COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM ☐ *Original* ☐ *Amendment*

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and *file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov*, 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: Madeleine Dierksheide

2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ☒ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

3. a. Dates: Departure: October 10, 2026 Return: October 18, 2026
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: October 10, 2026 and October 16-18, 2026 ***OR*** ☐ None

4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Hilo, Hawaii; Kona, Hawaii; and Honolulu, Hawaii Return City: Washington, D.C.

5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)

6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: See attached document

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 *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
   c. ☒ page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; ***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 on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: Madeleine Dierksheide **Date:** 10-28-2026

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Rep. J. French Hill **Date:** 10/28/26

Signature of Supervising Member: J. French Hill

last updated 7/2023

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 in the trip *within 10 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 or provided in-kind support for the trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)
2. Travel Destination(s): Hilo, Hawaii; Kona, Hawaii; and Honolulu, Hawaii
3. Date of Departure: October 11, 2026 Date of Return: October 17, 2026
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): See addendum

   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	$1957.45	$1031.00	$680.16	$707.01 (see appendix for Other Expenses)
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: Matthew D. Chase **Date:** 10/27/2026

Name: Matthew D. Chase **Title:** CEO/Executive Director

Organization: National Association of Counties

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

Address: 660 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone: (202)393-6226 **Email:** mchase@naco.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.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Madeleine Dierksheide

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)

3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel: Hilo, Kona and Honolulu, Hawaii

4. a. Date of Departure: October 10, 2026 Date of Return: October 18, 2026

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

   If yes, list dates at personal expense: October 10, October 16-18

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

   (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____

   (2) Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

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

6. a. Yes ☐ No ■ 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)?

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

7. Yes ■ No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

   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.**

I am SR. legislative assistant for Congressman French Hill (AR-02) handling energy, environment, water, and Related issues. This trip will allow participants to engage with federal, local, and State leaders on these issues, and visit four sites including Hawaii Volcanoes Nat. Park, the Nat. Energy Lab, Pearl Harbor, and other Related places related to these issues.

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

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: J. French Hill **Date:** 9-10-26

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
   National Association of Counties (NACo)
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, services, or in-kind assistance 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):
   Please see attached.
5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: October 11, 2026 Date of Return: October 17, 2026
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.
   b. Destination(s): Hilo, Hawaii; Kona, Hawaii; and Honolulu, Hawaii
   c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
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; **OR**
   b. ☐ I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
   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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:
   NACo is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization that represents the nation's counties, parishes and boroughs. NACo works to advance county priorities in federal policymaking and enrich the public's understanding of county governments. NACo is responsible for recruiting, coordinating and executing this trip.

13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:***
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☒ Other ☒ (specify: Charter Bus)
   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:

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): Sun. Oct. 11: $115 | Mon. Oct. 12: $147 | Tues., Oct 13: $140 | Wed., Oct. 14: $142 | Thurs., Oct 15: $128 | Fri., Oct. 16: $90
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: See attached.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
   Hotel Name: Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton City: Hilo, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $199
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered a consistent rate with the DOW per diem
   Hotel Name: OUTRIGGER Kona Resort & Spa City: Kona, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $229
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to airport/programming and offered a consistent rate with the DOW per diem
   Hotel Name: Prince Waikiki City: Honolulu, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $202
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered a consistent rate with the DOW per diem

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 the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$1,918.14	$1,031.00	$762.00
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	See attached.	See attached.
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

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 by my signature that**
   a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
   b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
   c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Matthew D Chase Date: 09/01/2026

Name: Matthew D. Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director

Organization: National Association of Counties

Address: 660 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001

Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202)393-6226

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas
Brad Knott, North Carolina

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515–6328
Telephone: (202) 225–7103
https://Ethics.House.gov

October 5, 2026

Ms. Madeleine Dierksheide
Office of the Honorable J. French Hill
1533 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Dierksheide:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Hilo, Kona, and Honolulu, Hawaii, scheduled for October 10 to 18, 2026, sponsored by National Association of Counties. We note that this trip includes two days at your personal expense.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than $525 from a single source on the "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,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:tn

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
   National Association of Counties (NACo)
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, services, or in-kind assistance 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):
   Please see attached.
5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: October 11, 2026 Date of Return: October 17, 2026
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.
   b. Destination(s): Hawai'i County, Hawai'i; City and County of Honolulu, Hawai'i
   c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
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; **OR**
   b. ☐ I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
   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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:
NACo is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization that represents the nation's counties, parishes and boroughs. NACo works to advance county priorities in federal policymaking and enrich the public's understanding of county governments. NACo is responsible for recruiting, coordinating and executing this trip.

13. *Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:*
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☐ Other ☒ (specify: Charter Bus)
   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:

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): Sun. Oct. 11: $115 | Mon. Oct. 12: $147 | Tues., Oct 13: $140 | Wed., Oct. 14: $142 | Thurs., Oct 15: $128 | Fri., Oct. 16: $90
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Hawaii County was selected because of its unique responsibilities and services it provides to its residents in a large, rural community with high tourism. The City & County of Honolulu was selected due to the unique city/county structure and combination of sprawling rural and dense urban areas, as well as the related nature of island counties.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
   Hotel Name: Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton City: Hilo, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $199
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered a consistent with the DOW per diem
   Hotel Name: OUTRIGGER Kona Resort & Spa City: Kona, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $229
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to airport/programming and offered a consistent with the DOW per diem
   Hotel Name: Prince Waikiki City: Honolulu, Hawai'i Cost Per Night: $202
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered a consistent with the DOW per diem

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 the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$1,738.14	$1,031.00	$762.00
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	$450	Includes the cost of renting space at hotels/event venues for meetings and events, service fees for meals, set-up and attendants, educational briefings and meetings such as park entrance fees and mandatory tour fees, printing and shipping instructional materials and other items necessary for the programming, as well as breaks and refreshments and tips for bus driver and other service industry professionals employed on the trip
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

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 by my signature that**
   a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
   b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
   c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Matthew D. Chase Date: 09/01/2026

Name: Matthew D. Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director

Organization: National Association of Counties (NACo)

Address: 660 N. Capitol St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001

Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202)393-6226

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

House Committee on Ethics

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM – APPENDIX

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Michael Bauman, Brandan Belser, Claire Bienvenu, Abbie Callahan, Madeleine Dierksheide, Jesse Ebadi, Valerie Foy, Nick Luna, Willie Lyles, Garrett Puckett, Danny Reeves, and Justin Shockey.

5. See chart below.

	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	$237.64	The cost of renting space at hotels and event venues for meetings and meals.
	$203.13	The cost-of-service fees for meal set up and attendants.
	$77.10	Cost of printing and shipping educational materials and other items necessary for the programming, as well as snacks and refreshments and tips for bus driver and other service industry professionals throughout the trip.
	$178.38	Fees associated with educational briefings and meetings, such as park entrance fees and mandatory tour fees. There are no recreational activities at the parks or other trip sites.

House Committee on Ethics

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM – ATTACHMENT

15.(b)(2) NACo selected Hawai'i and Honolulu counties to showcase two distinct models of county governance shaped by their island geography. Hawai'i County offers insight into how a large, rural county balances the demands of high tourism with the everyday service needs of its residents. Honolulu, as a consolidated city-county, illustrates how a single government can serve both dense urban centers and expansive rural areas.

Together, the two counties highlight how geographic isolation shapes intergovernmental relationships—forcing county, state and federal governments to coordinate in ways that differ markedly from mainland jurisdictions. This makes Hawai'i County and the City and County of Honolulu especially instructive sites for participants to learn about the practical realities of county government.

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18. See chart below.

	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	$150.00	The cost of renting space at hotels and event venues for meetings and meals.
	$60.00	The cost-of-service fees for meal set up and attendants.
	$100.00	Cost of printing and shipping educational materials and other items necessary for the programming, as well as snacks and refreshments and tips for bus driver and other service industry professionals throughout the trip.
	$175.00	Fees associated with educational briefings and meetings, such as park entrance fees and

		mandatory tour fees. There are no recreational activities at the parks or other trip sites.

LIST OF INVITEES

National Association of Counties (NACo)

2026 Federal Fellowship Program – Hawai'i County and Honolulu County, Hawai'i

October 11 – 17, 2026

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a 501(c)(4) national nonprofit that was formed in 1935 to serve and strengthen America's counties. As an association of public elected officials, NACo is not a specific interest group but a major partner in our nation's Federalism system of intergovernmental entities. The participants listed below play a critical role in this system, working for elected officials, congressional committees and federal agencies that appropriate funds or develop federal policy and regulations that affect counties. For many of these individuals, this trip will complement NACo's previous site visits by showcasing the critical programs and services that Hawai'i counties provide to our residents. For others, this trip will serve as the first opportunity to enhance their understanding of county government by witnessing the role they play in their residents' lives every day.

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Professional Staff Member	House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (Minority)	Michael	Bauman
Legislative Aide	Office of Representative Terri Sewell	Brandan	Belser
Policy Advisor	Office of Speaker of the House Mike Johnson	Claire	Bienvenue
Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Joe Neguse	Abbie	Callahan
Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative French Hill	Madeleine	Dierksheide
Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Salud Carbajal	Jesse	Ebadi
Chief Counsel	Office of Representative Don Bacon	Valerie	Foy
Floor Assistant	Office of Representative Steve Scalise	Bryson	Henriott
Legislative Director	Office of Representative Jill Tokuda	Nicholas	Luna
Senior Advisor and Counsel	Office of Representative Troy Carter	Willie	Lyles
Coalitions Director	Office of Representative Lisa McClain	Garrett	Puckett
Director of Member Services & Coalitions	House Financial Services Committee (Majority)	Danny	Reeves
Floor Assistant	Office of Representative Tom Emmer	Justin	Shockey
Legislative Director	Office of Representative Celeste Maloy	Owen	Drexel

Policy Advisor	Office of Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries	Josephine	Amuse
Deputy Director of Member Services	Office of Speaker of the House Mike Johnson	Brian	Cress
Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Jill Tokuda	Wendy	Clerinx
Professional Staff Member	House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (Minority)	Lauren	Gros
Legislative Assistant	House Agriculture Committee (Majority)	John	Hendrix

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL & HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:02 AM ET – 9:44 AM PT	**FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0409
11:55 AM PT – 3:20 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0899
4:52 PM HT – 5:46 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1102
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo 93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720	**Welcome Dinner at Grand Naniloa Hotel** Participants will join Hawai'i County officials for a welcome dinner, where they will introduce the unique structure and responsibilities of county government in Hawai'i—operating without incorporated municipalities and serving simultaneously as city and county governments. Officials will also provide an overview of the week's policy themes, including housing, disaster resilience, agriculture, workforce development and land use. • **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County • **Hon. Jennifer Kagiwada,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
9:30 PM – 11:59 PM 93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720	**Overnight Accommodation at the Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 – HAWAI'I COUNTY

12:00 AM – 7:00 AM 93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720	**Overnight Accommodation at the Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton**
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo 93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720	**Breakfast at Hotel**

8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Mobile Tour;
Various Locations

Briefing: Affordable Housing and the County Role
Housing affordability is one of the greatest challenges facing counties across the country, and Hawai'i County is on the front lines of the crisis. Rising home prices, limited housing inventory, increasing construction costs and the growth of short-term rentals have made it increasingly difficult for local families and essential workers to find affordable housing. During this tour, participants will visit county housing projects and hear from local leaders about Hawai'i County's efforts to expand affordable and workforce housing through zoning and land use strategies, short-term rental permitting and enforcement, and federal investments such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Along the way, Fellows will gain firsthand insight into the local impacts of the national housing crisis and discuss how federal policies and partnerships can better support county-led housing solutions.

- **Kehaulani "Kehau" Costa,** Housing Administrator, County of Hawai'i
- **Jeff Darrow,** Planning Director, County of Hawai'i
- **Keiko M. Mercado,** Assistant Housing Administrator, County of Hawai'i
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
1 Crater Rim Drive,
Hawai'i National Park,
HI 96718

Briefing: Disaster Response and Federal-County Partnership at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
The 2018 Kīlauea eruption destroyed more than 700 homes and displaced thousands of residents, fundamentally reshaping how Hawai'i County approaches disaster response, recovery and community engagement. Participants will tour the park with National Park Service (NPS) officials and Hawai'i County emergency management staff, beginning with an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the organizations involved in volcanic disaster response, including the NPS, USGS, FEMA and county government. The session will examine the 2018 eruption and the lessons it provided for emergency management, communications and long-term recovery, including how those lessons informed the County's response to the 2022 Mauna Loa eruption and continue to shape current disaster preparedness and response practices.

Participants will explore how Hawai'i County has strengthened coordination across federal, state and local partners and adapted its approach to communicating with residents and the public during an evolving disaster. Speakers will discuss the importance of keeping control of the narrative, providing timely and trusted information and maintaining clear communication with residents as

conditions change. The session will also examine the broader economic impacts of volcanic disasters, including effects on local businesses, tourism, housing and county revenues and services. Finally, participants will discuss the role of public trust in effective disaster response and recovery, including how government agencies can build and maintain trust before, during and after a disaster.

- **William "Bill" Hanson,** Administrative Officer, Civil Defense Agency, Hawai'i County
- **Rhonda Loh,** Superintendent, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
- **Ken Hon,** Scientist in Charge, USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
26-238 Hawai'i Belt Road,
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Dinner at Ola Okolehao Distillery
As a preview for the following day's session on agriculture and economic development, participants will hear from Councilmember Kimball and Nahealani Breeland, who will provide background on Ola and its role in the Hawai'i County community, including its contributions to sustainable agriculture, workforce development and the local economy. Conversations will focus on supporting place-based approaches to regulation and economic development, highlighting how locally tailored policies and investments can strengthen sustainable agriculture, support local businesses and create workforce opportunities while contributing to the long-term economic resilience of Hawai'i County. Other attendees will include NACo staff and Hawai'i State Association of Counties staff.

- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Nahealani Breeland,** President/Co-Founder, Ola Brew Co.

8:30 PM – 11:59 PM
93 Banyan Dr,
Hilo, HI 96720

Overnight Accommodation at the Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 – HAWAI'I COUNTY

12:00 AM – 7:30 AM
93 Banyan Dr,
Hilo, HI 96720

Overnight Accommodation at the Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo - a DoubleTree by Hilton

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM
Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo
93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720

Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo
93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720

Briefing: Hawai'i County Jobs Readiness & Workforce Development

Hawai'i County faces distinct workforce challenges shaped by its geography and economy — from the distances between communities like Hilo, Kona and Puna, to limited public transportation, a high cost of living and an economy historically dependent on tourism and agriculture. This session will introduce participants to the American Job Center Hawai'i – Hawai'i Island, a key resource run by the county to help residents navigate these challenges through career counseling, skills assessments, job placement assistance and training referrals tailored to local industries and labor market needs. Session speakers will review the importance of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and how it supports job training, education and employment services for eligible individuals across the island's diverse communities.

- **Benson Medina,** Director, Department of Research & Development, Hawai'i County
- **Clinton Mercado,** Executive Director, Hawai'i County Workforce Development Board
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Mobile Tour;
Various Stops

Briefing: Building Resilient Communities and Federal- County Partnerships Along Hawai'i County's Hamākua Coast

On Hawai'i County's Hamakua Coast between Hilo and Waimea, participants will explore how Hawai'i County partners with federal agencies to manage infrastructure, natural resources and community priorities. Along the route, county and state leaders will provide insights at key stops, including at Laupahoehoe Point, to discuss the county's partnership with FEMA and the role of transportation funding; Kolekole Park, where participants will see bridges undergoing repairs through federal grants and Army Corps installations; and Honokaa Village, where speakers will discuss the economic impact of sugar plantation towns in the 20th century on the region and the current role of the community as the primary gateway to Waipi'o Valley for tourists . The trip will also include a stop at Waipi'o Valley Lookout to examine ongoing tensions between local communities and tourism development, offering a firsthand look at how county-federal collaboration shapes policy, infrastructure and stewardship along the coast.

- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Hon. Jennifer Kagiwada,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

- **Hon. Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy,** Representative, Hawai'i State Legislature; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Kahua Ranch,
59-564 Kohala Mountain Rd,
Waimea, HI 96743

Briefing: Kahua Ranch — Agriculture, Food Security and the Paniolo Legacy

Kahua Ranch is a family-owned and operated working ranch located within the historic Hawaiian ahupua'a of Kahua. The original ranch house was built in 1870 and the ranch was formally established in 1928. As the birthplace of Hawai'i's paniolo (cowboy) tradition, the ranch offers a unique look at Honolulu County's rich agricultural heritage and the enduring role of ranching in island communities.

During this visit, participants will hear from ranch staff, as well as state and county leaders, about the importance of federal Farm Bill programs, USDA Rural Development investments, and other federal partnerships that support local agricultural producers. With Hawai'i importing approximately 85–90 percent of its food, discussions will explore the challenges and opportunities faced by the county and state of strengthening local food production, improving food security and building long-term island food resilience. Participants will also learn how federal nutrition programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), support Hawai'i County's residents while complementing broader efforts to strengthen local food systems and expand access to nutritious, locally produced foods.

The working ranch itself—its terrain, grazing land, water infrastructure, and conservation areas—is the subject matter of this session, and much of it is accessible only on horseback. Key sites illustrating the topics under discussion—including grazing management practices, watershed and conservation areas tied to USDA Rural Development and Farm Bill conservation programs, and the working infrastructure that sustains the ranch's cattle operations are most practically reached and observed on horseback. The ride is not recreational, but the means by which participants directly observe the land-use practices, resource management challenges, and federal program impacts that are the substance of the briefing. Discussion with continue throughout the ride and educational programming will occur continuously while participants move through the landscape that is the subject of instruction.

Participants will also learn how Kahua Ranch combines sustainable cattle operations with immersive agritourism to preserve both the land and Hawaiian culture, closing the loop between federal and county agricultural policy and the on-the-ground realities of a Hawai'i residents working in agriculture.

- **Hon. Tim Richards,** Senator, Hawai'i State Legislature; President and General Manager, Kahua Ranch; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy,** Representative, Hawai'i State Legislature; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
59-564 Kohala Mountain Rd,
Waimea, HI 96743

Dinner at Kahua Ranch
Other attendees will include NACo staff, Hawai'i County officials and staff, and Hawaii State Association of Counties staff.

- **Hon. Tim Richards,** Senator, Hawai'i State Legislature; President and General Manager, Kahua Ranch; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy,** Representative, Hawai'i State Legislature; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Bill Brilhante,** Managing Director, Office of the Mayor, Hawai'i County
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

9:00 PM – 11:59 PM
78-128 Ehukai St,
Kailua-Kona, HI

Overnight Accommodation at the OUTRIGGER Kona Resort & Spa

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

12:00 AM – 5:00 AM
78-128 Ehukai St,
Kailua-Kona, HI

Overnight Accommodation at the OUTRIGGER Kona Resort & Spa

5:00 AM – 5:30 AM
Outrigger Kona,
78-128 Ehukai St,
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Breakfast at Hotel

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM

FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology
Moku o Lo'e Island

Briefing: Marine Science, Climate Research & Federal Grant Funding
Participants will visit the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology located on Moku o Lo'e (Coconut Island) to learn about marine ecosystems, coral reef research and climate adaptation. Discussions will focus on federal funding for marine science and climate research (NOAA, NSF, etc.), as well as the role of federal grant programs in supporting both university research and county-led resilience initiatives. Participants will explore opportunities to improve federal grant processes through increased flexibility and streamlined administration, highlighting how current requirements impact the delivery of research and local projects for Hawaiian counties and those across the country.

The visit will also examine how county permitting processes affect scientific research and infrastructure projects, including the challenges researchers face in obtaining timely permits and the importance of permitting reform to provide greater flexibility while maintaining environmental stewardship. Participants will learn about the Mālama 'Āina Plan for Moku o Lo'e and its model for balancing ecological, cultural and research priorities, while also exploring research related to sea level rise, coastal resilience strategies for island communities and the partnership between the university and county governments in advancing these efforts.

- **Megan Donahue, Ph.D.,** Director, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)
- **Kawika Winter, Ph.D.,** Director, He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Diamond Head Monument
4204 Diamond Head Rd,
Honolulu, HI 96816

Briefing: Tourism Management & State-County Coordination at Diamond Head State Monument
Participants will examine the intersection of tourism, conservation, emergency preparedness and intergovernmental coordination at Diamond Head State Monument, one of Hawai'i's most visited and culturally significant landmarks. With approximately 2,000 visitors accessing the site each day, participants will explore the challenges of balancing public access with the preservation of natural and cultural resources, including impacts from high visitor volumes, deteriorating infrastructure and the long-term management of a heavily used recreational area.

The discussion will highlight the unique environmental challenges facing Diamond Head and intergovernmental coordination in the area. The park

hosts many government entities, including invasive species management and the protection of native and endangered species through the Division of Forestry and Wildlife; training for the University of Hawai'i Army ROTC; and the U.S. Department of War.

Participants will also hear about emergency preparedness and resilience efforts, including the development of new wildfire mitigation and preparedness plans and the coordination required among state agencies, Honolulu County, state and local emergency management officials and federal partners. The session will focus on how county, state and federal entities work together to address natural hazards, protect public safety and strengthen community resilience.

- **Donald Aweau,** Executive Officer, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency
- **Kelsey Yamanaka,** State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency
- **Mahi La Pierre,** Interpreter, Diamond Head State Monument
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
2424 Kalākaua Ave,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Nā Lei Aloha Lū'au
Participants will join Hawai'i and Honolulu County officials for an evening dinner and cultural celebration conducted by Hawaiian Council, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the cultural, economic and community development of Native Hawaiians. The dinner will be paired with a traditional Hawaiian lū'au, providing participants with an authentic and immersive introduction to Native Hawaiian culture and traditions.

Understanding Native Hawaiian culture is essential to understanding how Hawai'i and Honolulu counties operate with intergovernmental partners and serve their residents. Native Hawaiian values, traditions, and history shape the priorities, policies, and community relationships that define county governance across the islands—from land use and housing policy to social services and economic development. County governments in Hawai'i do not operate independently of this cultural context; their missions and their relationships with residents, the state, and the federal government are informed by it. A briefing on county services alone would leave participants without the cultural framework needed to understand why those services and priorities take the shape they do in Hawai'i County and the City and County of Honolulu.

The lū'au gives participants direct exposure to the cultural traditions, values, and community priorities that inform Native Hawaiian engagement with county, state, and federal government—complementing the policy-

focused briefings elsewhere on the agenda with the cultural context necessary to fully understand them.

Other attendees will include NACo staff, Hawai'i County officials, City and County of Honolulu officials, and Hawai'i State Association of Counties staff.

9:30 PM – 11:59 PM
100 Holomoana St,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Overnight Accommodation at the Prince Waikiki Hotel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 — HONOLULU COUNTY

12:00 AM – 6:00 AM
100 Holomoana St,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Overnight Accommodation at the Prince Waikiki Hotel

6:00 AM – 6:30 AM
Prince Waikiki
100 Holomoana Street,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Breakfast at Hotel

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Pearl Harbor,
United States
1 Arizona Memorial Place,
Honolulu, HI 96818

Briefing: Honolulu County's Role in National Security and Navy Leadership
Participants will visit the USS Arizona Memorial with a historian from the U.S. Navy and receive a classroom briefing with US Pacific Command and Department of War personnel on the harbor's historical legacy and its continued strategic importance to U.S. operations in the Pacific. The session will include an overview briefing on Pacific security priorities and the region's role in U.S. national defense.

While the U.S. military established a significant presence in Hawai'i well before World War II, the attack on Pearl Harbor marked a turning point that cemented the island and the City and County of Honolulu role as a permanent, central hub of U.S. Pacific defense strategy for the decades that followed. Visiting the USS Arizona Memorial site via boat transfer provides participants with a firsthand understanding of how that pivotal moment shaped the scale and permanence of the federal presence in Hawai'i state and the counties therein today.

The session will also include a discussion on the transition and environmental remediation of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, highlighting both national security considerations and the impacts on surrounding communities. This discussion is essential for participants'

understanding of federal-county coordination in the region as the federal facility's fuel leak and remediation directly affected Honolulu County's drinking water supply and required sustained coordination between federal defense agencies, the state, and county public health and emergency response systems. This case demonstrates how national security infrastructure and decisions made at the federal level can have direct, on-the-ground consequences for county residents and services—and how counties must engage with federal agencies to protect their communities when federal facilities affect local water, environmental, and public health systems.

Taken together, the memorial visit, US Pacific Command briefing and case study on Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility give participants a fuller picture of the federal government's enduring presence in the region and the range of federal-county interactions that continue to shape county governance in the City and County of Honolulu and the surrounding island counties today.

- **Hon. Esther Kia'āina,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **D. Noelani Kalipi,** Senior Advisor, Hawaii Coordination Cell (HCC) for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment (ASW(EI&E))
- **Jordan T M Garrett,** Director of Strategic Engagements, Team Hawai'i (J00MA-HI), US Pacific Command
- **Lt. Col. Charles Anthony,** Director of Public Affairs, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Honolulu County EOC
650 S. King St.,
Honolulu, HI 96813

Briefing: County Emergency Management & Federal Partnerships
County emergency management officials will share how the City and County of Honolulu coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state partners to build resilience against natural disasters, such as rising seas, tsunamis and hurricanes. They will also learn how the county prepares for human-caused disasters given their unique position as an urban hub on an island setting. Participants will hear from leaders at the Honolulu Emergency Management Agency about how counties leverage federal grants and coordinate with state and federal partners to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. The discussion will highlight Honolulu County's emergency management structure, including its role in managing federal emergency management resources and maintaining strong local-state partnerships.

Speakers will discuss key federal programs that support county emergency management operations, including Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), and how these resources are used to support resilience, mitigation efforts and Emergency Operations Center staffing. The conversation will also explore challenges counties face in accessing and administering federal grants, including FEMA procurement requirements, administrative burdens and opportunities to improve federal programs to better support local emergency management needs.

By the end of the session, participants will better understand the role counties play in emergency management and how federal policies and funding streams impact local disaster preparedness and response.

- **Dr. Randal A Collins, CEM**, Director, Department of Emergency Management, City and County of Honolulu
- **Major Clifford Ramson,** Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Esther Kia'āina,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
96-004 Ala 'Ike St,
Pearl City, HI 96782

Briefing: Surface Transportation and the County-Federal Partnerships in Honolulu's Skyline Rail

Participants will explore county surface transportation priorities through the lens of Honolulu's Skyline rail project, a case study in federal, state and local collaboration on major infrastructure. County officials will walk through how the project is jointly funded and financed with federal partners, the surface transportation legislation shaping that landscape, and the role of local transportation authorities—like the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART)—in managing permitting, contracting and construction across a project spanning two decades. Discussion will extend to the project's impacts on residents and tourists, as well as broader challenges such as cost overruns, timeline delays and ridership questions. Participants will also gain a wider view of Honolulu's transportation system, including its bus network and food-resilience programs as related examples of local infrastructure and resilience.

- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Lori Kahikina,** Executive Director, Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART)
- **J. Roger Morton,** Director, Department of Transportation Services, City and County of Honolulu

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Dinner
Other attendees will include NACo staff Hawai'i County officials, City and County of Honolulu officials, and Hawai'i State Association of Counties staff.

8:30 PM – 11:59 PM
100 Holomoana St,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Overnight Accommodation at the Prince Waikiki Hotel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 – HONOLULU COUNTY & DEPART

12:00 AM – 6:00 AM
100 Holomoana St,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Overnight Accommodation at the Prince Waikiki Hotel

6:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Closing Breakfast Briefing with Honolulu & Hawai'i County Officials
To conclude the site visit to Honolulu and Hawai'i Counties, county officials will build on previous discussions of land use, conservation, economic development and community resilience to examine how Honolulu County balances ecotourism and sustainable development with the preservation of culturally significant lands and public spaces.

The briefing will reflect on key themes from both counties — including the role of county government, partnerships with state and federal agencies, and place-based policymaking — leaving participants with a broader understanding of how Hawai'i's counties work with state and federal partners to address shared challenges.

This briefing will be paired with an optional morning hike, designed to highlight tourism, land use, conservation, cultural land considerations and related themes explored throughout the visit. The hike offers participants a firsthand, place-based perspective on the challenges countries face in balancing tourism and land conservation, deepening their understanding of the full suite of services counties provide and challenges they face, which is a core aim of NACo's programmatic approach.

- **Hon. Tommy Waters,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties
- **Matt Chase,** CEO/Executive Director, National Association of Counties

11:05 AM HT – 7:57 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0267
9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367 *This flight continues and lands on Saturday, October 17 as indicated below

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 – ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON, DC

12:00 AM PT – 5:40 AM ET	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367 *This is a continuation of the 9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT flight on Friday, October 16 as indicated above

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

The below flight itinerary applies to the following House employee(s): Michael Bauman, Brandan Belser, Claire Bienvenu, Abbie Callahan, Jesse Ebadi, Willie Lyles, Daniel Reeves, and Justin Shockey.

OUTBOUND FLIGHT:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL IN HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:02 AM ET – 9:44 AM PT	**FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0409
11:55 AM PT – 3:20 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0899
4:52 PM HT – 5:46 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1102

INTERISLAND FLIGHT:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – FLIGHT TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM	**FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

INBOUND FLIGHT:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 – DEPART FROM HONOLULU COUNTY

11:05 AM HT – 7:57 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0267
9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367 *This flight continues and lands on Saturday, October 17 as indicated below

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 – ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON, DC

12:00 AM PT – 5:40 AM ET **FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)**

Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367

*This is a continuation of the 9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT flight on Friday, October 16 as indicated above

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

The below flight itinerary applies to the following House employee(s): Garrett Puckett.

OUTBOUND FLIGHT:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL IN HAWAI'I COUNTY

11:55 AM PT – 3:20 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0899
4:52 PM HT – 5:46 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1102

INTERISLAND FLIGHT:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – FLIGHT TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM	**FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

INBOUND FLIGHT:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 – DEPART FROM HONOLULU COUNTY

11:05 AM HT – 7:57 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0267
9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367 *This flight continues and lands on Saturday, October 17 as indicated below

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 – ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON, DC

12:00 AM PT – 5:40 AM ET	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0367

*This is a continuation of the 9:36 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT flight on Friday, October 16 as indicated above

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

The below flight itinerary applies to the following House employee(s): Madeleine Dierkshiede.

OUTBOUND FLIGHT:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10 – DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.

6:57 PM ET – 9:55 PM PT — **FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (DCA) TO SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO)**
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0007

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL IN HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:35 AM PT – 10:17 AM HT — **FLIGHT FROM SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO) TO HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL)**
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0811

11:10 AM HT – 12:06 PM HT — **FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)**
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1042

INTERISLAND FLIGHT:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – FLIGHT TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM — **FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)**
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

INBOUND FLIGHT:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 – DEPARTURE FROM HONOLULU COUNTY

8:35 PM HT – 11:59 PM PT — **FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (LAX)**
Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0804
*This flight continues and lands on Sunday, October 18 as indicated below

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 – ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

12:00 AM PT – 5:00 AM PT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (LAX)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0804 *This is a continuation of the 8:35 PM HT – 11:59 PM PT flight on Saturday, October 17 as indicated above
11:51 AM PT – 8:00 PM ET	**FLIGHT FROM LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (LAX) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (DCA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0006

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

The below flight itinerary applies to the following House employee(s): Nicholas Luna.

OUTBOUND FLIGHT:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL IN HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:02 AM ET – 9:44 AM PT	**FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD) TO SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0409
11:55 AM PT – 3:20 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM SEATTLE, WASH. (SEA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS0899
4:52 PM HT – 5:46 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1102

INTERISLAND FLIGHT:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – FLIGHT TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM	**FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

INBOUND FLIGHT:

None. Mr. Luna will not accept return transportation from NACo.

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

The below flight itinerary applies to the following House employee(s): Valerie Foy.

OUTBOUND FLIGHT:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL IN HAWAI'I COUNTY

9:27 AM ET – 12:30 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM PHILADELPHIA, PA. (PHL) TO SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO)** United Airlines Flight No. UA2352
2:00 PM PT – 4:35 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO) TO KAHULUI, HAWAII (OGG)** United Airlines Flight No. UA2623
5:39 PM HT – 6:17 PM HT	**FLIGHT FROM KAHULUI, HAWAII (OGG) TO HILO, HAWAII (ITO)** United Airlines Flight No. UA7051

INTERISLAND FLIGHT:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – FLIGHT TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM	**FLIGHT FROM KONA, HAWAII (KOA) TO HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)** Alaska Airlines Flight No. AS1027

INBOUND FLIGHT:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 – DEPARTURE FROM HONOLULU COUNTY

2:10 PM HT – 10:25 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM HONOLULU, HAWAII (HNL) TO SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO)** United Airlines Flight No. UA1947
10:25 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT	**FLIGHT FROM SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO) TO PHILADELPHIA, PA. (PHL)** United Airlines Flight No. UA2854 *This flight continues and lands on Saturday, October 17 as indicated below

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 – ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON, DC

12:00 AM PT – 7:49 AM ET	**FLIGHT FROM SAN FRANSISCO, CALIF. (SFO) TO PHILADELPHIA, PA. (PHL)** United Airlines Flight No. UA2854 *This is a continuation of the 10:25 PM PT – 11:59 PM PT flight on Friday, October 16 as indicated above

National Association of Counties
2026 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

HAWAI'I COUNTY & CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I | OCTOBER 11 -17, 2026

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – ARRIVAL & HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:02 AM ET – 5:46 PM HT

FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD) TO HAWAI'I COUNTY, HAWAI'I (ITO)
AS0409; AS0899; AS1102

7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo
93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720

Welcome Dinner at Grand Naniloa Hotel
Participants will join Hawai'i County officials for a welcome dinner, where they will introduce the unique structure and responsibilities of county government in Hawai'i—operating without incorporated municipalities and serving simultaneously as city and county governments. Officials will also provide an overview of the week's policy themes, including housing, disaster resilience, agriculture, workforce development and land use.

- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 – ARRIVAL & HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo
93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720

Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Mobile Tour;
Various Locations

Welcome Dinner at Grand Naniloa Hotel
Housing affordability is one of the greatest challenges facing counties across the country, and Hawai'i County is on the front lines of the crisis. Rising home prices, limited housing inventory, increasing construction costs and the growth of short-term rentals have made it increasingly difficult for local families and essential workers to find affordable housing. During this tour, participants will visit county housing projects and hear from local leaders about Hawai'i County's efforts to expand affordable and workforce housing through zoning and land use strategies, short-term rental permitting and enforcement, and federal investments such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Along the way, congressional staff will gain firsthand insight into the local impacts of the national housing crisis and discuss how federal policies and partnerships can better support county-led housing solutions. ***Lunch will be provided.***

- **Kehaulani "Kehau" Costa,** Housing Administrator, County of Hawai'i
- **Jeff Darrow,** Planning Director, County of Hawai'i
- **Keiko M. Maroado,** Assistant Housing Administrator, County of Hawai'i
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
1 Crater Rim Drive,
Hawai'i National Park,
HI 96718

Briefing: Disaster Response and Federal-County Partnership at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
The 2018 Kilauea eruption destroyed more than 700 homes and displaced thousands of residents, fundamentally reshaping how Hawai'i County approaches disaster response, recovery and community engagement. Participants will tour the park with National Park Service (NPS) officials and Hawai'i County emergency management staff, beginning with an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the organizations involved in volcanic disaster response, including the NPS, USGS, FEMA and county government. The session will examine the 2018 eruption and the lessons it provided for emergency management, communications and long-term recovery, including how those lessons informed the County's response to the 2022 Mauna Loa eruption and continue to shape current disaster preparedness and response practices.

Participants will explore how Hawai'i County has strengthened coordination across federal, state and local partners and adapted its approach to communicating with residents and the public during an evolving disaster. Speakers will discuss the importance of keeping control of the narrative, providing timely and trusted information and maintaining clear communication with residents as conditions change. The session will also examine the broader economic impacts of volcanic disasters, including effects on local businesses, tourism, housing and county revenues and services. Finally, participants will discuss the role of public trust in effective disaster response and recovery, including how government agencies can build and maintain trust before, during and after a disaster.

- **William "Bill" Hanson,** Administrative Officer, Civil Defense Agency, Hawai'i County
- **Rhonda Loh,** Superintendent, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
- **Ken Hon,** Scientist in Charge, USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Dinner at Ola Okolehao Distillery

26-238 Hawai'i Belt Road, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720	As a preview for the following day's session on agriculture and economic development, participants will hear from Councilmember Kimball, who will provide background on Ola and its role in the Hawai'i County community, including its contributions to sustainable agriculture, workforce development and the local economy. Conversations will focus on supporting place-based approaches to regulation and economic development, highlighting how locally tailored policies and investments can strengthen sustainable agriculture, support local businesses and create workforce opportunities while contributing to the long-term economic resilience of Hawai'i County. • **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 - HAWAI'I COUNTY

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo 93 Banyan Dr, Hilo, HI 96720	**Breakfast at Hotel**
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM American Jobs Readiness Center, 88 Kanoelehua Avenue, Suite A-204, Hilo, HI 96720	**Briefing: Hawai'i County Jobs Readiness & Workforce Development** Hawai'i County faces distinct workforce challenges shaped by its geography and economy — from the distances between communities like Hilo, Kona and Puna, to limited public transportation, a high cost of living and an economy historically dependent on tourism and agriculture. This session will introduce participants to the American Job Center Hawai'i – Hawai'i Island, a key resource run by the county to help residents navigate these challenges through career counseling, skills assessments, job placement assistance and training referrals tailored to local industries and labor market needs. Session speakers will review the importance of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and how it supports job training, education and employment services for eligible individuals across the island's diverse communities. • **Benson Medina**, Director, Department of Research & Development, Hawai'i County • **Clinton Mercado,** Executive Director, Hawai'i County Workforce Development Board • **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
9:30 AM – 2:00 PM Mobile Tour;	**Building Resilient Communities: Federal- County Partnerships Along Hawai'i County's Hamākua Coast**

Various Stops On Hawai'i County's Hamakua Coast between Hilo and Waimea, participants will explore how Hawai'i County partners with federal agencies to manage infrastructure, natural resources and community priorities. Along the route, county and state leaders will provide insights at key stops, including at Laupahoehoe Point, to discuss the county's partnership with FEMA and the role of transportation funding; Kolekole Park, where participants will see bridges undergoing repairs through federal grants and Army Corps installations; and Honokaa Village, where speakers will discuss the economic impact of sugar plantation towns in the 20th century on the region and the current role of the community as the primary gateway to Waipi'o Valley for tourists . The trip will also include a stop at Waipi'o Valley Lookout to examine ongoing tensions between local communities and tourism development, offering a firsthand look at how county-federal collaboration shapes policy, infrastructure and stewardship along the coast. ***Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember; Hawai'i County
- **Hon. James Hustace,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Hon. Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy,** Representative, Hawai'i State Legislature; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Director, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

2:30 PM – 6:00 PM
Kahua Ranch,
59-864 Kohala Mountain Rd,
Waimea, HI 96743

Briefing: Kahua Ranch — Agriculture, Food Security and the Paniolo Legacy
Kahua Ranch is a family-owned and operated working ranch located within the historic Hawaiian ahupua'a of Kahua. The original ranch house was built in 1870 and the ranch was formally established in 1929. As the birthplace of Hawai'i's paniolo (cowboy) tradition, the ranch offers a unique look at the state's rich agricultural heritage and the enduring role of ranching in island communities.

During this visit, participants will hear from local ranchers, as well as state and county leaders about the importance of federal Farm Bill programs, USDA Rural Development investments and other federal partnerships that support agricultural producers. With Hawai'i importing approximately 85–90 percent of its food, discussions will explore the challenges and opportunities of strengthening local food production, improving food security and building long-term island food resilience. Participants will also learn how federal nutrition programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), support Hawai'i residents while complementing broader efforts to strengthen local food systems and expand access to nutritious, locally produced foods.

Participants will learn how Kahua Ranch combines sustainable cattle operations with immersive agritourism to preserve both the land and Hawaiian culture. The session will also include a guided horseback ride through the ranch, offering participants an opportunity to experience the landscape and key sites firsthand.

- **Hon. Tim Richards,** Senator, Hawai'i State Legislature; President and General Manager, Kahua Ranch; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy,** Representative, Hawai'i State Legislature; former Hawai'i County Councilmember
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Hon. James Hustace,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County
- **Nahelani "Nahe" Parsons,** Executive Directors, Hawai'i State Association of Counties

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Kahua Ranch,
59-564 Kohala Mountain Rd,
Waimea, HI 96743

Dinner at Kahua Ranch

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 – CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

5:00 AM – 5:30 AM
Outrigger Kona,
78-128 Ehukai St,
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Breakfast at Hotel

7:30 AM – 8:18 AM
AS1027

FLIGHT FROM HAWAI'I COUNTY (KOA) TO CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU, HAWAI'I (HNL)
AS0409; AS0899; AS1102

10:15 AM – 2:00 PM
Moku o Lo'e Island

Marine Science, Climate Research & Federal Funding – Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)
Participants will visit the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology located on Moku o Lo'e (Coconut Island) to learn about marine ecosystems, coral reef research and climate adaptation. Discussions will focus on federal funding for marine science and climate research (NOAA, NSF, etc.), as well as the role of federal grant programs in supporting both university research and county-led resilience initiatives. Participants will explore opportunities to improve federal grant processes through increased flexibility and streamlined administration, highlighting how current requirements impact the

delivery of research and local projects for Hawaiian counties and those across the country.

The visit will also examine how county permitting processes affect scientific research and infrastructure projects, including the challenges researchers face in obtaining timely permits and the importance of permitting reform to provide greater flexibility while maintaining environmental stewardship. Participants will learn about the Mālama ʻĀina Plan for Moku o Loʻe and its model for balancing ecological, cultural and research priorities, while also exploring research related to sea level rise, coastal resilience strategies for island communities and the partnership between the university and county governments in advancing these efforts. ***Lunch will be provided.***

- **Megan Donahue, Ph.D.,** Director, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)
- **Kawika Winter, Ph.D.,** Director, He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

3:00 PM–5:00 PM
Diamond Head Monument
4204 Diamond Head Rd,
Honolulu, HI 96816

Tourism Management & State-County Coordination at Diamond Head State Monument
Participants will examine the intersection of tourism, conservation, emergency preparedness and intergovernmental coordination at Diamond Head State Monument, one of Hawai'i's most visited and culturally significant landmarks. With approximately 2,000 visitors accessing the site each day, participants will explore the challenges of balancing public access with the preservation of natural and cultural resources, including impacts from high visitor volumes, deteriorating infrastructure and the long-term management of a heavily used recreational area.

The discussion will highlight the unique environmental challenges facing Diamond Head and intergovernmental coordination in the area. The park hosts many government entities, including invasive species management and the protection of native and endangered species through the Division of Forestry and Wildlife; training for the University of Hawai'i Army ROTC; and the U.S. Department of War.

Participants will also hear about emergency preparedness and resilience efforts, including the development of new wildfire mitigation and preparedness plans and the coordination required

among state agencies, Honolulu County, state and local emergency management officials, federal partners and community stakeholders. The session will focus on how county, state and federal entities work together to address natural hazards, protect public safety and strengthen community resilience.

- **David Lopez,** Administrator, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency
- **Kīele Amundson,** Communications Director, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency
- **Mahi La Pierre,** Interpreter, Diamond Head State Monument
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

5:30 PM – 9:00 PM
2424 Kalākaua Ave,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Nā Lei Aloha Lū'au
Participants will join Honolulu County officials for an evening dinner hosted by Hawaiian Council, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the cultural, economic, political and community development of Native Hawaiians. The dinner will be paired with a traditional Hawaiian lū'au, providing participants with an authentic and immersive introduction to Polynesian culture while highlighting Hawaiian Council's work to preserve Native Hawaiian traditions, strengthen local communities and share Hawai'i's history and cultural heritage through meaningful visitor experiences in the City and County of Honolulu.

- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 — HONOLULU COUNTY

6:00 AM – 6:30 AM
Prince Waikiki
100 Holomoana Street,
Honolulu, HI 96815

Breakfast at Hotel

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Pearl Harbor,
United States
1 Arizona Memorial Place,
Honolulu, HI 96818

National Security Discussion and Navy Leadership Briefing
Participants will receive an overview briefing from leadership at Pacific Command on Pacific security priorities and the region's role in U.S. national defense. The session will also include a discussion on the transition and environmental remediation of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, highlighting both national security considerations and the impacts on surrounding communities. Participants will also have the opportunity to visit Pearl Harbor via

boat tour for a briefing with Navy leadership on the harbor's historical legacy and its continued strategic importance to U.S. operations in the Pacific.

- **D. Noelani Kalipi**, Senior Advisor, Hawaii Coordination Cell (HCC) for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment (ASD(EI&E)), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment, U.S. Department of Defense
- **Jim Neuman**, Historian, Navy Region Hawaii
- **Hon. Matt Weyer**, Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Honolulu County EOC
650 S. King St.,
Honolulu, HI 96813

Preparing for What's Next: County Emergency Management & Federal Partnerships
County emergency management officials will share how the City and County of Honolulu coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state partners to build resilience against rising seas, tsunamis and hurricane threats. Participants will hear from leaders at the Honolulu Emergency Management Agency about how counties coordinate with state and federal partners to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. The discussion will highlight Honolulu County's emergency management structure, including its role in managing federal emergency management resources and maintaining strong local-state partnerships.

Speakers will discuss key federal programs that support county emergency management operations, including Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program, and how these resources are used to support resilience, mitigation efforts and Emergency Operations Center staffing. The conversation will also explore challenges counties face in accessing and administering federal grants, including FEMA procurement requirements, administrative burdens and opportunities to improve federal programs to better support local emergency management needs.

By the end of the session, participants will better understand the role counties play in emergency management and how federal policies and funding streams impact local disaster preparedness and response. ***Lunch will be provided.***

- **Dr. Randal A'Collins, CEM**, Director, Department of Emergency Management, City and County of Honolulu

- **Jennifer Walter,** Deputy Director, Department of Emergency Management, City and County of Honolulu
- **Molly Pierce,** Public Information & Education Officer, Department of Emergency Management, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Matt Weyer**, Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Briefing: Native Hawaiian Self Determination, Land Use and Intergovernmental Partnerships

Participants will hear from county officials and state leaders from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs leadership about the cultural significance of land in Hawai'i and the importance of responsible land stewardship. The session will explore how county and state governments are working to balance land use, conservation and cultural preservation, including efforts to protect Hawai'i's unique lands and native species. The session will feature conservation initiatives such as the State Seabird Sanctuary on Mānana Island and highlight how government and Native Hawaiian organizations are partnering to steward Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources. The session will also include a guided tour via canoe around Mānana Island, offering participants an opportunity to experience the landscape and key sites firsthand.

- **Summer Sylva,** Interim Chief Executive Officer, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- **Hon. Kaiali'i Kahele,** Chair, Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board; Hawai'i Island Trustee; former Hawai'i State Senator; former U.S. House of Representative
- **Hon. Tommy Waters,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 – HONOLULU COUNTY & DEPART

6:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Closing Breakfast Briefing with Honolulu & Hawai'i County Officials

To conclude the site visit to Honolulu and Hawai'i counties, county officials will build on previous discussions of land use, conservation, economic development and community resilience to examine how the City and County of Honolulu approaches ecotourism and sustainable development, balancing environmental protection and preservation of culturally significant lands with tourism, economic

development and access to public spaces for the long-term sustainability of local communities.

The briefing will also provide an opportunity to reflect on key themes from Honolulu and Hawai'i counties, including the role of county government, partnerships with state and federal agencies, place-based policymaking and the importance of balancing economic, environmental and community priorities. Participants will leave with a broader understanding of how Hawai'i's counties are working with state and federal partners and using local approaches to address shared challenges and opportunities. This briefing will be paired with an optional morning hike. ***Breakfast will be provided.***

- **Hon. Tommy Waters,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Matt Weyer,** Councilmember, City and County of Honolulu
- **Hon. Heather Kimball,** Councilmember, Hawai'i County

11:02 AM HT – 5:40 AM ET*

FLIGHT FROM THE CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU (HNL) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (IAD)

**Flight departs from HNL on Friday, October 16 and arrives at IAD on Saturday, October 18*

AS0267; AS0367

LIST OF INVITEES

National Association of Counties (NACo)
2026 Federal Fellowship Program – Hawai'i County and Honolulu County, Hawai'i
October 11 – 17, 2026

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a 501(c)(4) national nonprofit that was formed in 1935 to serve and strengthen America's counties. As an association of public elected officials, NACo is not a specific interest group but a major partner in our nation's Federalism system of intergovernmental entities. The participants listed below play a critical role in this system, working for elected officials, congressional committees and federal agencies that appropriate funds or develop federal policy and regulations that affect counties. For many of these individuals, this trip will complement NACo's previous site visits by showcasing the critical programs and services that Hawai'i counties provide to our residents. For others, this trip will serve as the first opportunity to enhance their understanding of county government by witnessing the role they play in their residents' lives every day.

**Attendees subject to change based on participant's availability*

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Legislative Aide	Office of Representative Terri Sewell	Brendan	Belser
Policy Adviser	Office of Speaker of the House Mike Johnson	Claire	Blewett
Floor Assistant	Office of Representative Steve Scalise	Bryson	Henriott
Director of Member Services & Coalitions	House Financial Services Committee (Majority)	Danny	Reeves
Coalitions Director	Office of Representative Lisa McClain	Garrett	Puckett
Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Salud Carbajal	Jesse	Ebadi
Energy and Environment Policy Adviser	Office of Representative Kathryn Clark	Shelby	Davis-Pruttsman
Floor Assistant	Office of Representative Tom Emmer	Justin	Shaokey
Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Joe Neguse	Abbie	Callahan
Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative French Hill	Madeleine	Djerkshilde
Legislative Director	Office of Representative Celeste Maloy	Owen	Drozd
Chief Counsel	Office of Representative Don Bacon	Valerie	Foy
Legislative Director	Office of Representative Jill Tokuda	Nicholas	Luna
Senior Advisor and Counsel	Office of Representative Troy Carter	Willie	Lyles

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES NACo

April 15, 2026

Dear Madeleine,

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 2026 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, boroughs and parishes 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 $743 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 Project, offering comprehensive information on county structures, maps and statistics, services and workforce, taxes and revenues and election administration.

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

- **NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Pre-Trip Event:** Thursday, September 17, 2026
- **Hawai'i and Honolulu County, Hawai'i Site Visit:** Sunday, October 11 – Saturday, October 17, 2026

During the October in-person, field-based tour located in Hawai'i and Honolulu Counties, participants will engage with federal, state and local leaders, and visit tour sites including Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, the Natural Energy Laboratory, Pearl Harbor, 'Iolani Palace, the He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology and Diamond Head State Monument. **NACo will cover all costs for participant travel, lodging and meals for this site visit and other events associated with the Fellowship Initiative.** Related Ethic Committee documents will be sent to participants closer to the travel date.

NACo's Associate Director for Grassroots & Legislative Advocacy, Naomi Freel, is available to assist you in any way to coordinate your participation. Please contact Ms. Freel at nfreel@naco.org or 574.440.9952 with questions.

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

Sincerely,

Matthew Chase
Executive Director/CEO