



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Member / Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, B-81 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman James Comer
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: Thursday, September 17, 2020 Return: Saturday, September 19, 2020  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Charleston, SC Return City: Louisville, KY
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Bipartisan Policy Center
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Rep. Comer participated in an exchange with Rep. Cunningham (SC-01) to see how Charleston's Joint Base, manufacturing, infrastructure, and environmental sectors function. These sectors are very similar to Rep. Comer's district. This allowed Rep. Comer to see how a similar district functions. Please see accompanying itinerary for meetings/events attended.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. **Signify statement is true by checking the box:**   
 b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2020 OCT -1 PM 12:58

**I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.** I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: James Comer

Date: September 28, 2020





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip *within ten days of their return*. You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: Bipartisan Policy Center
- Travel Destination(s): Charleston, SC
- Date of Departure: September 17, 2020 Date of Return: September 19, 2020
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): U.S. Rep. James Comer

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

- Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$377.90 (\$157.70 car shared w/Elder)	\$370.16	\$97.00	Environmental boat tour: \$25.00
Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

- All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box:

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

Signature:  Date: 9/25/20

Name: Jason Grumet Title: President

Organization: Bipartisan Policy Center

I am an officer of the above named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box:

Address: 1225 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Telephone: 703-350-3736 Email: jgrumet@bipartisanpolicy.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. This form, and any attachments, may be faxed to the Committee at 202-225-7392, sent or delivered to the Committee at 1015 Longworth, or e-mailed to [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

**Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date.** Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Congressman James Comer

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

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

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address: 1037 Longworth House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-3115

Email Address of Contact Person: Caroline.Cash@mail.house.gov or Jason.Tyler@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM.** Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via e-mail: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).





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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman James Comer 4

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: Bipartisan Policy Center

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Charleston, SC

4. a. Date of Departure: September 17, 2020 Date of Return: September 19, 2020

b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  Yes  No

If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense?  Yes  No If yes:

(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:  Yes  No

6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  Yes  No

b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

\_\_\_\_\_

7. *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms:  Yes  No

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.

Rep. Comer (KY-01) will be having an exchange with Rep. Cunningham (SC-01) to see how Charleston's Joint Base, manufacturing, infrastructure, and environmental sectors function. These sectors are very similar to Rep. Comer's district - so this will allow Rep. Comer to see how a similar district is performing.

9. **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**  Yes  No

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member James Comer Date August 18, 2020





U.S. House of Representatives  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Primary Trip Sponsor Form

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: Bipartisan Policy Center

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box:

3. Check only one. I represent that:

a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:  OR

b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds:  OR

c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Rep. James Comer (See addendum); Corey Elder, Field Representative (See addendum)

5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?  Yes  No

6. Date of Departure: September 17, 2020 Date of Return: September 19, 2020

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC (member); Nashville, TN (staffer)

b. Destination(s): Charleston, SC

c. City of return: Louisville, KY (member); Nashville TN (staffer)

8. Check only one. I represent that:

a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965:  OR

b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent:  OR

c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. Check only one of the following:

a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above:

b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:

c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night:  OR

d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights:  If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_





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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). Indicate agenda is attached by checking box:
11. Check only one of the following:  
 a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. Signify that the statement is true by checking box:  OR  
 b. Not Applicable. Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education:
12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:  
 See addendum

13. Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:  
 a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:  
 N/A

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). Signify that the statement is true by checking box:

15. Check only one. I represent that either:  
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees:  OR  
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically with regard to congressional participation:   
 If "b" is checked:  
 1) Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$40.00  
 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: See addendum

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:  
 Hotel Name: Fulton Lane Inn City: Charleston, SC Cost Per Night: \$195  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to visits/meetings  
 Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. Signify that the statement is true by checking box:





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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$220.20 (James Comer); \$140 (Corey Elder)	\$390.00	\$80.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$161.99	Rental car/Fuel, Misc. Parking (member and staffer will share this expense)
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

### 19. Check only one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below:  OR  
 b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

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

Signature:  Date: 8/17/2020

Name: Jason Grumet

Title: President

Organization: Bipartisan Policy Center

Address: 1225 I Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington DC 20005

Telephone: (202) 218-6778

Email: JGrumet@bipartisanpolicy.org

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee at the following address:

### Committee on Ethics

U.S. House of Representatives

1015 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103 General Fax: 202-225-7392



Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Chairman*  
Kenny Marchant, Texas  
*Ranking Member*

Grace Meng, New York  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
Dean Phillips, Minnesota  
Anthony Brown, Maryland

George Holding, North Carolina  
Jackie Walorski, Indiana  
Michael Guest, Mississippi



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

David W. Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Christopher A. Donesa  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

September 14, 2020

The Honorable James Comer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1037 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Charleston, South Carolina, scheduled for September 17 to 19, 2020, sponsored by Bipartisan Policy Center.

This approval represents the Committee's determination that the proposed trip complies with relevant House rules, federal laws, and Travel Regulations promulgated by the Committee. You should engage in your own assessment of the risks and implications of engaging in travel during the current COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1</sup>

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the

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<sup>1</sup> The Committee expects you to abide by all locally-relevant rules and orders related to the pandemic. Please review all of the resources below, and any state and local restrictions in your area, before traveling. Please be aware that guidance from these entities may have been updated since this letter's issuance.

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Attending Physician: <https://attendingphysician.house.gov/>
- Government of the District of Columbia Mayor's Order 2020-081: <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/page/mayor%E2%80%99s-order-2020-081-requirement-self-quarantine-after-non-essential-travel-during-covid-19>
- August 24, 2020 update to Mayor's Order 2020-081: <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/page/mayor%E2%80%99s-order-2020-081-requirement-self-quarantine-after-non-essential-travel-during-covid-19>



“Travel” schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee’s Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theodore E. Deutch".

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenny Marchant".

Kenny Marchant  
Ranking Member

TED/KM:adw



## Addendum – Primary Trip Sponsor Form

### **Item 4: Representative James Comer:**

Congressman Comer (KY-1) represents a large district which stretches along the Tennessee border from the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in the west to the beginning of the Appalachian Mountains in east.

He serves as the Ranking Member of the House Oversight and Reform Committee and on the House Education and Labor Committee (Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee, and Higher Education and Workforce Investment Subcommittee). The KY-1 district encompasses the eastern U.S. inland waterway system and also includes Ft. Campbell Army Base, home to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. Manufacturing continues to be important to KY-1 with nearly 15% of the district's nonfarm jobs. Finally, tourism and infrastructure issues are of deep concern and interest to Rep. Comer, especially given the rural nature of his district.

On this American Congressional Exchange reciprocal trip to SC-1, Congressman Comer will have the opportunity to learn about the aviation-focused Joint Base Charleston (JBC), which was formed after the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommendations. Next door, he will visit, Boeing's South Carolina plant which serves as the 787 Dreamliner final assembly and delivery facility. Together, JBC and Boeing account for over 28,000 employees making them the largest public and private sector employers, respectfully.

A second part of the trip will feature discussions and tours of infrastructure improvements being made with federal dollars and Army Corps of Engineers technical expertise. Much of this activity stems from the continual storm surges and sea level rise that Charleston faces.

These talks will segue into a series of visits with environmental scientists and organizations who work closely with local and regional officials to balance the needs of commercial fishing and growing the outdoor recreation economy on the area's tidal and barrier islands while also protecting the ecosystems of rivers and Charleston Harbor.

Additionally, all the visits will give Rep. Comer an opportunity to see and understand firsthand how South Carolina is coping with the challenges of Covid-19, across a number of sectors and industries.

**Mr. Corey Elder, Field Representative:** Mr. Corey Elder is Field Representative to Rep. James Comer. In this capacity, he staffs Rep. Comer on matters before the Education and Labor Committee, and Oversight and Investigations Committee. Relevant to the trip to SC-1, he assists the Congressman with issues related to water resources, infrastructure, and manufacturing. As referenced above, much of the trip will focus on providing insight and real-world experience with these topics, and will enhance Mr. Elder's work for Rep. Comer.



# American Congressional Exchange

James Comer (R-KY-1) visiting Joe Cunningham (D-SC-1), Sept. 17-19, 2020

## Thurs., Sept. 17

- 6:00 p.m. Dep. IAD, UA #6081 (Comer)  
7:46 Arr. CHS
- 8:00-8:30 Pick-up Enterprise Rental Car & drive to restaurant TBD in downtown Charleston.
- 8:30-10:10 Meet Rep. Cunningham for dinner at Halls Chophouse, 434 King St.
- 10:10-10:15 Drive to Fulton Lane Inn, 202 King Street, Charleston.  
10:15 Check-in to hotel.

## Fri., Sept. 18

- 7:20 a.m. Breakfast at hotel.
- 8:00-8:30 Drive to Joint Base Charleston 102 E. Hill Blvd., North Charleston.
- 8:30-10:10 Joint Base Charleston, led by Col. Marc Greene, Commander, 628<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing; Col. Jaron Roux, Commander, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing; and Col. Adam Willis, Commander, 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.
- JBC is located in North Charleston under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Air Force 628<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing and Air Mobility Command. It is an amalgamation of the U.S. Air Force Charleston Base and U.S. Navy Naval Support Activity Charleston. Encompassing over 20,877 acres and supporting 67 Military Commands and Federal Agencies, it includes 79,000 Air Force personnel, sailors, soldiers, marines, coast guard, and other DOD civilians, dependents, and retirees. The 628<sup>th</sup> Wing provides installation support as well as expeditionary Airmen to combatant commanders. The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, also at JBC, provides airlift of troops, military equipment, cargo, and medical supplies worldwide.
- The visit's discussions and tour will focus on the successes and challenges that came with the 2010 amalgamation after the BRAC recommendations in 2005. The congressmen will also learn about various training performed by the Navy and Air Force across several units, Coast Guard facilities and operations, and the Naval Weapons Station.
- 10:10 a.m. Depart Joint Base Charleston  
10:10-10:25 Drive to Boeing South Carolina Assembly Plant, 5400 Airframe Dr., North Charleston.



10:25-12:05 p.m.

Tour Boeing, led by Lindsay Leonard, Senior Director, Boeing National Strategy & Engagement, and Meredith Mellody, Director of Legislative Affairs.

The two congressmen will visit the assembly site for Boeing's Commercial Airplanes division. The site is the major manufacturing, assembly and delivery site for Boeing commercial aircraft in the eastern United States and is one of the largest employment centers in South Carolina. The site currently serves as one of two final assembly and delivery points for the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. The operation has seen rapid investment and growth, since the 1.2 million square feet facility, opened in 2011. The tour and discussion will include Boeing's Research and Technology, IT Center of Excellence, Propulsion Systems, and Interiors Responsibility Center, and Engineering Design Center. The facilities are 100% renewable energy and Zero Waste to Landfill.

Reps. Comer and Cunningham will talk with Boeing about the serious challenges facing Boeing and the aviation industry under COVID-19 restrictions, and what the future holds for future sales of aircraft both in the U.S. and abroad.

12:05 p.m.

Depart Boeing

12:05-12:25

Drive to downtown Charleston City Hall, 80 Broad St.

Contact: Rick Jerue, Senior Advisor to the Mayor

12:25-1:20

Working lunch meeting with Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and key staff discussing economic and infrastructure issues. The entirety of the lunch is officially connected activity. The conversation will highlight the Army Corps of Engineers Study of Charleston Peninsula Sea Wall, which would help protect Charleston from storm surge/sea level rise.

Mayor Tecklenburg has led South Carolina's largest city since 2016, after serving as its director of economic development, 1995-1999. He has paid particular attention to flooding and drainage relief, appointing the city's first-ever Chief Resilience Officer, and beginning the process of implementing the City of Charleston Flooding & Sea Level Rise Strategy, which outlines actions designed to make the city more resilient to the effects of increased disasters and changing weather.

Mayor Tecklenburg has also led initiatives to address housing affordability and homelessness in Charleston. In addition, he has championed Plan West Ashley, the largest, most comprehensive renewal and revitalization effort in the city's history.

The dialogue will also feature how Charleston was able to transform itself, once the Charleston Navy Base (3<sup>rd</sup> largest naval home port) closed, from a military and hospitality-based economy to one that is balanced with growing employment in aerospace, automotive, logistics, software/IT, and medical jobs.



1:20 p.m.  
1:20-2:30

Depart Charleston City Hall.

Infrastructure Tour of three major projects: Low Battery Seawall, Spring Fishburne Drainage Improvement Project, and Ashley River Bridge, led by City staff. Two of these are recipient of federal BUILD grant funding – Spring Fishburne and the Ashley River Bridge project.

**Low Battery Seawall:** is the repair and raising of a seawall that will protect a significant portion of the Charleston Peninsula from storm surge and sea level rise. The Battery is considered by most Charlestonians to be the city's most iconic historic feature. The portion of the Battery along Murray Boulevard from White Point Garden to the U.S. Coast Guard Station is called the "Low Battery," because it is literally lower in elevation than its East Bay Street counterpart. Aging infrastructure and parked automobiles are both highly visible along the Low Battery; the streetscape is outdated and uncomfortable. Flooding generated by storms and King Tides have caused significant damage to private and public property in this area. To deal with the problem, the City of Charleston will undertake an extensive reconstruction project to replace and raise the seawall by 2.5 feet. The new seawall will be engineered and built to last another century.

**Spring Fishburne Drainage Improvement Project:** A major drainage project that will enable a significant portion of the city – including the medical district – to be able to maintain business continuity during what is becoming regular, recurring major flooding. The project is designed to heal the scar of a six-lane highway built with poor planning. The new drainage system aims to improve the mobility, efficiency, emergency preparedness, and community livability; and, most importantly, to alleviate many of the flooding problems by reinvesting in the infrastructure.

The project includes new storm drains, pumping stations, and a deep tunnel. The two congressmen will view what will be the termination portion of the project at the Ashley River.

**Ashley River Bike/Pedestrian Bridge project:** Over the last 40 years, a bicycle-pedestrian crossing between West Ashley and Downtown Charleston has been and is currently part of every major planning effort at the neighborhood, city, county, and regional levels. The concept of the Ashley River Crossing was first introduced by City of Charleston planners in 1976. Since then, the City has undertaken extensive planning, design, engineering, and public financing efforts to prepare for project implementation.

The Ashley River Crossing is an innovative, multi-modal transportation initiative to enhance the connectivity between Downtown Charleston and West Ashley. The focal point of the project is a 0.4-mile stand-alone bicycle and pedestrian bridge connecting the West Ashley Greenway to Brittlebank Park and the Ashley Riverwalk. Currently separated by the Ashley River, commuters are now limited to automobile travel due to unsafe intersections, narrow sidewalks, incomplete streets, and an antiquated signal system. The lack of alternative transportation options is

not only a threat to the safety of citizens, but also to the economic growth of the metro area.

2:30 p.m.  
2:30-3:30

Depart infrastructure tour.

Walking tour of downtown Charleston includes tourism, historic homes and establishments, Black history. Led by Catherine Dority, Director of Marketing, Charleston Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. 843-805-3090.

Reps. Comer and Cunningham will stroll the quaint cobblestone streets of the downtown while learning about the city's fascinating, turbulent past and its unique place in U.S. history. Among the highlights are the Charleston City Market, Waterfront Park, several mansions and inns, and the retail and restaurant district. The dialogue with the CVB will focus on recovery strategies and funding support for local businesses faced with the sudden and prolonged decline in visitors to Charleston.

The congressmen will also engage in a discussion about Charleston's Black history which is fraught with a legacy of human bondage and enslavement that will never be erased. Charleston is making a concerted effort to bring more attention to the valuable retention of African cultural expression. Rather than being seen as laborers with no history or cultural heritage, Africans and their descendants are credited with having shared agricultural, technical, culinary, artistic, and other talents that help define the Lowcountry and the nation.

3:30 p.m.  
3:30-3:45

City of Charleston meetings and tours end.  
Drive to back to hotel.

7:30-7:45

Drive to Edmund's Oast Restaurant, 1081 Morrison Dr.

7:45-9:30

Dinner.

9:30-9:45

Drive back to hotel.

### **Sat., Sept. 19**

8:00 a.m.  
8:45-9:15

Breakfast at hotel.

Drive to Herbert Jessen Public Boat Landing, Avenue of Oaks.

9:15-11:30

Historic/environmental boat tour led by Andrew Wunderley, Charleston Waterkeeper.

Charleston Waterkeeper was founded in 2009 to protect and restore Charleston's waterways for the region and for future generations. The effort is a unique mix of boots-on-the-water stewardship and data-driven advocacy designed to protect fundamental rights to clean, healthy water for fishing and swimming. The organization reviews and helps to enforce state and federal pollution permits and patrols local waterways keeping a watch over the health of local rivers and Charleston Harbor.



Reps. Comer and Cunningham will meet with a small group of representatives from regional environmental organizations including Gerrit Jobsis, American Rivers Associate Conservation Director, Rivers of Southern Appalachia and the Carolinas; Lowcountry Open Land Trust, and Ashley River Scenic River Advisory Council.

The Ashley River runs more than 30 miles from its headwaters in the Great Cypress Swamp, Dorchester County, South Carolina to the Charleston Harbor.

Not only is the area a recreational hot spot, for paddling, wildlife watching and enjoying the river from its banks, but it is also rich with history including iconic plantations predating the Revolutionary War. The Ashley River provides an amazing connection between a historically significant river and diverse natural resource in South Carolina in a relatively undisturbed tidal ecosystem. In addition, the Ashley also provides habitat for abundant wildlife including endangered sturgeon, striped bass and the rare swallow-tailed kite.

After a discussion with these groups, the two congressmen will travel 23 miles by boat with the Charleston Waterkeeper on the Ashley River to the Charleston Harbor. The discussions will range from how the upper Ashley River watershed can absorb the suburban inland growth and maintain its picturesque environment to the competing interests of fishing/recreation and industrial/commercial activity in the lower parts of the River.

- 11:30 a.m.  
11:30-11:45
- Depart Ashley River boat tour.  
Drive to Shem Creek, Mt. Pleasant for tour of shrimp/seafood industry, led by Albert George, Director of Conservation, South Carolina Aquarium; and Natalie Olsen, Campaigns Director, Conservation Voters of South Carolina (CVSC).
- 11:45am-12:45 p.m.
- The representatives of the SC Aquarium and CVSC will introduce the two congressmen to the watermen of Shem Creek, which flows into Charleston Harbor and provides access to the ocean and tidewaters. The watermen include Lowcountry crabbers, shrimpers, clam farmers, and oystermen; each of which have a unique set of challenges dealing with uncertain economies and harvest, fickle regulatory environments, and now COVID-19, which has shut down normal markets in restaurants and retail stores. As they did with Asian Carp fishermen in KY-1, Reps. Comer and Cunningham will discuss ways that the federal government can assist these aquatic economies.
- 12:45 p.m.  
12:45-1:00
- Depart Shem Creek.  
Drive to Simply Fresh Seafood at The Boathouse, 101 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms

1:00-2:00

Lunch with Sullivan's Island Mayor Patrick O'Neil and Isle of Palms Mayor Jimmy Carroll discussing municipal economic and environmental resilience issues. The entirety of the lunch is officially connected activity.

Sullivan's Island is a 2.5-mile-long barrier island near the entrance to Charleston Harbor. It is home to a little over 2,000 residents in half as many households. Residents enjoy the small-town charm and relaxed lifestyle that the Island has retained since first being settled in the 17th Century. It is well known for its pristine beaches, award-winning restaurants, and close-knit community.

Isle of Palms is also a barrier island, seven miles in length situated between the Intercoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean. With 4,400 residents, the community attracts both vacation home owners and year-round residents, with large beachfront homes, resorts, and local restaurants. Like Sullivan's Island, Isle of Palms is vulnerable to hurricanes and other significant weather events which have proven costly to the town.

2:00 p.m.

Depart luncheon.

2:00-2:15

Drive to Sealand Adventure Sports, 2120 Middle St., Sullivan's Island.

2:15-3:00

Bike tour of Sullivan's Island led by Mayor O'Neil.

On September 23, 1989, Hurricane Hugo made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane. The eye passed over Sullivan's Island causing devastation across the entire island. The Ben Sawyer Bridge swung free of its locks and wound up pointing down with one end in the plough mud. The image was seen internationally as a symbol of Hugo's wrath. Today, a healthy replacement of that bridge welcomes residents and visitors alike to the beautiful Island that we are fortunate to call home.

Mayor O'Neil will discuss his town's evolving plans and federal role for hurricane preparations, emergency operations, and evacuation; housing needs for workers, future land use considerations with sea level rise; and the impact of COVID-19 on tourism.

3:00 p.m.

Sullivan's Island bike tour ends.

3:00-3:45

Bike tour of Isle of Palms led by Mayor Carroll.

Mayor Carroll will present his town's emergency preparedness plans and how it is coordinated with Charleston County, state, and federal agencies. One of the unique planning considerations for municipal services is the seasonality of Isle of Palms. While the "official" population is 4,400, the summertime population is estimated to be 12,000 and can peak on holiday weekends at 20,000. How Isle of Palms handles these additional visitors in terms of transportation, sanitation, and now social-distancing under COVID-19 is a challenge he will discuss. Also, the two congressmen will visit some local businesses to see how they are faring under the pandemic conditions.

3:45 p.m.

Bike tour of Isle of Palms ends.



3:45-4:15	Drive to Westbrook Brewing Company, 510 Ridge Rd., Mt. Pleasant.
4:15-4:45	Tour Westbrook Brewing Company with owners Morgan and Edward Westbrook. Founded in 2010, this "distributing model" brewery sells mainly through wholesalers, mainly in the Southeast but also New York and even Europe. The brewery also has a taproom with limited capacity because of COVID restrictions. Reps. Comer and Cunningham will discuss the business' prospects in this economic downturn.
4:45 p.m.	Westbrook Brewing Company visit ends.
4:45-5:05	Drive to CHS
5:05-5:15	Drop off car at CHS.
6:15	Dep. CHS, AA #5619 (Comer)
7:19	Arr. CLT
8:19	Dep. CLT, AA #4383
9:49	Arr. SDF

**Item 12: *Bipartisan Policy Center:*** The Bipartisan Policy Center is a non-profit organization that combines the best ideas from both parties to promote health, security, and opportunity for all Americans. BPC drives principled and politically viable policy solutions through the power of rigorous analysis and painstaking negotiation.

As a Washington, D.C.-based think tank that actively promotes bipartisanship, BPC works to address the key challenges facing the nation. Our policy solutions are the product of informed deliberations by former elected and appointed officials, business and labor leaders, and academics and advocates who represent both ends of the political spectrum. We are currently focused on such issues as health, energy, national security, the economy, financial regulatory reform, housing, immigration, infrastructure, and governance.

While a healthy, civil debate among those with differing viewpoints is an essential component of our democracy, the current partisan tone in government is impeding progress. BPC is focused on how to overcome political divides and help make our government work better.

Regardless of deep policy disagreements, Congress must operate with mutual respect, decency, and civility which are foundational to forging collaborative solutions. While there are disparities and regional differences, as elected officials, members of Congress all have a responsibility to address challenges confronting their constituents and the nation, as well as strengthen the institution itself.

The American Congressional Exchange (ACE) Program is a systematic approach to building better relationships and bipartisanship in Congress. ACE is focused on members of the U.S. House of Representatives and is built upon three precepts:

- To develop trust, Members of Congress must listen to one another to understand what it is that motivates them and concerns them.
- Once they listen to each other, they often learn they actually have more in common than meets the eye – and if they can see each other in that vein, impactful legislation can be achieved.
- A shared experience based on close interaction can be what brings Members of Congress together to take action on behalf of the American people.

The central goal of ACE is to build connections and trust, which will create conditions for intentional negotiation and compromise on issues of importance to the participants' constituencies as well as the nation. The trips will increase mutual understandings, and further collaboration on policy matters and legislation. Additionally, as a result, Congress will operate more effectively. BPC representative will accompany traveler on the trip to provide logistics and coordinate functioning of meetings, events, and site visits.

**15. b. 2**

The congressional district SC-01 affords Congressman Comer a variety of learning opportunities relevant to his home district and his committee assignments. Natural resources, water infrastructure, manufacturing, tourism, and the need for economic development are among the features of SC-01 that are analogous to KY-01.

As noted above, Congressman Comer will have the opportunity to meet with military and aerospace leaders, local commercial fishermen, tour important infrastructure projects that have received federal resources, and gain perspectives on the careful balancing act the Charleston area must play between economic development and environmental stewardship.

Also as referenced, this trip will be another opportunity for Congressman Comer to see and hear what is working, and where the challenges remain, with respect to local renewal, reopening and rebuilding following the Covid-19 closures. He will be able to learn about innovative approaches that local business and civic officials are instituting, as well as determine any shared areas between the two districts where significant gaps in assistance remain.