



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: Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None ☒  
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: September 21st, 2020 Return: September 21st, 2020  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None ☐
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: MD Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Bipartisan Policy Center
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):  
The Congresswoman met with civic and business leaders, along with health care experts in addiction issues and mental health in MD-06. These visits were directly related to the Congresswoman's service on the Energy and Commerce Committee, particularly the meeting about broadband access.
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: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/02/2020



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.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: Bipartisan Policy Center

2. Travel Destination(s): Cumberland, MD

3. Date of Departure: September 21, 2020 Date of Return: September 21, 2020

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers

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

5. 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	\$122.19 - Rental Car	n/a	\$11.58	n/a
Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

6. 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: [Signature] Date: 9/30/20

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.



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Cathy McMorris Rodgers
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: Bipartisan Policy Center
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Cumberland, MD
4. a. Date of Departure: September 21, 2020 Date of Return: September 21, 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.**  
The visit to MD-06 will allow the Congresswoman to experience a congressional district in a rural area on the  
East Coast, as well as meet with civic and business leaders as it relates to her work on the Energy and  
Commerce Committee. She will also tour the National Park Service to discuss tourism issues, which is under E&C.
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 Cathy McMorris Rodgers Date October 5, 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. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (See addendum)
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
6. Date of Departure: September 21, 2020 Date of Return: September 21, 2020
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC  
b. Destination(s): Cumberland, MD  
c. City of return: Washington, DC
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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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): \$20.00  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 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: N/A ☒ City: N/A Cost Per Night: N/A  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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	N/A	N/A	\$20.00
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	\$105.00	Rental car/Fuel, Misc. Parking
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: [Signature] Date: 8/21/2020

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 Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1035 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 Cumberland, Maryland, scheduled for September 21, 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 "Travel"

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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>

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', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kenny Marchant', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kenny Marchant  
Ranking Member

TED/KM:adw

## **Addendum – Primary Trip Sponsor Form**

### **Item 4: Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers:**

Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers is a member of the House Energy & Commerce Committee, and its following subcommittees: Consumer Protection & Commerce (Ranking), Energy, Environment & Climate Change.

Rep. McMorris Rodgers has expressed particular interest in the areas of economic opportunity, education, broadband access, and health. She represents Washington's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which includes the Spokane metro area and also significant rural areas in Eastern WA. Her visit to MD-6 will afford her the opportunity to experience a congressional district that includes the Maryland suburbs and exurbs of the Washington/Baltimore metro area, as well as rural areas that are growing population because of their supply of affordable housing.

The visit will provide Rep. McMorris Rodgers, along with Rep. Trone, the chance to meet directly with civic and business leaders, along with health care experts in addiction issues and mental health in Cumberland, Hagerstown, and Frederick. These stops will relate directly to Rep. McMorris' service on the Energy and Commerce Committee, particularly the meeting about broadband access. She will also be able to tour and meet with the National Park Service and discuss tourism issues, which is a jurisdiction of the Consumer Protection & Commerce Subcommittee.

### **Item 7 (b):**

## **American Congressional Exchange**

**Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA-5) visiting David Trone (D-MD-6), Sept. 21, 2020**

### **Mon., Sept. 21**

7:30-10:00 a.m.

Drive to Acre Coworking, 48 North Centre St., Cumberland for broadband event.

10:00-11:20

Cumberland broadband event led by Jennifer Walsh, Executive Director, The Greater Cumberland Committee.

The lack of adequate broadband communication is an issue of great concern to both Reps. Trone and McMorris Rodgers. Both represent areas with large rural lands that have yet to be the beneficiary of "last mile" connectivity. In a time of COVID-19, both the quality and accessibility of broadband is critical for schools, businesses, and the thousands of people in Western Maryland who are conducting their work from home.

The two members will meet with a group of school leaders, telecommunications experts, and business leaders to discuss the federal role of expanding broadband communication and whether some kind of shared funding arrangement can be devised with private and public partners.

11:20 a.m.	Depart broadband event.
11:20-11:50	Walking tour of Cumberland Arts and Entertainment District (Baltimore St.) led by Ashli Workman, Allegany County Economic/Community Development.
	Historic tourism is a mainstay of Cumberland region and it has been challenged with the onset of COVID-19. As they walk through downtown Cumberland, Reps. Trone and McMorris Rodgers will stop at the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad station, and C&O Canal National Historic Park and Visitors Museum. Additionally, they will see the beginning of the Great Allegheny Passage, which runs from Pittsburgh to Cumberland, and connects to the C&O Canal trail creating a 333-mile bike route from Washington, D.C. to Pittsburgh. The discussion will revolve around adaptations that have been created to keep tourism going during the pandemic.
11:50	Depart walking tour in Cumberland.
11:50-12:50 p.m.	Drive to Red Rose Café, 2 E. Potomac St., Williamsport.
12:50-1:45	Take-out from Red Rose Café for picnic lunch and meet with National Park Service, along C&O Canal, led by John Noel, C&O Canal National Historic Park; Tina Cappetta, National Park Service.
	Preserving America's early transportation history, the C&O Canal began as a dream of passage to Western wealth. Operating for nearly 100 years the canal was a lifeline for communities along the Potomac River as coal, lumber, and agricultural products floated down the waterway to market. Today it endures as a pathway for discovering historical, natural, and recreational treasures.
	The members will discuss and see the restored aqueduct over the Conococheague Creek near the Cushwa Basin and Lock 44 and Lift Bridge. In particular, they will get feedback from the National Park Service about how the recent passage of the Great Outdoors Act will impact funding for maintenance and improvements of the C&O Canal and its public right-of-way. Finally, the NPS staff will talk about the importance of the C&O Canal hosting of the World Canals Conference in 2021.
1:45 p.m.	Depart Williamsport.
1:45-2:00	Drive to Washington County Health Department, 1302 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown.
2:00-3:20	Hagerstown addiction event focused on harm reduction, led by City Council member, Emily Keller; along with Earl Stoner, Health Officer, Washington County Health Dept.; and Susan Gail Sherman, Professor of Health, Behavior, and Society, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The discussion will focus on the efficacy of legislation, funding, and programs, that are being used in Maryland to move from a criminal approach to drug addiction to one that is health-based. Among the legislative topics is the First Step Act, approved by the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. This act aimed to reduce recidivism, enacted sentencing reforms for federal drug offences, and allows courts to sentence low-level, nonviolent drug offenders with minor criminal histories to less than the required mandatory minimum for an offense.

The two members will also talk with the panel about additional funding (and how current funding is working) for addiction recovery and harm reduction programs. Finally, Reps. Trone and McMorris Rodgers will learn about Maryland's fentanyl test strip kit program and other innovative interventions they are employing to combat the spread of opioid dependency.

3:20 p.m.  
3:20-4:00

Depart Hagerstown.  
Drive to Frederick.

4:00-5:25

Frederick mental health/telehealth meeting.  
Led by Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner and the others below:  
Barbara Brookmyer, MD, MPH, Frederick County Health Dept.  
Stephanie Rosen, NAMI-Montgomery County  
Jeff Richardson, Sheppard Pratt Health System  
Local Behavioral Health Authority, division of health dept.

The two members will discuss strategies with government officials and health professionals that are being undertaken in Frederick County to increase the delivery of mental health services (and some physical health services) via telehealth. With COVID-19, almost all mental health therapy is now being conducted remotely which then raises issues of equity and inclusion. The conversation will be a good segue from the meeting we had earlier in Cumberland about broadband access.

While telehealth has the potential to improve the quality of health care and make it accessible to more people, research is still new as to its effectiveness. Further, there are often issues of insurance reimbursement and the fragmenting of health care delivery. Reps. Trone and McMorris Rodgers, with somewhat similar population densities in their respective districts, will discuss the federal role for ramping up telehealth to respond to COVID-19 but then also consider whether expansion of telehealth is the most effective way in the long-run to address mental health accessibility.

5:25 p.m.  
5:25-6:15

Depart Frederick.  
Drive to Great Falls

6:15-6:45

Visit Great Falls with a tour led by Tina Cappetta, National Park Service.

With over 3 million visitors annually, the Great Falls of the Potomac and its series of rapids and cascades is one of the top 25 sites in the entire National Park System. The Maryland side of Great Falls is part of the C&O Historical Park and is haven for hiking, bird-watching, fishing, and bicycling along the Towpath. Although only a 40 ft. drop, that distance belies the dramatic appearance of Great Falls and volume of water rushing through the river.

Reps. Trone and McMorris Rodgers will view Great Falls by walking along a series of bridges and boardwalks leading out to Olmsted Island. They will discuss with the National Park Service the natural restoration being undertaken as well as visitors' services in this unique ecosystem.

6:45 p.m.	Depart Great Falls.
6:45-6:50	Drive to Rep. Trone's home. Possible meeting with family.
6:50	Trip ends.

**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**

As referenced above, in MD-6, Rep. McMorris Rodgers will gain valuable insights into a variety of topics relevant to her committee work and priorities in Congress representing Washington's 5th Congressional District.

Rep. McMorris Rodgers will have the opportunity to meet with civic, business, and county educational leaders to discuss and learn about their efforts and strategies for improving broadband access in Western Maryland – an issue she deals with regularly in the rural portions of her congressional district. Rep. McMorris Rodgers represents both suburban and urban areas, as well as rural areas, which is similar to MD-6. She will be able to experience what is working (or not) in Western Maryland, with respect to harm reduction strategies and mental health services that are delivered via telehealth, which is also important to WA-5, where she and Rep. Trone visited a rural health clinic last October that uses telehealth services on the Kalispel Tribe reservation.



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

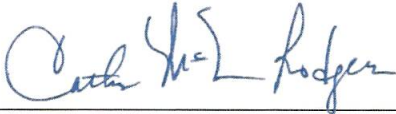
This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, 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: Cathy McMorris Rodgers

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: 1035 Longworth House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-2006

Email Address of Contact Person: [emily.king@mail.house.gov](mailto:emily.king@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).