Board should decide if a contingency will attend this year's Fly-In. If so, it is recommended that Jess Greenwood and I both attend so I can pass on the process, information, suggestions and procedures to make this trip a success.

**NACE Conference - Baldwin County, AL.**

I have attended several NACE Conferences in the past and have found this national conference to be very informative, and an opportunity to learn about new approaches for managing the County's Public Works Department from sources throughout the country. Jess Greenwood, has also attended one meeting and felt it was a good educational experience learning about County Engineer management solutions discussed at a national level. The 2023 conference is in Orange Beach, (Baldwin County), Alabama.

Out-of-State travel authorization is requested to send either Jess Greenwood, myself, or both to attend this conference.