



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2017

TO: Denton Mobility Committee

FROM: Julie Anderson, Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator

SUBJECT: Briefing on Staff's Attendance of National Bike Summit

This correspondence is a briefing to the Committee regarding the National Bike Summit held in Washington, D.C. March 6-9. The Summit is produced by the League of American Bicyclists, and is a time to discuss upcoming legislation that impacts bicycle and pedestrian funding. It is the premier bike advocacy event for advocates and professionals.

The Summit had multiple bike ride trips to businesses that are Bicycle Friendly. I visited National Geographic and NPR headquarters. Sessions in the afternoon were light, with a particularly useful session regarding the League's online benchmarking report. Networking with others in Texas and the nation was one of the most beneficial aspects of the Summit.

The main highlight of the Summit was Lobby Day, always the third and final day of the Summit. All attendees from Texas gather the day before to discuss strategy for meeting with the Texas Senators and Representatives. Along with people from Houston, Brownsville, and Richardson, I met with the staff of Senators Cruz and Cornyn, and Representatives Ratcliffe, Gonzalez, Burgess, and Estes. We encouraged them to support a Vision Zero Bill (sponsored by Rep. Earl Blumenauer, Oregon) and to support an infrastructure funding bill with active transportation components.

Lobby Day was an important event to be a part of, and is the most compelling reason for attendance at the Summit. The rest of the Summit is geared mainly towards those working directly for advocacy organizations or for a bicycling club. While it was beneficial to attend the Summit this year, it is not expected to be one that is attended yearly.