

From: Neitzert, Greg
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 3:08 PM
To: Neitzert, Greg <GNeitzert@siouxfalls.org>
Subject: Conference

Just a note to all of you as an FYI I am at a national conference of Mayors and City Councilors in Frisco, TX (suburb of Dallas, TX and home of the Dallas Cowboys NFL team). It is called the Community Leaders of America, which is a nonprofit foundation. I arrived very early Wednesday morning and leave Friday.

I wanted to make sure to note and be clear, I was invited by them, as was Mayor TenHaken, to attend. My understanding is they heard I was a 'policy' person, so they thought I would be a good person to invite (I guess) from our Council. They may invite other Councilors to future sessions as they like to mix it up and help spread knowledge to community leaders. Since they bear all the costs, they can only invite so many people each time around.

They booked all of it and paid all costs. Nothing was booked or coordinated by the city, our Council office, no city funds, resources, or staff time was involved, and there is no travel forms or city reimbursement. I worked directly with the organization that took care of everything and sent me the hotel and flight reservations.

They consider themselves a similar concept to the National League of Cities, and so far it has been, just on a smaller scale. We have heard speakers from various national firms that provide services that cities could use, and also we have had sessions all day on various topics, including sessions where Mayors and other leaders are talking about a problem in their city and how they tackled it. Topics have included marijuana legalization in Colorado and how it has created city challenges, Innovation and how it is being done in cities, homelessness and programs to address it, health - both mental health and physical, infrastructure (roads, water, sewer), AirBNB and tax challenges, and much more.

Also there has been valuable time to sit down and talk with peers in other cities and learn.

Thanks,

Greg Neitzert

City Councilor - Northwest District