

Engaging Elected Officials

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U.S. EPA

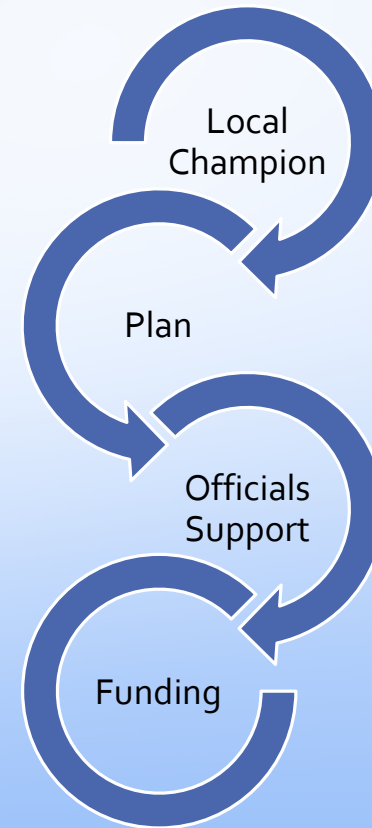
Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations

Have You Engaged with a Local Official this Week?



FOUR KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL LOCAL PROJECTS

1. Local Champion
2. Plan
3. **Elected Officials Support**
4. Funding



Things to Think About

- Everything is local
- All levels of government matter
- Engage with officials and their staff
- Offer opportunities, not problems



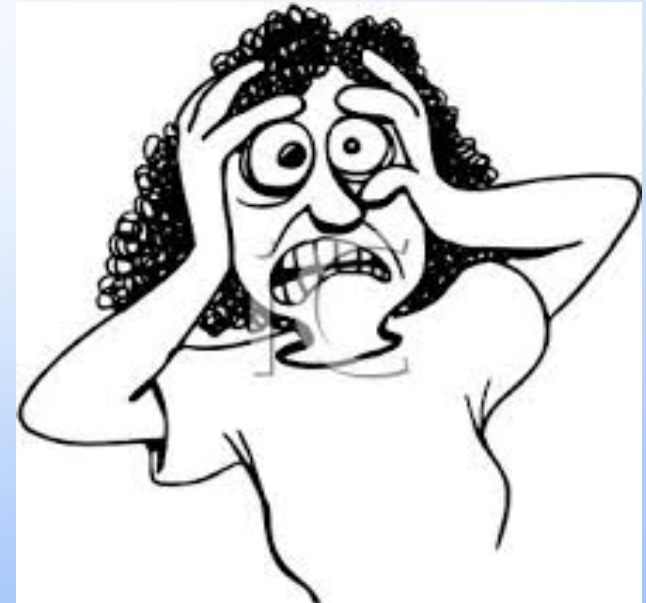
More Things to Think About

- Apolitical – Open to all sides
- Situational Awareness – Pay attention to calendar and events
- Use partners wisely
- Know what you want



Even *More* Things to Think About

- Provide honest information to all sides
- Observe lobbying rules and restrictions
- Prepare for disappointment
- No one said this was going to be easy



Things to Do

- Schedule local briefings with elected officials and staff at each level of government
- Prepare a one pager with key messages, project status, and next steps
- Develop a focused request – hone your “ask”
- Follow meetings with a thank you



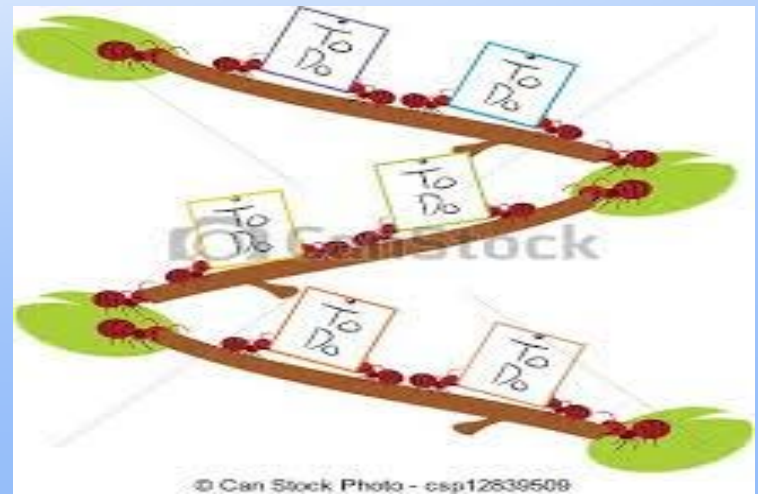
More Things to Do

- Put key staff contacts on your notification and mailing lists
- Invite officials and staff to next roundtable or event
- Request letters of support for specific applications
- Big checks, groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings
- Encourage mobile workshops and site tours



Even *More* Things to Do

- Provide recognition -- speaking opportunities, awards and citations
- Have key data and facts ready in advance and plan for rapid response
- Take advantage of meeting opportunities in state capital and DC
- Acknowledge support when successful



Parting Thought

How are you going to engage with an elected official this week?

