



DATE: July 10, 2023

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Genesee Adkins, Chief of External Affairs, 452-7849  
*City Manager's Office*

SUBJECT: Brief Summary of City-initiated Washington DC Advocacy Trip

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

Genesee Adkins, Chief of External Affairs, will share a quick synopsis of the City's recent trip to Washington DC.

## **PREVIEW OF THE NEW SESSION**

### **Meetings with the Congressional Delegation**

This visit was an opportunity to meet with Bellevue's Congressional Delegation, made up of our two U.S. Senators and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> House Districts. The DC offices and staff to our delegation play a critical role in engaging with the City on federal affairs. Bellevue's representatives – Deputy Mayor Jared Nieuwenhuis, Chief of External Affairs Genesee Adkins, and City consultant from W2A Nina Collier— met with each of the four offices during the two-day visit.

### **Pending Grants and Earmark Requests**

Representatives discussed pending and upcoming City-sponsored grant applications to garner both awareness and support from the delegation. Special focus was on the B-SAFE (Bellevue Safe Access for Everyone) application to the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) competitive grant program with its upcoming July deadline for the second round of applications.

### **Foundation for Ongoing and Upcoming Priorities**

The City shared its recently adopted 2023-2024 Federal Priorities document, which connects the city council vision to present and evolving needs and projects. The priorities are the framework for our federal interaction with the delegation, federal agencies, the community, and other important stakeholders. Returning back to Bellevue, staff and officials will continue the dialogue on key priorities, offering ongoing opportunities to elevate areas of shared interest.