

National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)

Mid-Winter 2017

Business & Training Meeting, Arlington, Virginia

Guide to Capitol Hill, Washington, DC



Contributed by:

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Maryland State Approving Agency, Associate Director*

Preparation for Capitol Hill

Helpful tips for planning and maximizing your time on Capitol Hill.

- **Share the agenda and NASAA initiatives with your agency's leadership team.**
- **Our main objective is to inform legislative leaders of NASAA's current initiatives and concerns related to our mission of protecting the GI Bill. The NASAA Annual Report is a great resource to share with appropriate legislators.**

- **Find Your Elected Officials:**

<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>

- **U. S. Capitol Center Website - <https://www.visitthecapitol.gov/>**

- **Tips for Contacting Your Officials from Skip Gebhart (Past NASAA Legislative Director, West Virginia SAA Director):**

"... the simpler the letter, the better. I'd just say I'm coming to DC for the annual meeting and want to stop by and meet the staffer assigned to work with veterans and education issues. Often, especially in small House offices, one person handles both but sometimes two different people have those issues. It would not be inappropriate to ask to meet with both in those cases. Remember that they tend to work with smartphones and texts more than paper these days, so tell them in the letter that you will call them to confirm in a few days. When you do, try to get their email and cell numbers if you can.

Once you get there, give them an annual report and your card and let them know you are available if they need help/info with veteran's education questions. Generally they will ask you what issues NASAA is working on, or what concerns you see. Be ready with some responses and tell them you will be glad to find out more for them if they want. That should give you a really good footing for continuing to be in contact and to work with them."

Thanks Skip for your professional guidance!

- ***Remember to share your experiences with your legislative committee members.***

Please be mindful that everyone is required to pass through a security check and will be subject to full inspection.

For a complete list of prohibited items:

<https://www.visitthecapitol.gov/plan-visit/prohibited-items>

Transportation:

UBER (*Recommended*) - <https://www.uber.com/>

- Must sign up for service (*less than \$10*)

Taxi – Arlington Red Top Cab (703) 522-3333

- 1 – 4 passengers (maximum \$10-15 one way fee - \$1 for each add'l person)
- Requires 30 minutes minimum advance notice

DC Metro Guide: <https://www.wmata.com/schedules/trip-planner/>

Using Trip Planner:

Trip Planner Results

FROM
Crystal City

TO
CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION

Travel by Bus Rail Both

Leave At 12 15 PM ON February 14

Show me the route that Gets me there first

I can walk up to 3/4 mile

FEWER OPTIONS ↑

PLAN MY TRIP

From Crystal City | To CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION
Leaving at 12:15 PM | On February 14

MODIFY MY TRIP **PLAN RETURN TRIP**

ITINERARY 1 - 18 MINS

Leave at: 12:19pm
Arrive at: 12:37pm

- Yellow Line to FORT TOTTEN
Exit at LENFANT PLAZA METRO STATION
- Silver Line to LARGO TOWN CENTER
Exit at CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION

\$1.95 SmartTrip Fare
\$1.20 SmartTrip(Senior/Disabled/Medicare)
Only Cash & SmartTrip are accepted on buses

Show Details

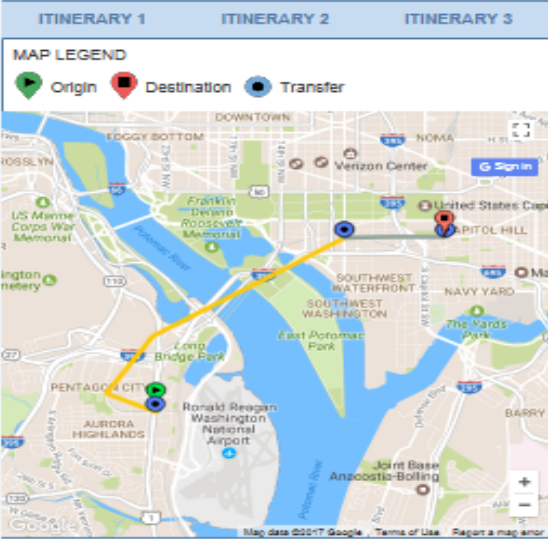
ITINERARY 2 - 22 MINS

Leave at: 12:19pm
Arrive at: 12:41pm

- Yellow Line to FORT TOTTEN
Exit at LENFANT PLAZA METRO STATION
- Orange Line to NEW CARROLLTON
Exit at CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION

MAP LEGEND

Origin Destination Transfer



RESTAURANT SUGGESTIONS FOR CAPITOL HILL

- 1 – Tortilla Coast, across from Capitol South Metro. Southwestern fare.
- 2 – Bullfeathers, across from Capitol South Metro. Burgers, etc.
- 3 – Union Station Restaurants. Variety of fast food and sit-down places.
- 4 – The Monocle on Capitol Hill, 107 D St, NE. A DC classic, steaks and seafood.
- 5 – Longworth Food Court, Basement. Cafeteria-style.
- 6 – Dirksen South Buffet, South side of the basement. Cafeteria-style.
- 7 – The Dubliner, North Capitol St and F St, NW. Irish pub atmosphere.

