

## RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

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2025 JUL 22 AM 8:59

**Post Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

**Certification:** In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):  
National Association of Counties

Travel Dates:  
06/18/2025 to 06/23/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

### Expenses

| Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meals Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| \$882.89                | \$378.92         | \$142.00       | \$275.00                              |

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization (Form RE-1)
- The final Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

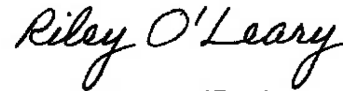
Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

07/21/2025

Date

Riley O'Leary

Printed Name of Traveler



Signature of Traveler

#### TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

07/21/2025

Date



Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

## ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

**Note:** Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

| Expense Change | Revised Amount | Explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transportation | \$882.89       | New total reflects the flight costs (which were consistent with pre-travel price) and the charter bus, which was slightly less expensive than the pre-travel estimate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Meals          | \$142.00       | New total for meals reflects the actual price of all food given the new itinerary (Thursday, June 19: dinner   Friday, June 20: breakfast & lunch) throughout the duration of the trip. Food and beverage rates constrained based on exclusive vendors at hotel and vendors. These are the best available rates available due to the remote location and program site-requirements for food vendors. The new total expense amount is attributable to relatively high hotel food prices given the remoteness of the area and the need to eat breakfast and most dinners on-site at the hotel to ensure ample time for educational programming throughout the day. |
| Lodging        | \$378.92       | Given the updated itinerary, Riley O'Leary was only provided with lodging for one night, Thursday, June 19 at the AC Bozeman hotel. His original itinerary accounted for two nights worth of lodging. The updated expenses included only the one night he actually was present at the site visit. Hotel is best available rate within close proximity to programming that provides adequate security for participants.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanation: Riley O'Leary's (Itinerary #3) flight to the site visit was cancelled by American Airlines and he had to fly out a day later than on his original itinerary. He arrived at the site visit on Thursday, June 19. At the time of his flight cancellation, NACo asked him to reach out to the Senate Ethics Committee to disclose the itinerary change, which he confirmed he did, so the office should have record of this forced alteration to his programming. On Friday, June 20, all attendees participated in the "Strengthening Tribal-County Partnerships" session from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Speakers included Commissioner Zach Brown and Dr. Shane Doyle, a Montana-based scholar, teacher, and community advocate focusing on the history and heritage of Native American tribes. With the additional morning speakers, "Bridger Aerospace Demonstration" was removed from the schedule. Instead, participants had lunch until 12:00 p.m., at which point official programming ended for the site visit.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.



February 11, 2025

Dear Riley,

As the Executive Director and CEO of the National Association of Counties (NACo), it is my pleasure to extend an invitation to you as a leader in federal policymaking to participate in NACo's 2025 Federal Fellowship Initiative. This is an invitation-only cohort that will be comprised of congressional staff, White House officials and other federal agency representatives. County governments play a critical role as public service providers for America's citizens. Since 1935, NACo has represented the interests of all of America's 3,069 counties and assisted them in the pursuit of excellence in public service.

NACo's Federal Fellowship Initiative focuses on the importance and structure of America's intergovernmental system, with a specific emphasis on the roles, responsibilities, operations and policy priorities of county governments across the country. As part of the initiative, NACo aims to educate members of Congress, Congressional staff and federal policy officials about the roles and responsibilities of counties across the country.

As important partners in our nation's intergovernmental system, county governments employ one out of every 50 workers, invest more than \$660 billion each year in our local communities and provide vital public services that are the foundation of our society. To provide a clearer picture of the full county landscape and the essential role counties play in fostering safe, vibrant and health communities across the nation, NACo recently released an updated [County Landscape Report](#) and accompanying [Executive Summary](#).

Members of the cohort will meet several times throughout the year-long Initiative:

- **NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Pre-Trip Event:** Thursday, May 15, 2025
- **Teton County, Wyo. and Gallatin County, Mont. Rural Counties Site Visit:** Tuesday, June 17 – Friday, June 20, 2025
- **Urban Counties Site Visit:** Fall 2025 (*Location TBD*)

During the June in-person, field-based tour located in Teton and Gallatin Counties, participants will engage with federal, state and local leaders, and visit tour sites including the Teton County Housing Authority, Teton County Emergency Operations Center, Grand Teton National Park, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Yellowstone National Park and Gallatin County Airport Authority/Bridger Aerospace. **NACo will cover all costs for participant travel, lodging and meals for this site visit and other events associated with the Fellowship Initiative.** More information about the Federal Fellowship Initiative can be found [here](#), and related Ethic Committee documents will be sent to participants in the coming weeks.

NACo Managing Director of Government Affairs Eryn Hurley and NACo Legislative Associate Naomi Freel are available to assist you in any way possible to coordinate your participation. Please contact Ms. Hurley at [ehurley@naco.org](mailto:ehurley@naco.org) or 571.262.9015 and Ms. Freel at [nfreel@naco.org](mailto:nfreel@naco.org) or 574.440.9952 with any specific questions.

We hope you will be able to accept our invitation and look forward to your participation in our Federal Fellowship Initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Chase". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" and last name "Chase" clearly distinguishable.

Matthew Chase  
Executive Director/CEO

**RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization**

Date/Time Stamp

**Pre-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:

Riley O'Leary

Employing Office/Committee:

DAINES, STEVE

Private Sponsor(s):

National Association of Counties

Destination(s):

Jackson Hole, Wyoming Bozeman, Montana

Travel Dates:

06/18/2025 to 06/20/2025

**NOTE:** If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

**Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.**

The trip will provide insight into innovative solutions to address the housing crisis in places like Bozeman and Jackson Hole. As Senator Daines' lead staffer on Housing policy, these insights will be invaluable to being a better federal partner to state and local governments in Montana and across the West.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?

No

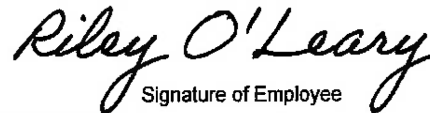
Name and Relationship to Traveler:

N/A

*I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.*

06/11/2025

Date

  
Signature of Employee**TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER**

(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms,  
Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

Senator Steve Daines

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Riley O'Leary

(Print Traveler's Name)

*an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.*

*I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.*

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

06/11/2025

Date

  
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

# National Association of Counties: NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Summer 2025 County Site Visit

 Riley O'Leary

Title:  
Legislative Aide

Employing Office/Committee:  
DAINES, STEVE

Duty Station:  
WASHINGTON, DC

Destination(s):  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming  
Bozeman, Montana

## Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

The trip will provide insight into innovative solutions to address the housing crisis in places like Bozeman and Jackson Hole. As Senator Daines' lead staffer on Housing policy, these insights will be invaluable to being a better federal partner to state and local governments in Montana and across the West.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):  
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:  
None

## Organization Information

Organization Name  
National Association of Counties

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?  
☐ Yes ☒ No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type  
N/A

Address  
660 N. Capitol Street NW

Address 2 (Optional)  
Suite 400

City, State Zip  
Washington, District Of Columbia 20001 United States

Phone Number  
2029424224

Organization URL  
[www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

## History of Congressional Travel

This is the fifth congressional trip that NACo will be sponsoring. NACo sponsored similar congressional travel through county site visit trips to 1) Miami-Dade County, Fla. in October 2022, 2) Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, Ariz. in June 2023, 3) Los Angeles and Orange Counties, Calif. in February 2024 and 4) Clark County, Nev. and Washington County, Utah in September 2024.

## Educational Activities

NACo hosts two member-based events annually that provide congressional staff with an opportunity to engage with county leaders and strengthen the intergovernmental partnership. Congressional offices and staff are also invited to these events to speak and update county leaders on their work on Capitol Hill.

## Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

## Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

## Comments

None Entered

## Signature Page

The signature page is below.

## Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This trip fulfills NACo's mission of strengthening the intergovernmental partnership by educating congressional staff and federal officials on the roles and responsibilities of county governments.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

NACo is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit established to serve and strengthen America's counties. This trip will focus on the importance and structure of America's intergovernmental system and educate attendees on county roles, mandates, operations and policy priorities to help strengthen their communities.

## Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes ☐ No

## Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

## With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

## Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

## Invitees

- i** Members and staff from the House of Representatives will receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

## Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:  
06/18/2025 @ 04:17 PM



Trip End Date/Time:  
06/22/2025 @ 10:42 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

## Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$895.56 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

| Transportation Type                                                                                                                                                            | Class | Amount   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Airfare                                                                                                                                                                        | Coach | \$745.56 |
| <b>Note</b><br>Multi-city plane ticket, includes travel both ways: Washington, D.C. (DCA) to Teton County, Wyo. (JAC) & Gallatin County, Mont. (BZN) to Washington, D.C. (DCA) |       |          |
| Other                                                                                                                                                                          | Coach | \$150.00 |
| <b>Note</b><br>Group charter bus service for the entire duration of the trip                                                                                                   |       |          |

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$768.00 )

| Check-In   | Check-Out  | Facility                  | City         | State   | Country       | Nights | Cost/Night | Cost Exceed Per Diem |
|------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------|------------|----------------------|
| 06/18/2025 | 06/19/2025 | Jackson Lake Lodge        | Jackson Hole | Wyoming | United States | 1      | \$419.00   | No                   |
| 06/19/2025 | 06/20/2025 | AC Hotel Bozeman Downtown | Bozeman      | Montana | United States | 1      | \$349.00   | Yes                  |

### Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Hotel is best available rate within close proximity to programming that provides adequate security for participants.

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$267.00 )

| Date       | Breakfast | Lunch  | Dinner  | Incidentals | Total          | City         | State   | Country       | Cost Exceeds Per Diem |
|------------|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 06/18/2025 | \$0.00    | \$0.00 | \$82.00 | \$0.00      | <b>\$82.00</b> | Jackson Hole | Wyoming | United States | Yes                   |

**Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason**

Food and beverage rates constrained based on exclusive vendors at hotel and vendors. These are the best available rates available due to the remote location and program site-requirements for food vendors.

|            |         |         |         |        |                 |         |         |               |     |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----|
| 06/19/2025 | \$25.00 | \$30.00 | \$75.00 | \$0.00 | <b>\$130.00</b> | Bozeman | Montana | United States | Yes |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----|

**Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason**

Food and beverage rates constrained based on exclusive vendors at hotel and vendors. These are the best available rates available due to the remote location and program site-requirements for food vendors.

|            |         |         |        |        |                |         |         |               |    |
|------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|----------------|---------|---------|---------------|----|
| 06/20/2025 | \$26.00 | \$29.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <b>\$55.00</b> | Bozeman | Montana | United States | No |
|------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|----------------|---------|---------|---------------|----|

**Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$275.00 )**

| Expense Type                                            | Amount   | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Other (Room/Event Rental)                               | \$50.00  | The cost of renting space at hotels/event venues for meetings and meals.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Other (Catering Service Fees)                           | \$125.00 | The cost-of-service fees for meal set up and attendants.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Other (Printing, Shipping, Daily Refreshments and Tips) | \$100.00 | Cost of printing and shipping educational materials and other items necessary for the programming, as well as snacks and refreshments throughout the trip and tips for bus driver and other service industry professionals |

**Additional Attachments****Document Name**

There are no additional attachments.

## PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

## SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Summer 2025 County Si  
Travel Date(s): Tuesday, June 17 - Friday, June 20, 2025  
Travel Destination(s): Teton County, Wyo. & Gallatin County, Mont.  
  
Sponsor: National Association of Counties

Matthew D. Chase  
*(printed name of sponsor representative)*

CEO/Executive Director  
*(title)*

*(signature of sponsor representative)*

3/11/2025  
*(date)*



## LIST OF INVITEES

**National Association of Counties (NACo)**  
**Summer 2025 Federal Fellowship Program – Teton County, Wyo. & Gallatin County, Mont.**  
**June 17-20, 2025**

| TITLE                         | OFFICE                           | FIRST NAME | LAST NAME   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Senior Policy Advisor         | Office of Senator Bill Cassidy   | Ron        | Anderson    |
| Legislative Assistant         | Office of Senator Rick Scott     | Logan      | Anderson    |
| Counsel                       | Office of Senator Cynthia Lummis | Conner     | Brown       |
| Legislative Assistant         | Office of Senator Chuck Schumer  | Lizzy      | Burke       |
| Legislative Assistant         | Office of Senator Mike Crapo     | Erika      | Ose         |
| Chief Counsel/Policy Advisor  | Office of Senator Joni Ernst     | Aaron      | Gottesman   |
| Legislative Director          | Office of Senator Roger Wicker   | Daniel     | Hillenbrand |
| Senior Advisor, Health Policy | Senate Finance Committee         | Charlotte  | Rock        |
| Legislative Assistant         | Office of Senator Dick Durbin    | Amber      | Moore       |
| Legislative Aide              | Office of Senator Steve Daines   | Riley      | O'Leary     |
| Health Policy Director        | Office of Senator Roger Marshall | Max        | Seltzer     |
| Staff Director, Democratic    | Senate Finance Committee         | Joshua     | Sheinkman   |
| Legislative Assistant         | Office of Senator Eric Schmitt   | Alexander  | Thiessen    |
| Economic Policy Research Aide | Office of Senator Chris Coons    | Ivan       | Torrez      |

## National Association of Counties 2025 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

TETON COUNTY, WYO. & GALLATIN COUNTY, MONT. | JUNE 18-22\*, 2025

*\*Official programming is June 17-20, this itinerary reflects a trip modification on the start and end date*

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18 – TETON COUNTY

**4:17 PM ET – 8:43 PM MT**      **FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (DCA) TO TETON COUNTY, WYO. (JAC)**  
UA 746; UA 1554

**6:30 PM – 9:00 PM**      **Dinner at Jackson Lake Lodge**

### THURSDAY, JUNE 19 – TETON COUNTY & GALLATIN COUNTY

**6:30 AM – 7:00 AM**      **Breakfast at Hotel**  
101 Jackson Lake Lodge Rd.  
Moran, WY 83013

**7:00 AM – 8:30 AM**      **Drive from Teton County to Yellowstone National Park**

**8:30 AM – 1:00 PM**      **Touring South Yellowstone National Park: Public Lands and the Federal-Local Partnership**  
41 Clover Ln,  
Yellowstone National Park,  
WY 82190

*When it comes to the management and preservation of national parks, counties serve as a key partner with federal agencies in balancing the needs of park conservation with those of residents, businesses and visitors. To continue the conversation from the previous day, participants will partake in a half-day briefing while hiking throughout southern Yellowstone National Park to get a firsthand look at local issues on the ground. As we travel from Teton County towards Gallatin County via the Yellowstone National Park, participants will hear how these counties support essential services like transportation, emergency response and more. We will hear from new agency representatives from the NPS to gain a better understanding of the unique challenges and solutions in federal lands across the country, and how counties serve as intergovernmental partners. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Cam Sholly**, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, NPS

- **Tami Blackford**, Executive Coordinator, Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, NPS
- **Stephanie Carter**, Interpretive Ranger, Yellowstone National Park, NPS
- **Clarice Doughty**, Interpretive Ranger, Yellowstone National Park, NPS

**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM****Touring West Yellowstone National Park: Gateway Communities, Tourism and Infrastructure Planning**

*Counties that border public lands often face distinct challenges related to tourism-driven infrastructure needs, seasonal population surges, economic development and natural resource management. During this on-the-ground briefing in West Yellowstone, participants will hear how Gallatin County, its neighbors and the federal government are working together to addressing these issues through a mix of local strategies and federal support. Gallatin County officials will share how communities like their own—which is home to just a few thousand year-round residents—manage peak-season demands from tens of thousands of visitors. Discussion topics will include tourism and economic development, growth moratoriums and transportation pressures, including airport and road infrastructure needs.*

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Dan Walker**, Town Manager, West Yellowstone

**3:00 PM – 6:00 PM****Touring Big Sky: Tourism, Transportation and Housing Developments**

*In Big Sky, where luxury tourism meets natural wonders, participants will continue to explore how Gallatin County is addressing the pressures of rapid growth and seasonal demand. The session will highlight the county's use of a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant to improve transportation in high-traffic areas, alongside broader infrastructure efforts to support tourism and development. Local officials will share how the county is partnering with the U.S. Forest Service to maintain public access, protect natural resources and ensure safety in popular recreation zones. The conversation will also cover the challenges posed by an influx of homebuyers and vacation property owners in this resort town, which have driven up housing costs for locals and tourists alike, as well as limitations at the Gallatin County airport, which must accommodate a high volume of seasonal visitors. Participants will gain a firsthand look at the intergovernmental coordination and strategic planning needed*

*to sustain vibrant gateway communities on the edge of America's most iconic public lands.*

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County

**7:00 PM – 9:00 PM****Dinner at est. 1864**

*Gallatin County officials will provide an overview of county operations in Montana's fastest growing and most populous county, where the demands of a rapidly expanding population intersect with the challenges of service delivery in rural communities. Officials will explain how the county—which covers more than 2,500 square miles of diverse terrain—balances infrastructure needs, housing pressures and economic development while coordinating closely with state and federal agencies that manage nearly half of the county's land. Participants will gain insight into the challenges and opportunities of managing growth, preserving natural resources and maintaining essential services in a rural region known for its scenic beauty and outdoor recreation.*

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Greg Chilcott**, Commissioner, Ravalli County
- **Eric Bryson**, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

**FRIDAY, JUNE 20 – GALLATIN COUNTY & DEPARTURE****9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.****STRENGTHENING TRIBAL-COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS IN GALLATIN COUNTY AND THE GREATER YELLOWSTONE REGION**

*Gallatin County and surrounding jurisdictions are working to deepen partnerships with neighboring Tribal Nations to promote shared stewardship, mutual respect and regional resilience. From coordinating on emergency response and land use planning to preserving cultural resources and advancing health and education initiatives, these relationships reflect a growing commitment to intergovernmental collaboration. By building trust and aligning priorities, Gallatin County and Tribal governments in the Greater Yellowstone region are laying the groundwork for more inclusive, effective governance that benefits all communities.*

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County

**10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.****LUNCH BRIEFING AND BRIDGER AEROSPACE DEMONSTRATION**

*With the rising frequency and severity of natural disasters such as wildfires, counties are under increasing pressure to strengthen local emergency response and recovery capabilities. Bridger Aerospace is a prime example of how counties can utilize tax-exempt municipal*

*bonds to meet these growing challenges. Through a partnership with Gallatin County and the use of tax-exempt conduit financing, Bridger Aerospace expanded its operations and now provides critical aerial firefighting and surveillance services nationwide. Municipal bonds are a cornerstone of county infrastructure financing, helping local governments fund essential projects such as emergency services, roads, water systems and public safety initiatives. Counties invest over \$50 billion annually in infrastructure, with municipal bonds serving as a key financing mechanism that saves taxpayers an estimated \$9 billion each year due to their tax-exempt status. The success of Bridger Aerospace illustrates how counties can leverage these bonds to support innovative public-private partnerships, enhance disaster resilience and drive economic growth in their communities and beyond. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Dylan Rhoades**, Business Operations Analyst, Bridger Aerospace
- **Mel Holtz**, Director of Business Development, Bridger Aerospace

**12:00 P.M.**

**OFFICIAL PROGRAMMING ENDS**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22 – DEPARTURE**

**12:40 PM MT – 10:42 PM ET    FLIGHT FROM GALLITIN COUNTY (BZN) TO WASHINGTON, D.C.  
(DCA)  
UA 2202; UA 1069**