

NUCA

CAPITAL INSIDER

NUCA's Working Group Delivers

**Leadership, Committees, and Lawmakers Agree
NUCA & Our Members Are Building America's
Strength**

Two Crucial Days In Washington, D.C.

NUCA achieved an important advocacy victory across two crucial days in Washington, D.C.

Representing our members' most important issues, the NUCA Government Affairs Working Group Committee held a fly-in and met with four critical House committees, two Senate committees, and nine Representatives and Senators. NUCA hammered home the message of increased infrastructure resources, decreased regulation and permitting, and secured new relationships to work with Congress to get the job done.

"It was important for NUCA to be in Washington this month," said Kevin Cripps, NUCA's Vice Chairman and incoming Chairman of the Board. "Meeting with the



freshmen Senators and Representatives as our group did in their first weeks of office greatly helps to establish our industry's growing presence in the halls of Congress."

Our department's "Winter Fly-In" special edition of *Capital Insider* tells the story about what our members and volunteer leadership accomplished on your behalf in the new Washington political environment.



The NUCA Government Affairs Committee Working Group "Winter Fly-In" included NUCA National executive leaders, lobbying staff, Board of Directors, and contractor and supplier members. The Group is always looking for motivated NUCA members to join and participate in this year's future fly-ins and Washington Summit. Will you be there?

Leadership and Committees

This fly-in event was designed to talk to key leadership legislators, House leadership, and committee staff. For example, NUCA contractors and Working Group members met with House Pipeline subcommittee staff, House Water Infrastructure subcommittee staff, Senate HELP Committee staff, and House Energy & Commerce subcommittee staff.

Lawmakers: Keeping Up The Momentum

NUCA members were also on Capitol Hill to build upon our past Washington Summit successes.

"NUCA's reach and influence on Capitol Hill continues to increase," remarked Tom Butler, NUCA's government affairs committee chairman and past NUCA Chairman. The contractors and supplier members who traveled to

"Meeting with these key staffers is critical to the legislative process," said Zack Perconti, NUCA's vice president of governmental affairs. "These are the legislative experts who write the legislation which creates and funds each of our industry programs. Our technical expertise can hone the legislative language to make it favorable to our advocacy goals."

Each of these subcommittees has jurisdiction over some aspects of our industry's resources and workforce development agenda. In many cases, lawmakers defer to these committees as they employ knowledgeable issue experts who craft pending legislation.

NUCA continues to engage these committees to be more influential over their legislative jurisdictions, such as the Energy & Commerce's historic jurisdiction over water infrastructure. NUCA also met with other committees to further strengthen our reach, such as our long-standing involvement with Republican and Democrats on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.

Our members met with House leadership, House and Senate committee leadership, and their senior staff, a big step forward in the advocacy process we need to advance this industry's goals.

Leadership bridged the gap opening up new channels of communication, and involvement in the legislative writing process. We offered to each committee our service as subject matter experts, which was

Washington met with nine lawmakers and their staff, building upon prior visits and reinforcing the message of our industry's presence in their districts and states.

Our members met with nine House and Senate lawmakers, including House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee chairman Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO), Ohio's new Sen. Bernie Moreno (R-OH), House Judiciary Committee chairman Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), and freshmen lawmakers including Reps. Bob Onder (R-MO), Nellie Pou (D-NJ), and Mike Kennedy (R-UT).

2025 Fly-In and Washington Summit Priorities:

- Reauthorization of the two critical **EPA State Revolving Funds**, and increasing resources appropriated for the funds
- Advocating for the session's pending **highway bill** and inclusion of more resources for water infrastructure projects
- Reauthorizing the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and new **damage prevention programs**
- Passing of **workforce development legislation**, such as increasing Pell Grants for construction and trade education
- Publicizing NUCA and the **industry's own workforce development programs**, such as

recognized by committee staff as being very beneficial for their need to produce quality legislation for the nation's infrastructure needs.

Action Item: NUCA will be now testifying at an upcoming House Water Infrastructure subcommittee hearing on funding water resources for upcoming fiscal years.

our new Dozer Day initiatives for NUCA Chapters

- Passing **permitting reforms** stalled in the last Congress in the new 119th Congress
- Investing in **other subsurface infrastructure activities** for economic growth, such as broadband and electric power

The Newsletter of the NUCA Governmental Affairs Department



NUCA member Victor Serrambana (*right center*) describes his business challenges as NUCA Chairman Tony Privitera (*center*) and other fly-in attendees listen during their lengthy meeting with House T&I Committee Chairman Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) and his staff in the Congressman's crowded Longworth Building personal office.

Upcoming Federal Department Meetings

The Working Group is planning for more intense NUCA member visits to Washington later this year. In March, the group members will be meeting with new Trump Administration regulatory agency political staff, discussing our infrastructure issues with those making the decisions in this new administration. And our government affairs staff is already planning for a "Fall Fly-In" return to Capitol Hill during a critical time of the legislative process.

It is important to establish early ties to key Trump Administration officials as they settle into their departments and make changes. This industry depends on the federal

government for a majority of our infrastructure construction funds through EPA, USDOT, Commerce, DOD, and other funding structures.

"During our time in D.C. I felt that our visits to the various offices was greatly appreciated," said NUCA Chairman Tony Privitera, who led several meetings of the Working Group. "The leaders, both in the agencies and the elected officials know that NUCA is a true partner not only with campaign resources but also with our data and experience--and especially our time. In almost every meeting we offered our assistance to communicate the message regarding long-term infrastructure funding. It must have worked because we have already been asked to speak in a hearing to assist the Transportation and Infrastructure committee."

Action Item: Discuss with key EPA leadership and staff the critical importance of the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds to America's water infrastructure restoration and our communities.

NUCA Washington Summit: May 13-14

If you want to be part of NUCA's winning advocacy program, you're in luck. Your membership in NUCA and your NUCA chapter is your open invitation to come to Washington this spring and offer your own voice to the process.

This year's May 13-14, 2025, Washington Summit promises to further our association's participation to influence the national debate on infrastructure resources. The schedule includes a full day of meetings on Capitol Hill for March 14, scheduled by your Chapter. Our Congressional Reception will end the day.

If you've spoken to other NUCA members about our annual member D.C. fly-in, you'll universally hear that your company needs to be part of this unique membership event.

Registration is open at WeDigAmerica.org, and once

2025 Winter Fly-In: A Great Start

This Feb. 25-26 event was an important milestone for the committee's Working Group, formed last year to be a quick-reaction group of NUCA members actively involved in our government advocacy program.

The February "NUCA Winter Fly-in" featured 20 NUCA members and supporting National staff, traveling to Capitol Hill to achieve this year's opening advocacy goal: explaining first-hand to the nation's new decision makers the incredible value our industry delivers every day to tens of millions of American citizens.

Held at the convenient Royal Sonesta Capitol Hill hotel, this was a different sort of fly-in than our May Washington Summit. NUCA members traveled to Washington to meet with senior Congressional leadership and key committee offices and provide our perspective on our 2025 agenda items. At Summit, we focus on our Chapter's relationships with their

registered your Chapter will reach out to you about more details on your participation.

Action Item: Encourage as many NUCA members to travel to Washington, D.C. with their Chapter in May to talk to their lawmakers about the importance of our industry for America's economic success and our citizen's public health.

state Congressional delegations--and our own members' involvement in their lawmaker's mission in Congress.

-- March 3, 2025



Advocacy 2025: Become A Strong Voice For Your Industry

NUCA Government Affairs Committee Meetings: In Person and Virtual

The next in-person NUCA Government Affairs Committee (Federal) meeting will take place at the National Convention in Orlando, Florida, Monday, March 18, 2025, at 4:00pm. Our State Affairs meeting will take place the next day at 8:30am. All NUCA members are welcome to attend.

Committee members can participate in the monthly online meetings. Please email the Government Affairs office or NUCA's Zack Perconti for more information about these meetings and their logon details at zackp@nuca.com.

#WeDigAmerica / #NUCA2025

NUCA 2025 Washington Summit | May 13-14, 2025
Capitol Hill - Washington, D.C.
Registration Now Open!

NUCA Thanks Our Many National Partners For Their Generous Support Of NUCA's Washington Summit & Advocacy Programs

Elections and NUCA/PAC: Going Strong Since 1976

Get involved! NUCA's Political Action Committee, **NUCA/PAC**, continues to be your strong voice on Capitol Hill - supporting pro-infrastructure policies, and defending your business against harmful laws and regulations that can affect your bottom line.

NUCA/PAC enables the American utility construction industry to approach vital public policy issues by helping to elect like-minded Members of Congress.

Get engaged in the process by authorizing NUCA/PAC to share information with you and your employees. Federal law requires NUCA/PAC to first obtain your written permission to solicit your voluntary contributions.

Please click here for the online NUCA/PAC authorization form. (You will need your NUCA member logon. If you do not have it, please contact NUCA's Lauren Hensley at lauren@nuca.com or 703-358-9300.)

NUCA/PAC was strongly involved in the 2024 election--let's make our industry's PAC the strongest it can be in future election cycles with *your* help.



NUCA Choice: Our Industry's Choice For Commercial Insurance Coverage

NUCA Choice delivers to NUCA members commercial insurance options for auto, crime, property, general liability, marine, surety, umbrella and workers' compensation.

NUCA Choice is offered in partnership with FCCI Insurance Group and is offered to all NUCA members where FCCI writes business. Members can also consult with FCCI's local risk control team and use the FCCI Risk Solutions Network, a cloud-based platform to help participants stay compliant, manage risks and educate employees to build a safer workforce.

To find out more about **NUCA Choice** and how it can help your bottom line in 2025, go to NUCAChoice.com to find a FCCI agent in your area.



Sign Up For NUCA Muster Advocacy Alerts

Get involved! If you're a NUCA member, your Washington government affairs team wants you to be part of our Capitol Hill advocacy program! NUCA urges you to sign up to receive our **Muster advocacy alerts**. These emails will alert you to pending legislative action where your opinion can make a difference.

It's easy to sign up via the link below. Use your personal home address if you can do so, since our online Muster advocacy program finds your members of Congress via your voter registration address. But business addresses work just as well to receive our alerts.

I'm a NUCA member and I want to receive NUCA's Advocacy Alerts!



For Breaking Legislative News:
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Join NUCA's Government Affairs Committee!

Get involved! If you enjoy analyzing politics and find the inner workings of Congress and our industry's legislative program interesting or useful to your business, why not take the next step and join **NUCA's Government Affairs Committee**? Membership is open to all NUCA members, and we welcome the active participation of those seeking to make a difference in their industry, and to help shape NUCA's official policies on legislation.

Help shape the legislative and advocacy program of your association. Contact NUCA's Vice President of Government Affairs **Zack Perconti** to get started today.



The House's Cannon HOB subsurface infrastructure being rebuilt, 2019. Photos: AoC.

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