

NASAA



National Association of
State Approving Agencies

2024 Midwinter Business & Training Meeting February 10 - 14 | ARLINGTON, VA



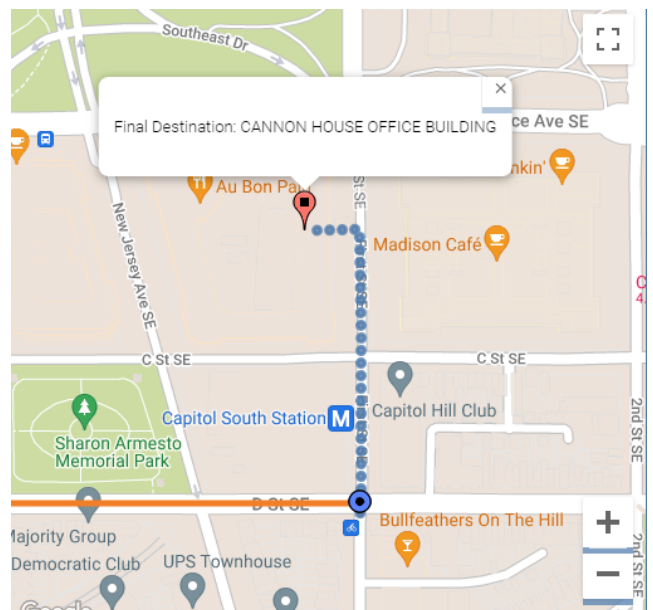
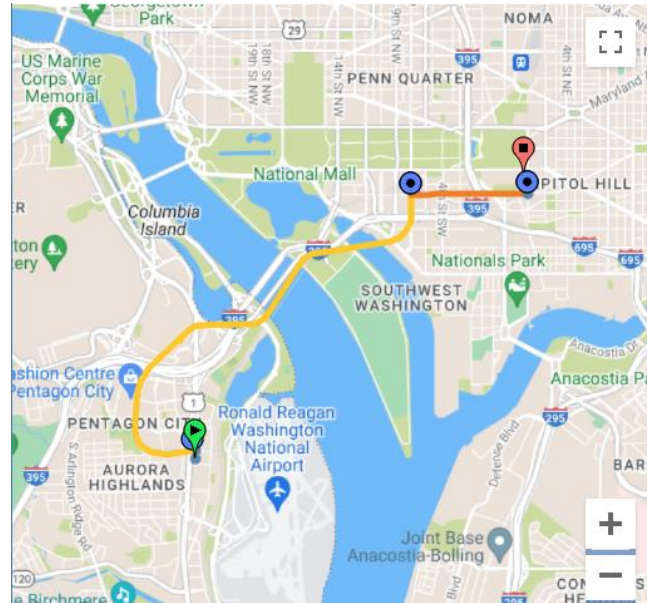
Guide to Capitol Hill, Washington DC: Cannon House Building

GETTING THERE: TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Option #1: DC Metro www.wmata.com

Itinerary 1: Estimate 28-32 min trip

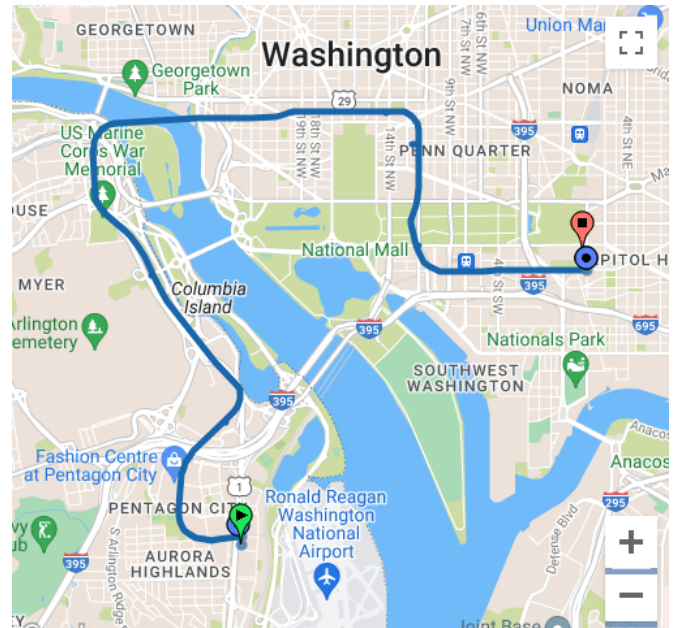
- **YELLOW** LINE DEPARTS FROM **CRYSTAL CITY METRO STATION** at S. Clark Street & 18th Street S.
 - BOARD **YELLOW** LINE TOWARDS MOUNT VERNON SQUARE (EST. 9 MIN RIDE)
 - ARRIVE AT **L'ENFANT PLAZA METRO STATION**
 - TRANSFER TO **ORANGE** LINE TOWARDS NEW CARROLLTON (EST. 3 MIN RIDE)
- OR
- TRANSFER TO **SILVER** LINE TOWARDS LARGO (EST. 3 MIN RIDE)
 - ARRIVE AT CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION (EST. 6 MIN WALK, 0.2 MILES TO CANNON BLDG.)



Visit <https://www.wmata.com/schedules/trip-planner/> for more information

Itinerary 2: Estimate 36 min. trip

- **BLUE** LINE DEPARTS FROM **CRYSTAL CITY METRO STATION** at S. Clark Street & 18th Street S.
- BOARD **BLUE** LINE TOWARDS LARGO (EST. 26 MIN RIDE)
- ARRIVE AT **CAPITOL SOUTH METRO STATION** (EST. 6 MIN., 0.2 MILE WALK TO CANNON BLDG. SEE ITINERARY 1 FOR WALKING INSTRUCTIONS).



Download the SmarTrip app to purchase your pass ahead of time!

The SmarTrip app is now available for iPhone and Android.

Instantly add funds, buy money-saving passes, check balances, set up Auto Reload, and manage SmartBenefits from your employer, all from the palm of your hand.



Metro Tips:

- Download the DC Metro and Bus app or visit www.wmata.com to map your trip and get live updates on train times/delays.
- Fare will range from \$2.20 to 2.75 depending on time of day and which station you select.
- You will need to purchase a fare card from the metro fare card machines. This can be done any time prior to Tuesday afternoon and you will save a lot of time if you buy beforehand.
- When boarding a train, look for the last stop on the line on the map and select the train that matches that stop. (For example, to go to the Hill on the Blue line you will look for a train heading to Largo Town Center but to return you will look for a train heading to Franconia-Springfield.)
- RVPs and the Professional Development Committee will be identifying volunteers to lead groups if anyone is nervous about navigating the system on their own.

Option 2: Ride Sharing



Ride Sharing Services such as Uber or Lyft are available. You will need to download the apps and create an account to book a ride.

Option 3: Taxi Service

Red Top Arlington Cab (703) 522-3333 or www.redtopcab.com

Requires 30 minutes minimum advance notice.

Pro Tip: Split the fare and save some time by traveling in pairs or groups!

EATING THERE: DINING OPTIONS

There are two hours between our last morning presentation and our Congressional Q&A session. You will need to travel and eat in that time frame. The following are suggested areas with several quick service options:



Option 1: Crystal City Shops

- You should have time Saturday-Monday to explore the quick service options in Crystal City near the hotel if you want to eat before you travel.

Option 2: Capitol South Metro Station Stop

- From this station, you can walk a few blocks east to Pennsylvania Ave. to find a Good Stuff Eatery, Sweetgreen, Burrito Brothers of Capitol Hill, Young Chow Chinese and Starbucks.

Option 3: Union Station Metro Station Stop

- Union Station contains more than a dozen quick service options within the building (50 Massachusetts Ave NE.)
- Plan your options here: [Union Station ::: Directory \(unionstationdc.com\)](http://unionstationdc.com)
- Once you have finished, you will walk 18 mins/approx. 0.8 miles south to Cannon House Office Building (27 Independence Ave SE)

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER YOU ARRIVE



Meeting Location: Cannon House Office Building, Room 360



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.uscp.gov/visiting-capitol-hill/regulations-prohibitions/prohibited-items>

Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to presentation!!!

CAPITOL HILL AGENDA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Business Attire- Wear Comfortable Shoes!!

2:00 to 3:30 Congressional Staff Presentation - Question and Answer Session

- HVAC & SVAC staff (Majority and Minority)
- NASAA Membership

3:30 to 4:30 Congressional Liaison Visits

See next pages for tips

4:30 to 6:00 Legislative Reception (Room CHOB 360)

HOW DO I DO A LIAISON VISIT?

- **Prep Work Before You Arrive, if possible:**
 - **Identify your Senators and Congressional Leaders in advance**
 - Review their social media, subscribe to their newsletters, attend events (if applicable).
 - **Announce your visit to Capitol Hill**
 - This can be done typically through their websites in advance if you do not already have a relationship with them or their staffers.
 - Try to schedule a meeting between the Q&A and Reception if possible.
 - If that time does not work, you are free to meet them earlier or the next day if your travel permits.
 - **Prepare some talking points:**
 - Issues in your state
 - NASAA Agenda
 - Comments on work they have recently been doing.
 - Keep it simple but be prepared.
- **If you were unable to arrange a meeting prior:**
 - You can still stop by and leave a copy of the NASAA Annual Report, **NASAA 1 page summary** and your business card with the staff. Invite them to come by the reception and learn more about NASAA.
 - Advise the office that you are available for additional information.
- **Always follow-up after your visit:**
 - You may need to send some additional verbiage if your official has specific concerns.
 - Please use your Legislative Committee members to help answer any specific questions during the follow-up process.
 - Thank You cards are helpful.
- **If you are new on the Hill, find a friend to help guide you through the process.**
 - Use your travel time to ask questions! Ask your peers about their experiences.
 - Learn about the expectations.
 - If you haven't attempted to schedule to meet with your state's officials in the past, it is never too late.
 - It is ok to be nervous; doing some prep work will help calm your nerves.
- **Back at home: 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.**

How to find Your Elected Officials:

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

U. S. Capitol Center Website -

<https://www.visitthecapitol.gov/>

House Office Buildings - <https://www.aoc.gov/house>

- **Remember to share your experiences with your Legislative Committee members.**

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>.