U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, June 10, 2013

Las Vegas Convention Center

3150 Paradise Road

Las Vegas, Nevada, 89109

Room-N237N241

2:06 p.m. - 5:25 p.m.



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<u>MEETING</u>

JUNE 10, 2013

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I will go ahead and open our meeting and start by welcoming you to the city of Las Vegas. I am surprised that walking anywhere in a meeting room I'm not handed a mimosa and greeted by a showgirl, but I have all the assurances that this gentleman on my left can make that happen. It was beautifully done. Thank you for orchestrating the photo.

We do have some folks on the phone.

Jenna just acknowledged that we had some folks on the phone. I understand Mr.

Talbert is attending from Spain. It's very early in Spain. Bill, I appreciate you joining us very much and welcome you to the very first meeting of the TTAB.

I want to welcome Brian and Trudy and Sherry and Ingrid, who are here today and joining us and will be momentarily sworn in as official members of the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. I welcome each and every one of you today.



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Bill is joining us on the phone.

And Ben Touvall was not able to join us at this meeting, but I am confident he is very much here with us in spirit.

I am asked to remind you of a few housekeeping items. First of all, which I'm not doing a very good job here, for the sake of the process and our transcriptionist, please use the mikes as we do our introductions or make our deliberations.

As we make our comments, if you would state your name and then make your comment. It will help not only the folks on the phone to know who's speaking but also our transcriptionist who is here. So I would ask you to do that as well.

We have letters that are in the folder. We have four different sets of recommendations that a recoming forward from our subcommittees today. So we have a very piffy agenda today. That's why it's three hours rather than our more traditional two-hour agenda.

It's also three hours because you



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guys are pretty dog gone engaged, and you like hanging out together and discuss the issues and have asked for our meetings to be longer. So we wanted to honor that request and make sure that our meetings allowed for that type of discussion and deliberation as we go forward.

So with that, I would like to introduce and ask Mr. Rossi Ralenkotter, who is the president and host of IPW 2013 and our immediate past chair of the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, to offer us his welcome to Las Vegas.

MR. RALENKOTTER: Thank you, Todd.

And I do want to welcome all of you to IPW

2013. That is the fourth time that Las

Vegas has hosted. Each time wedo host the

convention and trade show, it's a record

breaking number. And this one isn't any

different.

There will be over 6300 attendees, which is a record as I said, but more importantly members of the press and 1900 buyers that are going to be here. So it's



a great opportunity for all of us to showcase the United States and everything we have to offer to the visiting public.

And this particular show coming at this time is very critical because all of us are experiencing a sustained growth in the travel business right now, and we need to continue that as we go into the future.

A couple of things to tell you about my hometown that's happening right now.

We've got about \$2.5 billion worth of construction that's going on. So as you go through this destination while you're here, you may notice the construction. The largest observation wheel, which is next to the Flamingo Hotel and what used to be the Imperial Palace, the quad is halfway finished, and there will be 12,000 square feet of bars, nightclubs and shopping. We also have some renovations going on in town.

So the confidence in the travel industry is being demonstrated when you see that type of investment coming back to our city.



In fact, there's over \$5 billion of new construction and new projects that have been announced in the last 30 days. So we truly can say that Las Vegas is back as well as the industry. We always stay on the cutting edge here of technology and the cutting edge of entertainment.

The new Michael Jackson Cirque show, which was previewed last night, is an indication of that, whether it's new entertainment, the observation wheel, new convention space, or new hotels. We have one proposed hotel that's going to be under construction here soon, the Genting project, which will be representing the Far East.

There's even going to be a panda exhibit at this hotel. I don't know if the pandas are going to learn to gamble, but we will have that.

So it just shows that you need to continue to evolve product as you go forward, and all of that is happening. So I welcome all of you to our town. It's going to be a good three, four days.



be proud of it.

2	The	fact	that	we	have	this

opportunity to make this presentation to the travel and tourism industry is very critical. Two to three years ago, the partnership started, and the administrations have never been better. Three organizations have definitely made a difference. So all of us can take credit for that. All of us should

So if there's anything you may need while you're here, please call me, and we'll try to take care of that for you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I would like to go around the room and have each of us introduce ourselves since we have some new members that are going to be sworn in in a moment.

I just realized I failed to introduce myself. Those of you that don't know me well yet, my name is Todd Davidson. And when I'm not chairing the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, I am the CEO of Travel Oregon.

I ask that we begin with John.



1	8 MEETING
2	MR. SPROULS: John Sprouls, Executive
3	Vice President of Universal Parks and
4	Resorts.
5	MS. RAMUDO: Olga Ramudo, Express
6	Travel of Miami.
7	MR. HOESSLE: Kirk Hoessle, President
8	of Alaska Wildland Adventures and Alaska
9	Travel Association.
10	MR. ZUK: Jonathan Zuk, Amadeo
11	Travel Solutions and the Chair of the
12	Receptive Services Association of America.
13	MS. RIVERA: New Member Ingrid
14	Rivera, Executive Director of the Tourism
15	Company Puerto Rico.
16	MR. LYNCH: Bob Lynch, President and
17	CEO of Americans for the Arts.
18	MS. FERENC: Maryann Ferenc, Founder,
19	President and CEO of Mise en Place restaurant
20	inTampa, Florida.
21	MR. HAYES: Good afternoon. Robin
22	Hayes, Chief Operating Officer of JetBlue
23	Airways.
24	MS. RAUTIO: New Member Trudy
25	Rautio, CEO of Carlson.



1	9 MEETING
2	MR. GIBBONS: Mike Gibbons, President
3	and CEO of Mainstreet Ventures, which is a
4	restaurant company in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
5	And I'm here representing the National
6	Restaurant Association.
7	MS. BAUSCH: Maureen Bausch. I'm
8	Executive Vice President of Mall of America.
9	MS. ANDOLINO: Rosemarie Andolino,
10	Chicago Department of Aviation.
11	MS. AGRA: Holly Agra, President of
12	Chicago's First Lady Cruises.
13	MS. HEIZER: Julie Heizer, Office of
14	Traveland Tourism Industries, U.S. Department
15	of Commerce.
16	MS. PILAT: Good afternoon.
17	Jennifer Pilatat the Department of Commerce.
18	MS. HILL: I'm Isabel Hill. I'm
19	the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning at
20	the Office of Travel and Tourism Industries,
21	Department of Commerce.
22	MR. HYATT: I'm Ken Hyatt, Deputy
23	under Secretary for International Trade.
24	MR. SMITH: Douglas Smith, Assistant
25	Secretary for the Private Sector, Homeland



1	10 MEETING
2	Security.
3	MR. RAMOTOWSKI: Ed Ramotowski,
4	Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services,
5	U.S. Department of State.
6	MS. ADAMS: Gail Adams, Director of
7	Office of Intergovernmental and External
8	Affairs at the U.S. Department of the
9	Interior.
10	MR. FERGUSON: Elliott Ferguson, CEO
11	of Destination D.C.
12	MS. RUPERT: Sherry Rupert, Vice
13	President of the American Indian Alaska
14	Native Tourism Association.
15	MR. PATEL: CK Patel, Past Chairman
16	of the Asian American Hotel Owners
17	Association and Presidentof BVM Holdings in
18	Atlanta, Georgia.
19	MR. CHAMPLEY: Dick Champley,
20	Department of Commerce.
21	MR. ERDMANN: Ron Erdmann, Office of
22	Traveland Tourism Industries, U.S. Department
23	of Commerce, in the research area.
24	MR. MULLIS: Brian Mullis, New
25	Member, CEO and Founder of Sustainable Travel



11 1 MEETING 2 International. 3 MS. WALLACE: Carol Wallace, 4 DiegoConvention Center Corporation. 5 MR. MANDALA: Laura Mandala, Mandala Research and Founder of Women in Travel and 6 7 Tourism. 8 MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Greg Stubblefield 9 for Enterprise Holdings and Enterprise 10 Rent-A-Car. 11 MS. MATTHEWS: Kathleen Matthews, 12 Marriott International. 13 MR. GILLILAND: Sam Gilliland, 14 Chairman and CEO of Sabre Holdings. 15 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Ken, I would like 16 to turn it over to you to offer us some 17 remarks from our colleagues at the Department 18 of Commerce. 19 MR. HYATT: Thank you, Todd and 20 I was thinking as we watched the 21 luncheon presentation by Brand USA, as I was 22 sitting next to Carolyn, I said, "What 23 difference a year makes," and then it popped 24 at me on the screen. It seems like an 25 extraordinary year with Brand USA and the



1	12 MEETING
2	implementation of strategy.
3	I think again from our perspective
4	this continued commitment and energy that we
5	continue to have, which I know is sort of an
6	issue when we think of administrations, I
7	think that energy still is with us. So
8	thank you for this day.
9	I did want to welcome the new
10	members, and I do want you all to stand up.
11	So you can stand up. Bill, I know you're
12	on the phone. But those new members, if you
13	would stand up.
14	MR. TALBERT: I'm going to stand up
15	at my hotel room.
16	MR. HYATT: You also have to raise
17	your right hand.
18	(Whereupon, New Members sworn in.)
19	MR. HYATT: Thank you in advance for
20	your service. We were just commenting on
21	that I remember when I joined three years
22	ago the government and had the opportunity to
23	give that oath. And I think it's a great



oath to give.

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And thank you in advance for your

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service. You are joining an extraordinary group and an extraordinary committee that I think has made a real difference in the way we think about what we're doing. So again welcome. We look forward to working with you as we go forward.

MR. HYATT: Let me just start our conversation with Douglas and I were in New York a few weeks ago at the invitation of Senator Gillibrand. Brand USA was there.

And Brand USA announced a marketing program for the Niagra/Buffalo region. And it was memorable to me.

Number one, it was incredibly cold, just unbelievably cold. There were tourists there. As we spent the day there, again it was a reminder of how far we came in a year for Brand USA standing next tous on the stage talking about a new program with the Senator there. The local news maybe was there, and a bunch of communities were there. Again, another example of a higher level of coordination that I think we have and again this continued commitment. So we're excited



2 by this.

If you've seen the numbers this year, 2012 is an excellent year.

International visitation hit 67 million visitors, which is up 7 percent from 2011, spending \$168 billion, up 10 percent. And again I now track whether we're above the compound annual growth rate. We need to hit the hundred million visitors by 2021.

So I am delighted we're up above those numbers, and it's great to see great results. So we were delighted to see those results. From our perspective, the Tourism Policy Council continues to work very effectively. We are excited about our nominee, whom many of you know. She's going to be a great advocate.

But the Tourism Policy Council

continues to work working groups against each

of the chapters of the strategy, great

correspondence to which you are doing here,

and lots of progress from recreation, having

the teams describe to me just how much has

changed, which was great to see. I think



1	MEETING
2	the coordination with Brand USA is working
3	very well.

So lots and lots of progress. We're excited to be here today. I'm going to turn it back to you, and we're very interested in the recommendation. I have particular interest in the research. But, again, we're delighted to be here, and thank you for your service.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I'm confident Douglas and Ed would love to see the spotlight shift.

Ken hit on a couple of really,
really key points. Some of you have been in
service to previous Travel and Tourism
Advisory Boards. Some of you have been new
to this one. And some of you are new
tothis one.

I want to hit on a couple of points. The work of previous TTABs really helped fuel and give the President a foundation from which he could then propel his Executive Order forward. The changes we have seen as a result of that, the board



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response, the executive administration's board, the acknowledgment constantly being given to the Travel and Tourism Industry. I have been involved two decades and have never seen the level of engagementat this high level.

It's terrific to be involved.

As I was reading the letters of recommendation, it's really about sustaining that momentum and making sure as this industry grows, it's growing in a wise way. And we're identifying where some of these other choke points may be where we want to make recommendations to address. That's our role, is to bring policy recommendations forward for the Secretary's consideration and bring back this whole government approach.

When you consider the fact that the strategy was embraced last May, a year ago in May, the Secretaries of Commerce agreed they wanted to continue that collaboration, not just chairing the task force but also to move forward with the Tourism Policy Council.

So we're at an amazing moment of time. We said that when we were first sworn



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	MEETING

in in January of 2012 when we were down in Orlando together. What's been nice is to see that moment in time continue for what's been the next 18 months. And I believe it's going to continue into the future. And it's happened because we have terrific federal partners as well.

(Applause.)

CHAIR DAVIDSON: With our colleagues at Homeland Security, Department of the Interior, with the recommendations we brought forward, they made suggestions. It's become this virtual circle where we're bringing ideas to one another that will help us agree.

Ken was calling us in Tokyo as we were working on the goals for the growth of tourism strategy. It's kind of a stretch goal. But is it too much? And we have gone to 67 million visitors, 33 million more to go. Mr. Hyatt, we're obviously well along our way.

Another thing I love about Ken is every time he sees an opportunity, he says,



"How will I be evaluating this market value?

How are we going to be working internally?"

MR. HYATT: As I watched Cirque Du

Soleil, I was wondering how this can become fair market value.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I just wanted to share these sentiments with you more or less on my behalf, especially for those of you who are new to the board, that this is an amazing moment in time.

I also want to share these comments with you as we move into an update. Edward, Douglas, and Gail, I understand they have comments they want to share with us. And, Douglas, I believe you are going to lead us off.

MR. SMITH: I'm going to go briefly through some highlights, but what I am most interested in, as I always am, is engagement. I believe we are closing the gap.

Before I get started, I have our port director from Las Vegas and Los Angeles behind me. Gentlemen, if you want to wave.

In all seriousness, I want to start



1	19 MEETING
2	with CTP, and then I'm going to dig into
3	some other areas.
4	I want to use the word "challenge"
5	as we tackle the situation at our airports
6	for foreign visitors to visit. The most
7	important thing is to figure out a way to
8	balance the ports of security with economic
9	through put. It's the partnership that we
10	continue to work it.
11	So much of what we do, much like
12	you do in your industry, is touch people.
13	In our airports today we will process 1.7
14	million people. It's a big operation. That
15	doesn't take into consideration the cargo we
16	do in our ports.
17	We also understand just how important
18	that touch is and know this is not a TSA
19	joke. We're past that. We understand just
20	how important it is for us to balance the
21	critical ports and what our officers have to
22	do.

They couldn't figure out the challenges of wait time and kept pushing me.

I said it's a simple equation. If growth is



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going like this and our hiring is like this, that's what you are faced with.

As I said at the beginning, I am so proud with what our officers are doing with what they have. But we are reaching that breaking point.

In the 2014 budget we've asked for new front line officers. I believe that will go a long way in helping us to hold that and allow the gentlemen behind me to do what they need to do, to process passengers safely, quickly and efficiently through our ports.

And I come here and ask. And the ask is we need you to be vocal with that. As we look at the growth in international travelers, if we don't haggle it with bringing in new officers, we're going to be with a tough challenge.

Global entry. This past week we celebrated five years of global entry. at 1.3 million with global entry benefits.

Now we continue to add international Task Number-2, we need more partners.



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foreign partners to join this program. We need France and Japan in particular. I would love to add ten more countries.

If we can just take the couple of the biggest international countries coming into this and get them into the program, tell them what we can do to bring this program on board.

As the airlines know, this is an incredibly effective way to take care of their customers. They're in the market competing, but when it comes to safety, this is one of the programs where we can have our cake and eat it too. We will keep it safe and move your customers where they need to go. Those are the two highlights I would like to talk about.

And the last is TSA. When we were first meeting, the TSA checklist was just a gleam in our eye. It is a program that is working. Once again, it is a program that is working. We need help in partnerships.

I will single out Chicago because what we've been able to do in Chicago and



with	John	's	team	in	Orlan	do,	with	the	Orland	0
Autho	rity	рa	rtner	ring	with	the	airp	ort		
autho	ritie	es,	we	have	been	abl	e to	move	the	
needl	e in	а	stag	geri	ng fa	shio	n.			

In two weeks Rosemarie is going to host a really exciting announcement. Let's just say on July 1st there will be a fabulous announcement in Chicago what the partnership is going to achieve and how we were able to move the needle.

So my final ask that I close with is to continue these partnerships. When we first started model ports two years ago is what Rosie is doing in Chicago and the challenges that Chicago faces. Next year we go out there for IPW. You are going to see significant changes.

I emphasize that we ware a partnership. I have mellowed with my years. I try to mix in the humor and lessen the outbursts that some across from me have witnessed. I no longer call you at 3:00 a.m. when you malign my front-end officers.

But the partnership part is critical.



It's	the	only	way

It's the only way we can continue to improve what we are trying to do. I hope in the discussion period both for you, Todd and Sam and the new members, you have a chance to offer comments, ideas and thoughts on how we continue to close this gap because it will only close through these partners, through this collaboration.

And the White House reminded me this week when I came out here that you are our representatives out there. You need to remind us how much this isimportant. And I said, "Valerie, they know. They get it."

The President rides all of us. He rides Ken's team on the economic numbers. He rides my team on the value of the ports of tourism. With that, I'll turn it over.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Douglas, thank you very much.

For those of you again that are kind of new, Douglas made a pledge to the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board at our meeting 18 months ago that he was going to grow this thicker skin. And, Douglas, I want you to



know that you have done a great job. You have brought a spirit to this Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. So thank you very much for your updates and report.

MR. SMITH: It is really our frontline officers that deserve the credit because they are having to do this all day long.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Ed at the Department of State.

MR. RAMOTOWSKI: I'll just tie onto what Douglas said about the value of partnerships. The two biggest elements of that that affected the Department of State were the requirements to increase visa capacity in China and Brazil by 40 percent before the end of 2012 and also to ensure that at least 80 percent of all these applicants worldwide receive an interview within three weeks of applying for one.

And the choice of China and Brazil did not come about through happenstance. It came about through dialogue with the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and other industry



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groups as being two of the key markets of your business.

Well, before the end of 2012, the Department of State had increased visa staffing in Brazil by over 50 officers and in China by over 40 officers. And you can see the results today. The wait times in both of those key markets are in the single digits after being at a hundred to 120-day levels two years ago.

So that's a concrete success that we can attribute directly to the dialogue we have and public and private partnership.

We also achieved the target of 80 percent in two weeks' time in August 2012, well before the end of the year. I am happy to report as of right now, which is the peak period for visa applications worldwide, more than 90 percent of all applicants get an interview within three weeks and well over 80 percent within two weeks of applying.

So that's a tribute to the frontline personnel that we have all around the world



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who are working incredibly hard to ensure that every legitimate traveler gets an opportunity to visit the United States.

I would just like to highlight a few more things. As of the end of May 2013, we are seeing a 7 percent increase in visa demand worldwide. So compared to the 19 percent increase last year, it's much smaller.

But some countries are running well ahead of that figure, most notably China where demand is up by 13.5 percent compared to an increase of 34 percent last year.

So again we continue to facilitate the international travel to the greatest extent of our abilities within the budget and resource constraints that we have.

And I would like to close by just emphasizing two points. One, as Douglas said, resources are key. If you don't have the staffing and other resources to do the work, we simply won't be able to reduce wait times or maintain the wonderful averages that we have now.



So your support for adequately resourcing this work is critical, and we're very grateful for it.

And then finally I would like to invite all members of the board to come and visit our operations abroad on your next visits overseas. We had the privilege of hosting today and two of our consulates in Brazil.

It was great for the officers there to see this high level interest from the private sector and feel that their efforts are appreciated by the private sector in the industry.

We are happy to arrange that for any members abroad in any one of our facilities abroad. So please do consider that and let me know. Thanks again for your support.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you for your report and partnership. Ed's exactly right.

A few weeks before I headed to Brazil -- and this was going to be my first trip, and I was headed down there for tradeshows in Rio Grande and Sao Paulo.



order in action.

But I thought what a tremendous opportunity to hear about the work we've been hearing about on this board and see the recommendations in action and the executive

And after a simple e-mail to Ed, I received a near immediate response because he was somewhere in the world. Within a matter of a few days, I was getting confirmed appointments with Don Jacobson, who traveled to Sao Paulo.

Phil and Brendan in Rio were terrific. I had a chance to observe some of the interviews in action and to see how that whole process works, to see the amazing absence of lines that have become somewhat legendary in these discussions.

There were maybe 25 people in line, and only because they had arrived earlier because they probably needed to be because there's still a shadow of the legend that you need to show up earlier because the lines were long. Not to mention the fact the whole process took about 30 to 35



1	29 MEETING
2	minutes from the time you started until the
3	time you were walking out the door.
4	It was great to have the opportunity
5	to experience it firsthand in Brazil. And I
6	thank you again for your responsiveness and
7	your partnership.
8	So, Gail, it's good to have you
9	here. And it's good to have you
10	representing the Department of Interior.
11	Again, a terrific partner for this board and
12	the industry nationally. So we look forward
13	to your report, Gail.
14	MS. ADAMS: Thank you. And I'll
15	just echo what Douglas and Ed have said.
16	The key for the progress we have been able
17	to make have definitely been our
18	partnerships. Without you all and without
19	your input and giving us your expertise, we
20	definitely as federal agencies could not do
21	any of the things that we're doing. So
22	thank you for that.
23	The first thing is that the things
24	that have changed is just our ideology, which

is really great the difference a year makes.



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Just two years ago when I came on board with the Department of Interior, you couldn't say the M word and the A word. The M word is "marketing," and the A word is "advertising." When I first came, it was, "Don't say those words."

In a very short two-year frame, we have not only gone from not being able to say the M and A words, but a lot of that is due to you and the leadership that you all have brought.

Another thing is when we talk about how this remains a very important aspect of the administration, we have Great Outdoors

Month. Because June is Great Outdoors Month, the President mentioned travel and tourism in the Great Outdoors Proclamation.

We continue to get feedback from people across the country. Thank you to all of you who I have called and bothered to ask questions.

One of the big accomplishments we've had has been regulations.gov. We are totally not there, but we are working on it. One



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of the things we have heard is, "It's only in English. So what are you going to do about it?"

So now we've got Google translator that translates into 60 languages. It's really huge on that. We have built out itineraries for different regions. So if you like hiking or snowboarding, whatever it may be, we can link all of our assets together. You probably didn't know what's a parks service property versus national forest.

So when I talk about the ideology, we have actually gone in as all of the federal management agencies. With that we are not just talking about our own representative lands, but we are talking about them in a way where we can link them all together.

Where our national parks might be the recognizable economic things people know immediately, we have lesser known sites that we want to promote. So we are using our national parks as the hook to introduce people to new experiences here in the United



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I would just like to acknowledge States. So some of the federal team.

So that concludes my report, and thank you very much.

Oh, one other thing. Because I have the funnest job and I am really happy about that, I have this for every one of the board This is to demonstrate how we have come together across federal government, including state department, DHS. This is a thumb drive that we're giving to all of the people that are coming by our federal booths, and it has all of the information for all of our federal participants.

If you want to know how you get a visa, all of this information is here. Ιf you want to know where to go and what we have to offer, it has all of our brochures.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Gail, I thank all three of you for very much. your reports and updates and most importantly for your engagement with this board not just at our meetings but everything you're doing 24/7, whether it is a phone call at 3:00



a.m. or something else.

Gail's department kind of epitomizes that right now in the Department of the Interior with a secretary that has recently been selected and sworn in. Sally Jewell comes from the private sector, comes from a major outdoor sportswear brand that also happens to sell travel because REI also has a travel selling component as part of it as well.

It would not be inappropriate if you were to welcome Sally to her position as Secretary of the Interior and let her know how much the engagement with the Interior Department, with this board, and with our industry has meant as we move forward.

There was a reason the Secretaries of Commerce and Interior were asked to co-chair that task force, and we want to continue to see that momentum and recognition continue.

With that, thank you all for your presentations.

We're going to move into the



1	MEETING
2	discussion and deliberations of proposed
3	recommendations. This is the piffy part of
4	the meeting, as I mentioned earlier on, as
5	we start diving into the kinds of
6	recommendations we want to bring forward as a
7	board. And we have formed subcommittees to
8	do the deeper dive in certain key areas.
9	Just a little bit about the process.
10	We are going to discuss and deliberate these
11	letters. We're not a rubber stamp group.

I do want to see discussion from members the board even though it's affirming points and directions that are being brought forward. This is our opportunity to do that.

Each of the chairs and representatives will be providing us with a brief presentation of their recommendations. You've had them in advance. You have copies behind the agenda in your folders so that you can refer to them as we move through And they were put in your folders the order we will be going through them today.



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MEETING We will be adopting by consensus.

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We will not be doing a roll-call vote or show of hands. I'll just look for consensus at that point. And with that, we will then to the next letter of recommendation. move on

with that, I am going to turn it over to Mr. Stubblefield, who graciously agreed to chair our business climate subcommittee for a review of their recommendations. Grea?

MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Thanks, Todd. Ι echo the same things that Douglas, Ed, Ken The partnerships we've seen and Gail said. over the last 18, 24 months have really proven to be very, very successful.

And one of the things that we've kind of taken on in our subcommittee is this sustainability of that. There's got to be some processes that have to be put in place and some different things so we can memorialize the success that we're having asopposed to just talking about it. to continue to put the necessary things into place so it's sustainable over time.



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So with that, I'm going to take the first couple recommendations, and Maryann is going to talk about the others. But anybody else on the subcommittee, please chime in as you see fit.

So the first one is really a recommendation that in the September TTA board meeting, we actually put on the agenda session for discussing the National Travel and Tourism Strategy and started to put together the information on how successful we've been with that based upon the National Travel and Tourism Strategy that was put forth back in January of last year.

One of the things we want to do is look at all the historical data and adverse things inside of there to show we are meeting and achieving what was set out in that national strategy.

And we had a session earlier today.

And we spent a lot of time talking, for example, about the international inbound traveler, and it's very measurable.

One of the things that the National



Traveland Tourism Strategy calls for is domestic travel by Americans. This is not as easily tracked.

So that's our first recommendation that we would put together and then look at the general prospective of the TTA and the government staff engage in this collaborative process. So that would be the first one.

Do you want me to go through all four of them, Jenna?

JENNA: However you want.

MR. STUBBLEFIELD: We can have discussions about that now if there's any questions or thoughts about that.

And this framework really becomes important for this next recommendation we have. That's why we want to do it at the September meeting.

Because the second recommendation we have is that the work of the Tourism Policy Council is really fantastic, but one of the things it does not do is have an annual report that talks about all the things that are either in process or making progress on



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or accomplishing or starting to accomplish.

We want to make sure there's an annual report that describes the activities of the TPC, including the four working groups, that describes the challenges and goals and success for the following year.

We think that's a really important recommendation.

The first one really lays the groundwork and the framework for the second one. And the second one we think is very important for the sustainability of the things that we have taking place. I would like to see if there's any other comments about that or any other discussion. Maryann?

MS. FERENC: I might just point out that although it is written, it also includes a report from the Director of the National Travel and Tourism Office. We think those are really important pieces in this as well as an opportunity for the TTAB to comment or respond in a letter from the acting chairperson at that time that is weighed in by the entire board.



MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Thanks for bringing that up, Maryann. We think it's important as we formalize all the great work that's being done and collaborative effort between the TTAB, the TPA, and National Travel and Tourism Office, to kind of formalize that every year and put that together.

So with that, Maryann, the third recommendation?

MS. FERENC: I would like to take a brief moment to add my thanks to Gail,

Douglas and Ed and all the different agencies as well as the chairs of this board the opportunity to serve as our committee chair because it's always exciting and invigorating to come here and see the representation around the table and the in-depth and lively conversations at the subcommittees bringing so many different perspectives together in consensus.

That leads to this third recommendation, which has been introduced by Ed and Doug and Gail. And it's actually



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listed on the strategy on page 5 of the executive summary in talking about the whole-of-government approach, the necessity to talk across different federal agencies, and the necessity to work in public and private partnerships.

So Number-3, again in going along with the things that Greg has said, opportunity to memorialize that process and the success of that. So that not only for the immediate folks that might be coming in and joining this group, whether at the board level or certainly at the agency levels but also in the future, to look back at a time when this public-private partnership -- and "partnership" is the word we use so often our different conversations, but we have named it "the collaborative" because it is a collaborative process. This is our opportunity to set forth that it has worked and how can it continue in the future.

The first paragraph is talking about the current scenario. But the second paragraph is a recommendation to review the



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practices and policies by and through which they work and partner and work with the private sector when there are written laws, guidance and written acknowledgment that an opportunity is not always available for the public and private sector to work together.

But at the same time, it's been clearly demonstrated, and we are around this table. And the private sector is so engaged in this process because there are opportunities where we can work together to achieve mutual goals.

And so this is asking for that to become a bit more formalized, some attention paid to it, and find where our circles cross and really work within those areas, and for all the different agencies to look at how does it work for them. Because everybody has different rules, regulations, and guidelines that they must follow.

So understanding that doing it better today and memorializing so it will be done tomorrow is what this recommendation is about.



42 1 MEETING 2 there some conversation or Ιs 3 questions? Guy from Chicago. 4 MR. SMITH: This is great. 5 should hold our bosses more accountable for 6 I apologize. I missed Number-4 in that. 7 Don't underestimate the the pre-read. 8 importance of holding our feet to the fire 9 under public and private partnerships because 10 they exist anywhere. Continued planning only 11 works if we're all sitting here doing this 12 stuff and we're all moving around. Ed's 13 career foreign service officer. He's here 14 now, but he may be in Paris next year. 15 On Number-4, Greg and Mary, I would 16 a little bit and put something uр 17 there that holds to the test of time more 18 isn't dependent upon the four of 19 that speaks to a larger ongoing process. So 20 that would be my one thought. 21 Are you referring CHAIR DAVIDSON: 22 to recommendation 3 or 23 MR. SMITH: 24 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Because



recommendation 4 is new

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language.

43 1 MEETING 2 SMITH: I tried to read all the MR. 3 letters, but I just think that's a great But I think you're being too 4 point. 5 passive. 6 MS. FERENC: I couldn't be happier 7 to hear that, Douglas. I think my 8 colleagues agree. 9 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Douglas, 10 for that. 11 We want to go through some of those 12 things and formalize so it's easier for 13 people to access it. 14 Each of our agencies do MR. SMITH: 15 have slightly different rules and regulations 16 that we have to follow but laying out a road 17 map or creating better ways for customers to 18 come into this country. And not to single 19 out Enterprise. 20 MS. FERENC: It's a great public 21 relations story because it is so much fun to 22 go back into our communities and say, 23 think this is how it works, but let me tell 24 you stories what's happening between the

federal government and the average citizen."



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2 So thank you very much for your comments.

> Number-4 we think is essential. So this recommendation is addressing domestic travel as part of the national strategy. And it's a goal across both the public and the private sectors.

> The strategy has an obvious constant focus on domestic travel. It's in every headliner in the document practically, obviously as well as international travel, but it does not set up a specific goal domestic travel as international travel. Amongst our discussions the conclusion that we came to as the best way to do this was address the role of the National Travel and Tourism Office relative to domestic travel.

So that's what this recommendation seeks to do, is create and talk about the goals in a relative and quantitative fashion. We are not recommending a new measure at this time, but to simply gather some existing data and have it be gathered at the federal government level so it could be looked upon



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as that data across all of the states. And I'll read that more specifically in a moment.

And the other piece is a qualitative goal that really talks about the NTTO through the TPC. And that addresses the necessary and desired reach into ethnic markets, We talk about it in terms of SPA. acknowledging and articulating the role of the National Travel and Tourism Office, NTTO, and domestic travel. And it talks about the national strategy, not just international but domestic travel, impact of travel and tourism such as visitor volume, total expenditures, tax revenue and jobs to quantify domestic travel, track progress, and disseminate the information back to the states.

So again the motion is to collect existing data, not creating new mechanisms in collecting data at a federal level.

And this is a piece that would be on the qualitative end of things to support domestic travel by encouraging travel beyond gateway markets as called for in the -- we recommend the NTTO on a basis as described



in recommendation Number-2.

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And, lastly, we look forward to working with the NTTO implementation, which leaves the door open that there's more work to be done here and perhaps bring more recommendations in September to the Secretary.

And for all of the board, we thank you for your patience. This is a completely rewritten Number-4, which came from our meeting this afternoon. So we thank those of you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The subcommittee actually took the initiative to look at what it was they wanted to accomplish but why did they feel so strongly about it. And that's what led to this rewriting of this. So with that, I would like to turn it over to Rossi.

MR. RALENKOTTER: The National Travel and Tourism Strategy has been approved two weeks ago to be implemented -- to take effect to begin to operate in October of next year. But that was approved by the House and Senate roughly three weeks ago.

So this question then is that the



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2	office essentially gather, coordinate, analyze
3	and disseminate data. That's essentially
4	what this is asking with respect to the
5	domestic side. Is that the sense of it?
6	MS. FERENC: Every tourism office
7	has their own data that they count on. So
8	instead of creating a home set of data for
9	this, we use what the state is already using
10	and then measure that year on year. They
11	count on year on year. They're not
12	consistent between dates. Each have
13	different drivers they're looking for.
14	So we wanted to use the data that
15	was already out there. And as part of the
16	National Tourism and Travel Strategy, it
17	doesn't say we have to have a goal in there
18	by 2021, but it does say an increase in
19	travel by the American public.
20	We figured we could then determine
21	if more people were traveling. And then the
22	quantitative part we'll tie back to the

quantitative part we'll tie back to the agencies that would tie back in the TPC report.

> don't think UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:



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48 1 MEETING 2 we're asking for an analysis. 3 MS. FERENC: No. 4 MS. MANDALA: Since our conference 5 last week, I was able to check with 6 And they have consistently been 7 monitoring domestic travel for decades. 8 So they have that historical data. 9 They have current data. They have forecasts. 10 They base it on consumer data and economic 11 data on consumer confidence. 12 currently they are telling us 13 that there's 20 billion trips in the United 14 States, and for the past five years it's 15 been increasing. And I've been told that by 16 your chief economist. 17 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Laura. 18 And again I'm going to remind the committee 19 members, again for our transcription folks as 20 well as our folks on the phone, if you will 21 introduce yourselves before you begin your 22 comments. 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just a 24 question. In our advocacy language, we were

looking at the old language and excited by



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2	the old language. It was less about data,
3	which is also great, but it was more about
4	encouragement of strategies for encouragement
5	of American travel within the United States.
6	So having not actually read the new data, is
7	it about that too or just the data?
8	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is just
9	one component of it. The qualitative field
10	has a lot more on the encouragement side.
11	It could be through the parks. It could be
12	through the marine sanctuaries, a whole host
13	of things that we're going to put a punch
14	down. We just didn't have enough time.
15	MS. FERENC: I think the qualitative
16	is much stronger in the recommendation.
17	CHAIR DAVIDSON: Jonathan?
18	MR. ZUK: I want to go back to Item
19	Number-3 and want to ask basically, after we
20	establish the corroboration and the ground
21	rules for them giving us information to what
22	is being done, there are a lot of government
23	programs that a lot of people don't know



about.

other programs?

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Do you see us using information in

For example, we were discussing yesterday the commercial services. Most people don't even know they can call them and ask them to assist them. Can we use that as a vehicle to get information from those government programs out to the business

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Clearly one of the things we want to do is educate people, whether it's on government programs that we're talking about here. We have other things in the community we were talking about and how we can educate and disseminate that out to people to take advantage of it. And that's forthcoming from the committee.

MR. RALENKOTTER: There's another aspect to this whole domestic travel discussion. It came up when Brand USA came into effect. There was some discussion that Brand USA should be the organization that markets domestic USA.

I'll give you an example of the split. Of the 40 million people that come to Las Vegas each year, only 17 percent is



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international. The other 83 percent is So for most of us, the biggest domestic. market share is domestic.

So it comes down to who owns domestic USA brand. Who owns that brand? And it's about how you motivate Americans to travel and see our own country.

We had a little bit of that if you go into the '70s and 80 with Discover But nobody really owned it. America. Wе those discussions at USA America. had Ιf you look at the total number of unused, lost vacation days that the working people in America don't take, that's a huge opportunity for all of us.

So Ι think part of the discussion needs to come down to, is it the responsibility of commercial? Should it be another initiative within commercial to talk about a cohesive effort to say the education value of travel, the health value of travel, the memories that travel creates for families. It's all of those things. It's the emotional side of the brand. Ιf we



get the research, we can find out how many trips and how many people.

The millennium is coming up, and all of the new customers that we all have, the 13-, 14- and 15-year-olds of today that hopefully will be in Las Vegas ten years from now because they can gamble then, they're on the techie side. Their experience is on some type of device. Who knows what it will be ten years from now.

So when we look at motivating travel, we have to look at the domestic side because it's a huge market for all of us.

So that's really it. I believe that it has to have one organization, one body, that's going to be responsible for delivering the message of travel domestically and one body that's funded to do one branding campaign for the United States, for us as Americans to see the country.

There's too many people who live in

Las Vegas. I can take a survey tomorrow and

find out that probably a large percentage

have not seen the Great Basin National Park,



53 1 MEETING 2 who have not maybe gone to Hoover Dam. Ι 3 just think that we miss a lot of 4 opportunities there. 5 So whether it comes into this 6 recommendation or somewhere along the way, 7 need to look at that side. I think we tried to 8 MS. FERENC: 9 leave it open with our last line there 10 hoping that this will force the conversations 11 that we as an industry need to have about 12 this And asking the NTTO to do these issue. 13 qualitative measures, that we will get some 14 small successes perhaps or maybe some large 15 successes. 16 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Rossi, those are 17 excellent points. And I know the 18 subcommittees will have the opportunity 19 because you're already discussing a second 20 round of discussion to bring forth at a 21 future meeting. Ken? 22 MR. HYATT: Two questions for you to 23 consider as we think about the domestic side.

The first is, if it's a government role, how

do we favor consumption in one sector versus



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another? Because as we've had these conversations, part of what we wrestled with was to say is it appropriate for us to somehow opine that buying a washing machine or a car or education or travel?

So that's one question that I would ask you to think about. How we would think about that. Because we thought about that, and we couldn't figure out a way out of that question.

And then the second question is what role, if any, should the government have in particular if the government is involved on the domestic side? That action is somehow perceived by other governments that we're saying don't travel. Like don't go internationally.

So those would be just two questions that we would find extremely helpful. And what I like about this recommendation is we're gathering data to have a conversation. But I know those are two difficult questions that we would need help on as we think about what's the right role versus maybe it is



55 1 MEETING 2 more appropriate for the private sector to be 3 leading this chart, the companies doing it, 4 when we're in the data gathering. 5 We know we can MR. RALENKOTTER: 6 create a demand that after he buys that TV 7 set, he comes to Las Vegas. On the other 8 side, it is really more the value of travel, 9 who is responsible for that brand experience. 10 It's not to say go to Disneyworld or 11 to L.A., Chicago, or any place you want. 12 It's getting curriculums within the schools. 13 It's taking that vacation. It's the value 14 people get by taking that break and knowing 15 that for many of them, the only vacation 16 going to have is within the United We have done a little bit of 17 States. it 18 the research side. I think it has a lot 19 great opportunities going forward. 20 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Any other questions 21 or comments for -- yes, Rosemarie.

MS. ANDOLINO: Oh, I am resonating the "You got milk" commercial that you discussed a moment ago. But if you want to promote better health and better wellness,



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take a few minutes, explore with your families, build the memories, decompress, reduce stress. It's almost like a health campaign to some degree.

I think part of the messaging is, it's okay to do that. In the U.S. it's still that guilt that if you travel, you're going to lose your job or somebody is going to replace you. To reduce that thinking that a few days away, a long weekend, that you and your family can decompress and enjoy life as well.

So there might be a way to combine it with kind of the healthcare movement as well and wellness.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Yeah, I've often wondered. Maybe a better way to put it for me personally, a benchmark for this industry for all the momentum we feel will be during National Heart Health Month when the Surgeon General is on the morning talk show and says, "Exercise, eat healthy, and take your vacation." Rosemarie, good point.

Any other comments or questions for



57 1 MEETING 2 the subcommittee? 3 MS. MANDALA: It may also be a 4 movement that a high-level political figure 5 takes on, like the First Lady. It wouldn't 6 necessarily need to be funded, but it's a 7 prominent spokesperson. 8 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thanks, Laura. 9 Brian? 10 MR. MULLIS: I'm Brian Mullis. What 11 I think I'm hearing today is that more 12 domestic travel and vacation days are 13 It seems to me one question we happening. 14 should consider is, could there be 15 cooperation among the states to determining a 16 couple measures and key metrics that could be 17 harmonized across the states so we 18 actually getting data in a similar matter and 19 it's easier to track on an ongoing basis? 20 And I think Brian CHAIR DAVIDSON: 21 is the first new member to speak. So the 22 ice has been broken. Other comments? 23 All right. From my perspective, I

kind of see one lingering issue regarding the

recommendations that are contained within this



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58 1 MEETING 2 And that is it originated with letter. 3 Douglas's comment with the strengthening of the language and recommendation Number-3. 4 5 A couple possible ways to address 6 that, but I'm not sure one is appropriate. 7 So again I'm looking at Jenna. But I 8 believe that we could adopt the letter is 9 with consensus asking the subcommittee to 10 strengthen that language. 11 What I believe may be the better 12 is that we pull Recommendation-3 out 13 and that the subcommittee continue to work on 14 Recommendation Number-3 and bring it forward 15 to our September meeting. 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think it's 17 idea, Todd. a great 18 I'm loving the head CHAIR DAVIDSON: 19 Jenna, we're good with that suggestion, 20 right? So with that --21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The only 22 hesitant I have is, does that not delay us 23 executing -we pull it out 24 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Ιf 25 and bring the recommendation forward in three



59 1 MEETING 2 months with stronger language. 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As opposed to 4 making the recommendation now? 5 MR. SMITH: Maybe an extra sentence? 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have a lot 7 of work to do underneath this to give the 8 understanding of a partnership so within that 9 we can strengthen. 10 This has got a marker. MR. SMITH: 11 So maybe we can go MS. FERENC: 12 ahead with the recommendation, Todd, 13 can make another recommendation that 14 strengthens this concept in September. 15 CHAIR DAVIDSON: We can do that. 16 I've got the nod. 17 So the first recommendation that 18 thought we couldn't do, we can. 19 go forward with this one and then add 20 stronger language to this when we meet 21 September. But I have every confidence that 22 Douglas, Ed, Ken and Gail can add stronger 23 language. 24 So with that and not hearing any 25 other comments, I will declare that this



60 1 MEETING 2 letter is adopted by consensus. Thank you. 3 Good work, subcommittee. I appreciate it 4 very much. 5 (Applause.) 6 I just wanted to say it is JENNA: 7 absolutely unprecedented to have two federal 8 agencies argue to have more work to do. So 9 kudos. 10 CHAIR DAVIDSON: And let the record 11 show they both said they wanted their boss 12 to have their feet held to the fire. 13 I'm going to take the chairman's 14 prerogative here. I'm going to ask that we 15 move down one agenda item. 16 Chris Thompson, President and CEO of 17 I was thrilled when Chris Brand USA. 18 decided to become the next CEO of Brand USA. 19 It's succumbing to pressure, he accepted. 20 But he is the right individual for the job. 21 He is the DMO and DNA in recognizing the 22 role. And, Chris, thank you for joining us 23 today. 24 THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr.



Chairman.

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I appreciate the opportunity to be

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here. I have not said it often because I really haven't thought about it until I'm around you again, but there were very positive things associated with taking this position. But one of the downsides was giving up my position here.

I truly appreciate the work of this board. It's so important and so valuable to what we do. We're the marketers. Lots of issues and challenges as a result of that. But if we're going to get to that goal of a hundred million, we have to do our job.

So the work that you're doing here, the cooperation among the federal agencies, as I say often on the record and you have heard me say this, it's unprecedented in my 30 days to see the support that the administration has given to the travel and tourism industry. And it's invaluable to us as we're trying to navigate telling the world that we're open for business and inviting more and more visitors to come to the United States.

You're going to hear a lot of this



during the course of this week. We love IPW. I've always had a great appreciation for it when I was in Florida. I have an unbelievable appreciation of it now. It's the one time a year where the United States has an opportunity to sell to the buyer community around the world. And I can have both sides of my stakeholds in one spot, which is the buyers and sellers.

Congrats to Rossi for record numbers, record attendance, doing it only as Las Vegas can do it. I think it will be a tremendously productive show. I think all the participants are going to get a lot out of it.

I'm going to cover broad categories.

The last time I was here, I wasn't official yet. I was here with Carolyn. I was tendering my resignation. I don't know how much of this will be duplicative. If there are questions you would like answered, I would be happy to do that.

As of January 31st, we actually had 18 people. So I'm happy to say that right



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2	now we have 40. We have a staffing plan
3	that takes us to 54. I continue to be
4	amazed by the number and quality ofpeople
5	that want to be a part of what we're doing.
6	Right after that January meeting, we
7	posted all the positions. We eventually have
8	to hire into them. So I said just put them
9	all out there. We got a hundred
10	applications an hour.
11	I would like to introduce our newest

I would like to introduce our newest member of our team. Yvonne Penteer is the newest addition of our team. We went on an executive search. Again, the quality of the individuals who wanted to become apart of that was amazing.

She brings a tremendous background career to the table. I said, "So this will be your honeymoon period, and after this, you'll have to start producing." I encourage you to get to know Yvonne. She's going to be a great member of the team and as we continue to grow this.

I'll cover a couple categories.

Representation. We currently have



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2	representation in 14 markets. That will grow
3	to 18 when we're done with what we think we
4	need to be doing at this point. When we're
5	in those 18 markets, we'll actually have
6	representation through regional representations
7	in 40 countries and represent 93 percent of
8	the representation to the United States.
9	All the committees have kind of been
10	out there doing their own thing. That's
11	great and challenging. What we're trying to

out there doing their own thing. That's great and challenging. What we're trying to do now is bringing discipline to that resource. We're the newest guy to the block. So we're humbly stepping up to the block and saying how can you help us.

We're also active in 30 international tradeshows around the world. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to get in major opportunities.

We are creating Brand USA pavilions and increasing the attendance at the shows.

Not only the attendance but the relevance and effectiveness for everybody. So if we can bring more visibility to the pavilions.

We just in May hosted a mega family



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in cooperation with British Airways. They brought a hundred of their top trade over for the first time ever. We designed seven itineraries that obviously had to come in through the gateways but then took people from the gateways to areas that they would otherwise have not thought about on their own.

They partnered with other airlines and threw them to Miami for a send off. I did not attend that event, but the staff that attended that said it was the most compelling thing. The BA was excited about the outcome and wanted to be engaged with us in future activities.

We had 300 companies step up that allowed us to draw down on the allocation that the federal government gives to us. We had to double our production. The first year we had a two-for-one match. And that generated a hundred. And this year we have to generate 100 to get to 200. There was enough of that to where we have a lot of optimism in being able to do that. I have



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two new additions to my staff. I am an internal optimist.

The month of June is a big month for us. Most of our engaged partners are destinations. A lot of fiscal years are tied to July 1 and June 30. So we're seeing a lot of interest, and we're excited about that.

The good news is that we are able to follow up the intent to travel from 12 to 22 percent. That was really good as it relates to what was set up as a metric.

Starting next week we'll be launching the campaign in Brazil and Mexico. After that we'll be in China and other countries. That's 11 new markets. Otherwise, what we're trying to do is build off the success of the first year identifying ways for us to partner with the industry and for the industry to see the value where they're contributing to our cause and to our efforts.

A lot of what came in came in at the end of last fiscal year, which was August or September of last year. Now we've



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got to go get another hundred million. Ι have had a lot of fun meetings with our board.

That's kind of the overview and the highlights of the major things that we're I'd much rather answer any questions that you all have. I see many people around the table here that have been engaged with us by contributing and otherwise deploying in cooperative marketing, and I sincerely appreciate that.

I realize initially in some cases that was a leap of faith. I don't underestimate the fact that in some cases it is still a leap of faith, but I promise you next year you won't recognize the organization, and the year after that, you won't recognize it.

With the confidence and the enthusiasm and support that the industry has given us, I appreciate the opportunity to Thanks for having come and present to you. me.

> CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Chris.



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Travel Oregon is a very proud partner of Brand USA.

Just one quick example. We did joint advertising together where we were collaborating on our media buy into
Vancouver, British Columbia specifically but into Canada. The increase in advertising increased 30 percent in one year. It did exactly what the industry believed it could do because of the inspiration that has continued to campaign.

The other thing to see with Chris's engagement and the openness of the Tourism Policy Council with our federal partners has been their desire to reach out to Chris and make sure that that's working and inviting him into the marketing and promotion task force meetings and to make sure that that level of engagement is there with Chris and Brand USA.

MR. THOMPSON: What a platform. If you're trying to make the private/public partnership work and you have that kind of network on that side of it, that's amazing.



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Carol Reem joined our team. She comes from Focus Right. She's got tremendous potential and credentials.

So we're going to be working really hard to expand what we're holding ourselves accountable for. I want to wrap ourselves around the macro things. If we're in the market, then we can claim part of that humbly, put things again that are going to help us measure that.

I think, Ron, you're going to see an increased level of activity, and we look forward to continuing to partnering with you.

How much of you were at the lunch today? I was in the green room with Roseanne. So I was just trying to get a little feel from her with the conversations she and I were going to have on the stage.

I said, "Roseanne, you have no idea what you did last year." I was in the audience. And we were watching the review of the campaign. And we saw the song. And every one of us were going, Holy mackerel. She literally had no idea.



70 1 MEETING 2 She said, "My little song?" I said, 3 "You are a rock star in the travel and tourism industry." How about that young 4 5 She was unbelievable. 6 PENTEER: How about the quy? MS. 7 MR. THOMPSON: Yvonne says, about the guy?" 8 We always have to remember 9 that we're in the audience. But more 10 importantly, the people in the audience are 11 So we want them to feel our buyers. 12 energetic and fired up and realize this 13 And it's only going to is going to work. 14 work in the ways we need to engage them. 15 So I hope that luncheon accomplished 16 that and got everybody excited and fired up 17 about going in. 18 Ingrid Rivera. MS. RIVERA: I'm the 19 Executive Director of the Puerto Rico 20 Marketing Company. 21 I thought the ad was inspirational. 22 How are you going to use that in countries 23 where English isn't spoken? 24 THOMPSON: We're determining the

effectiveness of an English-spoken message.



1 MEETING 2 In translation sometimes that gets lost. But 3 those are the conversations we're having. 4 Those countries that don't necessarily have a 5 lot of English-speaking folks. 6 MS. RIVERA: The campaign that 7 you're going to launch in Brazil, is that 8 going to be in English? 9 MR. THOMPSON: Actually, it is to 10 start with. 11 MS. RIVERA: On the first video we 12 last year and we played again last year 13 that showed New Orleans and other places, I 14 think the one thing for me as an American,

had last year and we played again last year that showed New Orleans and other places, I think the one thing for me as an American, some of the images I knew where those locations were and if you see something in that image and think that's beautiful. But I don't know where to look. So if you can put something in that image.

MR. THOMPSON: That was the intention. On our website that's done, to be able to identify where that is and what that opportunity presents. Certainly not in the spot, but we try to extend that on the website.



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72 1 MEETING 2 Some of those pictures MS. RIVERA: 3 were just gorgeous. If you at least had 4 Utah or something in there, that would make 5 it simpler for people. 6 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Sherry? 7 MS. RUPERT: I'm Sherry Rupert. 8 Chris, I'm trying to remember. At the very 9 end, was the website on there so somebody 10 could go back to the website to look at 11 where those places were? 12 MR. THOMPSON: Absolutely. 13 close to that. 14 CHAIR DAVIDSON: Chris, thank you 15 very much. I appreciate you being here. 16 Mr. Hayes on behalf of the 17 infrastructure and sustainability subcommittee. 18 You are up, my friend. 19 MR. HAYES: You're putting me before 20 the tea break? 21 CHAIR DAVIDSON: There is no tea 22 break. 23 I think I'll keep my MR. HAYES: 24 comments very brief because although this is 25 I think a very significant recommendation, I



think it's one that you've probably been exposed to in some form before.

We have a couple of slides. So you can just T-up the first one.

First of all, today what we're going to talk about is an aviation infrastructure recommendation. We have a sustainability component to the group and envision that coming either in December or September. So today we're focusing on aviation.

I would also like to thank the members of the subcommittee. It's been a very engaging subcommittee. A lot of people with strong opinions, putting airport and airline people in the same room. It's amazing we can agree on anything, but we did.

A special thanks to Holly as well, who is the vice chair.

I have asked the team to speak up in favor of this recommendation because this is exactly what you expect an airline guy to say. So it would be good to get other constituents who are as excited as we are.



We put up there a picture of the National Travel and Tourism Strategy. I think it's great. We have a goal of a hundred million by 2021.

The aviation infrastructure that we have today actually can't get us there. If you look at the amount of inefficiency that we have in our system today, already there's a few spots where flights get delayed.

Now, for those of you who may not be familiar with Nextgen, if I was to tell you the navigation unit -- who's got a GPS in their car? That is more sophisticated than what most airplanes have in the sky.

Imagine if you were driving along and your navigation system said, "You are around here somewhere. And by the way, there's huge roads and there's huge airways where you need to call us and tell us where you are and let us know." That is what the aviation system is like.

So the FFA and the DOT have been leading a wonderful plan that is really upgrading that technology. The technology as



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it sits in the aircrafts, it's designing new

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approaches into airports, on the ground.

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It's designing new ground-based navigational

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units and receivers that can all talk to

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each other.

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The problem of it is that it all feels technical and it's all invisible. Tt's probably one of the infrastructure projects that the United States is currently looking at undergoing in the future. I think it gives you the size and scale on that.

I think what we wanted to get out and we can come back to dialogue -is don't think it's moving as quick as it And once you get into designing could. approaches for airports, what happens?

The thing about these very high position Nextgen approaches is if you run over a house that is in that aircraft pathway, you're going to get a lot of noise. You can potentially get any set of residents or local representatives who could maybe slow things down. And from a national perspective, it's tough if that happens.



. .

So our recommendation is really predicated on the principle. But we really want to engage communities at a local level to highlight the importance of Nextgen and maybe get ahead of some of these proverbial things.

I think if we do that, if it's more than the FAA and DOT and the airline industry calling for this, we think it will give us a better chance of funding things more quickly and allow Nextgen to be implemented more quickly.

So we've asked the federal agencies to work with us. Some really nice work has been done already that talks to some of the savings. There's reduced fuel use. That's good for sustainability. Reduced carbon monoxide emissions. Growth without adding new infrastructure. If we want to hit these travel and tourism goals, we've got to have the infrastructure that supports that.

There's a plan to achieve it. What we want to do is collaborate and work across public and private stake holds at a local



level to try and get more passion and interest to get this to happen more quickly. We think it's a great topic for the President's State of the Union Address.

For those of you who travel Asia and different parts of the world, I was in South Africa last week. This is getting better much more quickly. There's a lot of other destinations out there that are really opening up and doing a better job on some of these issues.

That's really in a nutshell our recommendation on the aviation side of the sustainability. Is there any other members of the subcommittee that want to add anything?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This recommendation was two boards prior to this. They discussed Nextgen. But the board prior to this really didn't choose it as an action item.

So I think your idea to memorialize that work going forward is really spot-on because we didn't want to forget about it.



Certainly it's worthy of work, but it's so much. How do we prioritize it?

So I think it's an excellent point, and I hope this is one of the first priorities that's memorialized going forward. So thank you for that.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Jonathan?

MR. ZUK: I served on the subcommittee as well. And what we tried to do over and above everything else is basically the concept of Nextgen is that it's an airline and airport issue, and it's not really the general public's issue.

But if we can educate the public that the more Nextgen implementation we have, the more traffic there will be in the cargo arena or any type of aviation area. It will influence the whole economy.

MR. SMITH: We are operating on 1950s technology in the 21st century. But be careful what you ask for because one of the wonderful things about Nextgen is that it will allow that many more people. You think the lines are bad now. It's going to be



the safest and most efficient system in the air as long as you are in the air.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Douglas, it's job security for a future Advisory Board because we're going to have to come up with more recommendations.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is an issue. We are conscious of that.

We have a show point today, and it's going to be a show point in the future. If you think about space in an aircraft, I think we will have a problem. We'll hit a point where we can't stretch the system any further unless we get Nextgen, ATV and other infrastructure improvements over the course of the next several years, the best way to increase our past system.

MS. MATTHEWS: In the same way that Nextgen really advances the ball, I'm sure we'll see new technologies, things like CCB. Just the invasion we've seen on TSA in terms of the arrival at the airport. We've seen many generations of technology there. I think in some ways it challenges us to find



know if the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board has actually had a chance to watch airports where Nextgen would be coming in. As you talked about your recommendations, it sounds like it's a rolling process. And I think it will be very good for this group, since we are ina wonderful position to be advocates and ambassadors for Nextgen, for us to have the latest exposure to what it actually looks like, how it operates.

If we could sort of have a field trip at the earliest point to do it, then I think we will have better ideas to amplify what you might be doing in these regional town halls around the country.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Kathleen.

Any other comments or questions for discussion?

MS. ANDOLINO: I'll touch on it a little bit further. With the Nextgen, that's going to improve the system in the air.



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It's important to have a complimentary infrastructure on the ground and, therefore, the role of the airport infrastructure to improve the runways and taxi ways.

Nextgen will make some improvements to New York's air system, but will it truly make a difference? New York is building new runways. It's a marginal benefit that comes into play with Nextgen.

The airports that do not have the opportunity to increase their infrastructure, it's the only opportunity they have. But the reality is putting in that infrastructure on the ground allows us to get those planes out of the sky and onto the ground safer and faster.

The one thing we did discuss as well as a group -- and I think it's in our letter -- is that where this actually goes is the Art Advisory Committee. The Art Advisory Committee of the American Association of Airport Executives has been improving environments and airport staff alike.

Integrative public art design



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enhancement scan be implemented and/or installed in the existing infrastructure and funded through local capital. And in terms of budgets, we were talking about should that go some place else in terms of the overall mission. It's not truly infrastructure.

In addition, I did verify with triple E. There's an art conference but not an arts advisory committee. So that doesn't actually exist. We need to definitely change that.

But we talked about using a sense of place and branding strategy. As we explore our opportunities in Chicago, we're looking at ways to partner with our neighboring community members, like our institutions, our art museum, our museum of natural history, and again looking at corporate sponsors to help build exhibits and help fund exhibits, and maybe student opportunities with our institutions or high-education institutions or even younger, or again the museums, that it truly is a public/private partnership.

In terms of building new space,



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there's usually state requirements and local requirements about public projects and having a budget for art. In most cases, at least .5 percent to 2 percent of your construction budget goes to art programs or developing public art.

Again, I see the art component as an important component in the sense of creating space. But I think we should put it in public/private rather than infrastructure. So any comments or thoughts or conversation further on that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think that recommendation came from me to put that in there, just in case anybody was wondering.

The thing about it is simply it came because of the way the language was written.

Everything else was written more about a different kind of infrastructure.

The first half of that paragraph was already there, and it talked about impression of the experience, not the other kinds of things that are more about runways and so on. It's the traveler's image of arrival



and departure and so on.

So when it comes to that, one of the things that has happened since 1958 is the evolution of about 500 public art programs across the country. And you're absolutely right. Most of them are funded. Most of their money comes from 1 percent or 2 percent of construction of programs. 1 percent of the budget is going to the arts that come from all these various cities.

But these enhancement programs have been very successful around the country.

Denver is agreat example of that enhancement program. Most people here if they thought about it, would recognize if they're coming into Miami, would see the art on the floors and so on.

So if somebody is talking about the lasting impressions of travelers, it seems like it's a problem. If that's not what it's about, it could go to different places, where it should go, and if you're actually talking about the impressions of travelers as they're arriving and departing as opposed to



2 infrastructure.

That was the only reason we identified that there, is because it was an aesthetic point of view that was also expressed in the committee report.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I think Rosemarie's recommendation was perhaps where the subcommittee talks about the private/public collaborative, one of their illustrations of that may be in another place where this language could go. How does that feel to you?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It feels fine for me to go someplace else if this is not a recommendation related to aesthetics or impression. You can see that distinction. The original language is slightly different than just seeing it now. But it's talking about airports are often the first and last impressions for travelers. And their experience in our cities, states and country are affected by the time spent in those airports.

That's an environment experience



statement. And that was the statement that was in there already, and we were just adding that to the statement. So if the concept of that whole statement should go some place else, then sure. That sounds great.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: So we have two options, then, it seems to me. So I'm going to look at both Robin and Rosemarie and Holly as members of this committee. But also it does make sense to Greg and Maryann as members of the climate committee. But I'll start with you, Robin and Holly.

MS. AGRA: I think as much as we appreciate the inside of the airport, I think the initial sentence was referring to the time spent on the outside of the airport, specifically on the runways. So in this particular instance, I think we were speaking about time spent on the runways.

I think about this as the big infrastructure that's going to impact growth.

I think it's the warmth and how do you feel when you arrive. It actually gives me a



different thought. If these are the goals in 2021, then I think all stakeholds, whether they be private or public -- Doug mentioned the number of people coming through. It's incumbent upon all of us to have these goals to make these plans fall into place.

In Asia and China, you get a sense that they're playing catch-up. I don't think we need to do all of that in the U.S., but we have to move away from the tactical nature. And I think that applies to all stakeholds here as well.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Go ahead, Maryann.

MS. FERENC: I think that it is a place where we could continue to identify and talk about that as part of an example of success.

MR. LYNCH: I think I agree with that. I think we can possibly take a look at some of that, especially with the model port program that's out there.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Robert, if that's agreeable to you -- and it sounds like it is to the two subcommittees that will be



involved in this then I will suggest that
we strike the language from that third full
paragraph on page 5 beginning with
"anairport's visible connection" through the
end of that paragraph. That we would strike
that. And I would ask the business
subclimate committee to look at strengthening
that collaborative language at our meeting in
September. John?
MR. SPROULS: Another recommendation

MR. SPROULS: Another recommendation would be to create a long-term solution, maybe a five-year funding or something like that, where they can plan long-term and not go back every six months to getmore paperwork.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The airlines have been criticized for saying we want this and not having the funding to do it.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Maryann?

MS. FERENC: Something we didn't talk about on our conference call. Do we have to re-language that to address it more directly to the Secretary and the Department of Commerce in order for it to fit into our



89 1 MEETING 2 charge? 3 We will make that JENNA: 4 clarification. 5 CHAIR DAVIDSON: We will make that 6 technical correction as well. T will 7 consider this letter adopted by consensus. 8 And we will move on to our next 9 subcommittee to discuss and deliberate their 10 proposed recommendations. And that was 11 chaired by Mr. Sproulson our travel 12 facilitation subcommittee. 13 SPROULS: The president's 14 executive order, our subcommittee really wants 15 to say thank you to our partners in 16 government because it has been a partnership 17 and they have listened. 18 I was part of the previous 19 subcommittee, and there were a number of 20 goals established and a number of things that 21 came forward. And they really formed the 22 base and backbone for a lot of things that 23 happened over the last 18 months, and we 24 applaud that. 25 We are serious about a hundred



million visitors in 2021. So we identified a number of recommendations that both maintain momentum and try to accelerate progress. Many of them are tactical. Some of them are operational. But they're both about moving the ball forward and continue on with success.

I'm going to talk about the recommendations and then devote the time to any questions. They are clustered around five areas: streamlined visa processing, staffing and resource integration, expansion of pre-check and model ports, in no particular order.

With respect to streamlined visa processing and visa access, we would like to ask that we explore and pilot a better utilization of consular locations with agents that are presently at out posts.

We realize that with a lot of the things that happened, it may take a while before such a pilot could happen. But we think it's something we should put on the radar stream. We like to see that both in



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terms of benefiting our country but also toput pressure on the Chinese government to deliver that reciprocity.

We would like to request that the State Department give us information and let us know about the process they currently use to process and factor into deciding where that happens.

We urge the administration to work to pass the JOLT Act and the elements of the JOLT Act. There are a number of things that are on the table now with respect to legislation that we think would really help from a facilitation point of view. They're detailed in the letter, but I would just point outone or two.

Within the JOLT Act, for example, with respect to the measurements of what countries can participate in the visa waiver program, the visa refusal rate, which right now is at a 3 percent threshold, will be moved to 10 percent.

With regard to the Senate legislation bill, there is authority for the Secretary of



State to waive in-person visa interviews where appropriate. That legislative authority does not exist, but that would go a long way to allow the Secretary of State to decide where there are very low risk categories.

Turning to staffing and resource integration. We would like to request a staffing analysis briefly so it allows some of our top talent that deals with processes and best practices of moving around people.

I met Randy Garfield from Disney during the lunch. He said to us, "I know you're on the solicitation committee." We've done that with model ports, but we would like to do that more.

Part of that staffing analysis ought to be also in the Appropriation Act. As we continue to free the number of visitors and don't grow the officers, it doesn't show how efficient our practice has become. It's going to be sheer volume. I strongly support it. I know you can't lobby, but there's people that can lobby to make sure we get new officers in 2013. Anytime you



93 1 MEETING 2 get customer feedback, it helps in managing 3 processes. 4 In our industry -- and I'm sure 5 other industries do as well -- we do a lot 6 of cross-utilization of people. You've got 7 CTP and TPA. 8 Moving on to global entry. We like 9 to see global validity expand during the next 10 ten years. The point that was raised early 11 by Douglas was to increase. 12 We talked in our subcommittee this 13 morning that the process in the UK for being 14 able to participate in global entry is 15 cumbersome. We think there are 120 people 16 in the UK that can actually participate in 17 global entry coming into our country. 18 that's just insane. 19 Along those same lines, we would 20 like to see new bilateral agreements, 21 especially France and Japan. But we would 22

like to see us have new conversations.

One of the issues that's come up in the conversations we've been having over the

last few months is that your global entry



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approval doesn't automatically transfer when you get a new transport. It's a process that the individual passport holder has to take responsibility for.

We would also like to, from a marketing point of view, see us get the numbers higher, expansion of TSA pre-check. We think pre-check is a wonderful thing. Anything we can do to increase the use of pre-check.

I applaud the airlines for participating in and making it able to be launched. But I think ultimately if it is going to be driven as a major way to offset the lines, it's going to have to be a plan independent of the airlines. It should be a partnership, but it should be bigger than that.

With respect to model ports, there's a lot of things that go on in terms of infrastructure on the ground. And we'd like to see and understand, from a national point of view, some standardization when CTP gets brought into discussions with respect to



2 infrastructure.

So recognizing that there's only so much you can do wasn't getting things built. If we could try to have a process whereby before capital commitments are made, CTP can participate in those discussions to see how it could be set up.

We recommend national standardizations of signs and symbols to guide people in international ports. In most every airport there is a standardization. We're confused enough. And for those folks that are visiting the country, it's gotto be impossible.

We would like to see DHS and CTP dedicate a staff resource to help expand and enhance the model ports.

So those are the recommendations with respect to the facilitation subcommittee. I would ask any of the subcommittee members if there's anything they want to add or if there's any questions.

MS. MATTHEWS: As the co-chair of this, I think that we also want to go on



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record thanking all of the agencies for the incredible amount of cooperation and integration of systems that have in the past really been in silos and to really applaud you and encourage you for continued collaboration on this because this is how we've made progress and will continue to make the kind of progress we've set forth in this letter.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Kathleen.

Any comments for discussion?

I really like your idea AGRA: about informing the passport offices to talk about global entry. I have a new agency for It is the U.S. Postal you to enlighten. Office. Because I saw a sign atmy post office advertising, "Apply for your passport here." And I said, "Do you have any information on global entry?" And they have not heard of that before. So it's a new agency for us to enlighten.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thanks, Holly.

MR. SPROULS: Holly, thanks for bringing that up. For those of you who



97 1 MEETING 2 don't know, the U.S. Postal Service and other 3 agencies do handle passport acceptance duties 4 for Americans either renewing or applying for 5 their first passport. And there is a lot 6 going on now to inform those other agencies 7 about global entry. 8 So that's definitely something that 9 we're going to expand in the future. 10 CHAIR DAVIDSON: I have a laundry 11 list, but I'll wait. 12 Wait until the JENNA: 13 recommendations are adopted. 14 MR. SMITH: This is all great. 15 And, John, first of all, thank you. You and 16 Kathleen and Melissa have been amazing. 17 a couple points, somewhat just as a level 18 set and to clarify. 19 We have talked about this TSA/CTP 20 There are many different employees. 21 The employees of CTP are federal law 22 enforcement officers. They go through the 23 They are part of federal statutes academy. 24 and immigration authorities that TSA employees



don't.

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2	So you really can't cross-pollinate
3	it. And while they both work very closely
4	in the same department, it sort of ends
5	there.
6	Todd, as a port director, will work
7	with the head of TSA for his ports, and they
8	communicate a lot in terms of immigration of
9	passenger flow input. In terms of the

actual bodies, they are very different.

MS. MATTHEWS: Did we conflate this the letter that we need to address? TODD: There's really no way that we

could cross-use them. They're very different employees.

Can we table this? MS. MATTHEWS: MR. SMITH: They each play a very, very important role in what we do, but they're trained entirely differently and they're given by law very different authority. So you can't sort of shift back and forth. It would be kind of like asking flight attendant to go to the cockpit and fly the plane. They are very good in what they're trained to do in the cabin and



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2	passenger safety.
3	Just a clarification on that. An
4	idea is that, John, you should try to be in
5	Chicago on July 1st to see the cool
6	announcement that O'Hare is going to be
7	doing, because they are leading the way in
8	our next evolution of what a model port can
9	look like through several innovative programs.
10	I think it will be a great place to do a
11	sub-meeting after the exciting announcement
12	that O'Hare is going to do. We are doing
13	it in Chicago, and I think it will be
14	apretty neat thing to see.
15	MS. MATTHEWS: In the staffing
16	resource integration, this is where it's
17	popping up as a concern. That you think
18	maybe it implies that we thought people could

shift from one to another. Isn't that sentence that both sides can discuss how they learn from each other?

MR. SMITH: The things we can improve on, absolutely.

Let's use Chicago as an example. You're going to see something very



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innovative. I think that will be a great
starting point. In Orlando we used you guys
and the Disney folks to maximize the
efficiency there. I don't want to speak for
Todd, but we're always looking for smart way
to do it better. Our port directors try to
be very engaged and active in our community.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know what to add to the conversation. But in terms of cross-pollination, CTP officers, they're law enforcement officers. They're trained. They do extensive questioning. Whereby TSA personnel, I'm not sure exactly what their training is, but it's a whole different skill set.

And one area we are looking to work with TSA -- and this kind of gives you an example -- is through global entry whereby TSA personnel can help us with some of the administrative duties at point of entry. Not being allowed to do the interviewing portion, but to help with administrative functions.

We take that very seriously, and we don't think we can just put a TSA officer in there



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and just increasethe staffing that way.

MR. SPROULS: What you just said you're going to try out, that's what we're talking about. Where it's possible for those kinds of things to happen to see if we can make that happen.

MS. MATTHEWS: It's like outsourcing some of the administrative work on some of your visa processing to non-foreign service officers.

So this would be a case where potentially onsome of administrative back-of-the-house kind of work, if there are opportunities for TSA to support CTP where they don't need the law enforcement training, that seems like that would be a comparable thing of manpower deployment.

MR. DOUGLAS: CTP is funded every other year, but we do a very comprehensive survey. Last year's survey was some passengers coming in. It's not uniformed officers doing the survey. It's civil people doing the survey. We're hopeful that the funding will be in existence for us this



102 1 MEETING 2 coming year to once again do a refresh. 3 And, John, if you have not seen that 4 survey, I will be delighted to get that to 5 you as the comprehensive. You might have 6 not sat through the comprehensive work 7 staffing presentation. 8 MR. SPROULS: No, I didn't. 9 MR. DOUGLAS: A lot of guys from DC 10 got to sit through that. 11 One last thing. Global entries. Wе 12 think that is our secret weapon. The more 13 we can do about that, the better. 14 I was just getting clarification 15 after our morning meeting. One of you asked 16 me where are we at with Brazil on the visa 17 waiver. On the visa waiver side of it, no, 18 they have not asked yet. There has been 19 discussions, but they have not pushed on 20 anything. 21 Recently, though, they have been 22 asking about global entry. We might not 23 visa waiver, but this may be an interest

from Brazil to see how they can bring on

global entry type system.



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On the JOLT Act, the administration haspublicly endorsed the JOLT Act. There's nothing wecan do about that. But we have put out our support paper, and we are pretty much in a holding pattern. The line we can no longer cross we are at.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thanks, Doug. Rosemarie?

MS. ANDOLINO: I have to say thank you to Douglas and his team. We have been working collaboratively with not only CTP but our stakeholders and airline parties to be ready for our July 1st announcement. Again, another collaborative measure where we're able to expedite people coming through.

If you're carrying on and don't have any checked baggage, you can go through the side entrance of O'Hare and not go through inspection. So you bypass that.

In fact, we were there when we welcomed our first passenger through. And his comment was, "They told me this was going to be an hour wait or more, and it's three minutes."



1 MEETING So that's where we quoted him in our press statement. And we said, "You need to tell your friends." He said, "You need to tell yours." He was very excited about how quickly this process went through. And the ability to pull as many people out of primary lines and kind of minimize the risk So what your officers have to concentrate on is important.

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One of the things I learned during our dialogue and discussion is what really might help here. As a CTP officer, your work rules does not allow in CTP to have the flex time. If we can encourage labor to sit at the table to develop a process to invite that, that will help us with those peaks. Not mixing lines of business but actually using your resources more efficiently.

Because for our challenges, we have peaks and lulls in our banks of arrivals. So if you have part-time officers, you can bring them in for that.

Or another thing that we actually looked at as well for the Department of



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Aviation is using people that are retired to come back for part-time because they have all the training. Just different ways to look at utilizing resources that may have already existed and gone through training and minimize wait times.

MR. SMITH: I think the short answer is we have always looked at innovative ideas. The challenge we have found with bringing back retired officers is just keeping the trainings current. It's one thing if literally they're on the job today and they retired tomorrow and they want to scale back alittle bit. I think that would be an area we could look at.

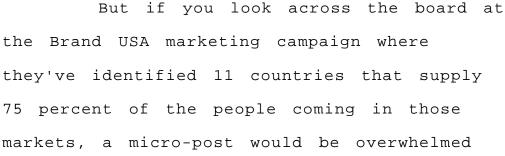
The longer term retirees would probably be more challenging just because the training they go through is ever-present.

It's not that they learn it once and forget it. It's a recurrent effort.

With all that being said, we've got a tough situation. And with that tough situation, we can look at any reasonable solution to help us get where we want to



106 1 MEETING 2 get. 3 Thank you, Douglas. CHAIR DAVIDSON: 4 Andt hank you, Rosemarie, for the suggestion. 5 Jonathan? 6 ZUK: Going back though your MR. 7 point regarding the visas and the officers 8 countries that are large. This is something 9 that we've heard many times. That people 10 basically need to take a vacation to go on 11 vacation because they need to go through the 12 Is this something in the works or is lines. 13 this something you are thinking about doing 14 to make it easy to process? 15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The issues and 16 probability of micro office is something that 17 could not happen in the near term. We are 18 looking at locations to establish visa 19 Iraq will start visa services by services. 20 the end of this month. 21





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anyway even if the security situation would allow for its establishment.

Where we are putting in the new posts, which Brazil and China are going in big with new consulates that will have the capacity to handle a hundred thousand applications a year, that doesn't address your point of people having to take a trip to take a trip. But legislatively we have to interview applicant and collect their biometric fingerprints. So they have to go to a facility where that can be done.

We want to make that process as quick and painful as possible. That's where the single-digit wait times help so people can plan their visit and have the confidence that it won't take extra time. And then with other things that are in effect, they can renew that visa and never have to come into one of our facilities again unless something shows up in the database.

But to be frank, using small facilities around the world is probably not something we're going to be able to do in



108 1 MEETING 2 the near term. 3 Which doesn't make CHAIR DAVIDSON: 4 it anyless appropriate for the subcommittee's 5 recommendation. 6 Not seeing any other comments or 7 questions at this time, I will consider this 8 letter adopted by consensus. 9 Before the last letter of 10 recommendation comes to us, I want to thank 11 both John and Kathleen for co-chairing the 12 great work that was done by the travel 13 subcommittee. 14 Our research task force was chaired 15 by Rossi, but he was called away. We have 16 Kevin, who is going to be standing in. I'11 17 turn it over to you, Kevin. 18 For the record, my name MR. BAGER: 19 is Kevin Bager, and I work for Rossi. Не 20 offered his apologies. But his bosses, our 21 board, had the audacity to do stuff like 22 So he is busy in the midst of that. 23 Rossi is a market researcher at 24 heart. He understands these programs inside



and out.

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Over the last several months,

1	109 MEETING
2	and Laura have spearheaded the program to
3	optimize it. And I know in the interest of
4	time, we'll do this quickly.
5	I think part of the reason he had
3	me talk is because I am the fastest speaker
7	on the staff. Laura is going to walk us
3	through the recommendations.

MS. MANDALA: Thank you, Kevin. Wе have outlined briefly in some of our earlier meetings that we have assembled the task force from a variety of members of the travel industry, these including major polling companies such as Gallup. They include someof the major users including Las Vegas, Oregon, New York, California.

included travel companies, travel agencies, associations, Universal Studios, and airlines to all come together and really seriously look at this as a tool for providing the industry with the only source of data it has on understanding inbound international travelers.

I won't go into the recent history where funding was at jeopardy. It didn't



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2	exist for the latter half of 2013. But we'd		
3	like to think that part of our work on		
4	focusing on this, along with new travel and		
5	other members of the industry, resulted in		
6	SIAT having a line in the budget for 2013.		
7	But there are still questions about		
8	SIAT and its effectiveness and its ability to		
9	be as robust and informed a tool as		
10	possible. So with the think tank, which we		

SIAT and its effectiveness and its ability to be as robust and informed a tool as possible. So with the think tank, which we like to call it with industry people, in fact, we have our university partners there as well. And we provide you a list of the organizations that were present in these conversations on the back of this memo. It's called an appendix. And you can see who were present at these meetings.

Some of the conclusions we've come to, the first conclusion is to increase the sample size of SIAT. The TPA, Traffic Promotion Act, mandates a 1 percent sample. Well, 1 percent is not critical. You can still have a very robust sample size at 5 percent. And that's what we are recommending here.



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increasing the sample through a variety of ways, you're going to make the data available and relevant to more destinations. You're going to capture more countries and overall improve this as a research tool.

And we've gone through each of these recommendations. We have pretty in-depth recommendations for steps that you could take to improve each of these areas.

And we can open those up discussion if you'd like, but I'm going to go over the top level recommendations now, and we'll talk about the specifics if you have any questions about those.

let's go to our second recommendation. The second recommendation was really the most critical and formed the foundation for us moving forward on this recommendation by SIAT. We had face-to-face meetings and conference calls -- I would say about six in all -- with our task force. It was determined that there really is no other reliable and valid approach to gaining



methodically sound data that you need for understanding inbound travel to the United States.

While undergoing this process, we also learned from the BEA that they've decided to use the SIAT for looking at balance and payments. They looked at the credit card data, and they don't represent the bulk of international travelers.

So BEA has stated their intent to use SIAT as the use of balance and payments.

We're going to enhance -- keep the SIAT the way it is, maintain the methodology, We can improve it by but improve it. expanding at more airports. Right now we're 27 airports. We can go to 40 or 50. We can improve the data collection methods It's kind of an old-fashioned right now. method, standing and interviewing people at the gates, but it's still a valid and reliable way to go.

But we can improve that through electronic tools. So instead of handwriting a questionnaire, we can have data inputted



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2	into a tablet. Or instead of having
3	face-to-face interaction with the customer, we
4	can give them a link to go online on their
5	mobile device or computer and have them fill
6	it out when they get home. So a lot of
7	technical improvements can improve the data
8	collection.
9	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can I ask you
10	two questions? One is, did you make any
11	estimates on how to drive the cost per

estimates on how to drive the cost per survey? There's а current cost structure per survey, and one of the fundamental questions has been, are there ways to reduce the costper survey through scale.

In the current world of that individual filling it out, you don't get any kind of scale. Therefore, the cost of survey has stayed somewhat constant. With some improvements, have you estimated at all where you think the cost of survey could go?

MS. MANDALA: I don't have a specific number, but we believe it will decline because of these improvements. However, those reductions in cost are going



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114 1 MEETING 2 offset by the fact that we anticipate 3 interviewing more people. be 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Fair enough. 5 And the second question is, did you quantify 6 the cost of test? It says here test. 7 MS. MANDALA: Right. 8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there any 9 quantitation what the test will cost? 10 MS. MANDALA: We will determine the 11 cost of the test once we have agreement on 12 the approaches that we want to take. 13 have estimates right now. 14 In discussion, the test MR. BAGER: 15 we were debating was what is the amount of a 16 Is it one month of data? it test. Ιs 17 three months of data? Whatever that cost is 18 at the end of the day, we do believe a 19 three-month period would be optimal to prove 20 that the improvements are doing what they 21 need to do. 22 MS. MATTHEWS: You suggested mobile 23 in there, and we all know in China. It won't be 24 MS. MANDALA: 25 exclusively mobile. It will just be adding



115 1 MEETING 2 mobile for a certain portion. So we're 3 going to maintain the original approach. 4 MS. MATTHEWS: Does going exclusively 5 to mobile skew your samples too much? 6 MR. BAGER: The testing will tell 7 This was an online sample to skew 8 your response. We believe that online, 9 whether it's a mobile device oryour PC at 10 home, an online element is absolutely a key 11 improvement. 12 Mobile is so critical MS. MATTHEWS: 13 If you don't have mobile, you right now. 14 don't have an accurate sample. 15 MS. MANDALA: The original approach 16 is to stand at the gate. 17 MS. MATTHEWS: I'm trying to decide 18 how far away from that continuum you were 19 at. 20 The testing is going MS. MANDALA: 21 to determine what the ratio will actually be. 22 MR. BAGER: Where the visitor is 23 intercepted will be at the gates of the 24 airport. It's how they fill out the survey 25 is what we're suggesting. You'll still get



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1 MEETING a sample based on inbound to the United States, if it's 15 percent. MS. MANDALA: Kathleen, we'll keep that in mind because our goal is to capture the entire inbound copy. So we'll look at

what will skew how many travelers.

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The next recommendation is we feel that SIAT needs a line item within the federal budget since it's now so critical to the balance of payments. We feel it cannot be subject to the vagaries of political and economic life. To have that a dedicated line item is going to provide some stability not only in the travel industry, but for government in its reporting globally what balance of payments are.

Then there were a variety of options for I guess this dedicated funding. One is to ask the Department of Commerce to ensure that that funding is allocated every year. It could be part of their annual budget.

Option-2 is to take some of the unallocated ESTA monies that have been captured for the TPF, travel promotion fund,



117 1 MEETING 2 and an additional ESTA fee to support SIAT. 3 I should preface this by saying 4 we're not the government funding experts. Wе 5 just talked to a lot of people and are 6 laying out what our options are. We would 7 it as government's role to identify what 8 the best approach is for finding the funding 9 for making this happen. 10 The third option was to look to 11 Brand USA's budget outside of manufacturing 12 funds to pay for both the core and testing 13 We've had talks with Brand USA. 14 And needless to say, it would involve alot 15 of legal investigation. So we didn't go 16 down that path since we weren't sure how the 17 TTAB felt about us moving in that direction. 18 But if we were to move in that 19 direction, it would be explored fully with 20 government and government lawyers as an

option.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Outside of manufacturing funds, I'm curious. What does that mean?

> What it's intended to MR. BAGER:



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118 1 MEETING mean is it's a

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line item that's not tied to a donation. They have a dedicated fund for SIAT regardless of how the money moves around on their side of the ledger.

Again, we have to see what the decide, if that's government lawyers feasible or not. But we were told the manufacturing fund absolutely complicates effort.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's hard for to map and then get that money back to do something.

> MR. BAGER: Certainly.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It puts us in a difficult position.

MS. MANDALA: SIAT will now be handled under the National Travel and Tourism Office. So I would really be a proponent of Option-1, which is let's fund what's necessary appropriately through the budget process.

Dick and I were talking about this yesterday. The funding has now been It was actually going to be taken restored.



119 1 MEETING 2 out and put in for2014. So we've been able 3 to maintain it. Now, ifit's not funded 4 appropriately or to its right levels, I think 5 we should then look at doing it in the 6 budget. 7 My concern on Option 2 is the fact 8 that inthe immigration proposal, that's how 9 there's the increase on the ESTA basically 10 almost doubling the ESTA fee to \$30. Today 11 it's \$14. It's adding another \$16 onto 12 that. 13 In addition, the ESTA money really 14 support the DHS's role and CTP. 15 SMITH: A very small part of MR. 16 that. 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It was \$16. 18 Oh, within the bill MR. SMITH: 19 you're talking about. The language keeps 20 changing. The initial language was relating 21 to the ability to pay for a biometric exit, 22 I believe. I don't know if that's been 23 settled upon. 24 Do you find CTP MS. MANDALA: 25 officers apart of it as well, Todd?



MR. SMITH: Half of it is through appropriation, and that would be \$4. And that is tied to immigration tax.

MS. MANDALA: Does that then further complicate it?

MR. SMITH: We probably should table this one. This is opening up large can of worms that we should probably dial back and address maybe a little bit offline today on some of these things that relates to funding. This is not the appropriate moment to delve into it.

MR. HAYES: It is the government's job tofigure out how things get funded and not funded. I think we need to point out some of the risks that come with all these additional fees and charges. You know, it's \$2 here, \$5 here.

By the way, it's not just on the U.S. end, but when travelers come from all parts of the world, it also increases charges. You very quickly get to several hundred dollars of fees and charges. I think that we haven't yesterday understood



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what an impact it's having on demand.

And specific to the item here, there's a lot of companies, and there's been so much collaboration with companies. the ability in this area to get step-changed on the amount of information, one of the things we do every week now is, social media is so big. You get a one-page work file. It's not market research in the purest form that allows you to go and allocate assets, it gives you a very good snapshot that says now you have a problem with U.S. arrivals from what China officials are telling me.

I think just being transparent think on behalf of the airline sector, adding \$2 as an extra fee on top of other charges, we're not helping them build the goals to get travelers come to this currently.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: So are the second and third paragraphs in the letter being asked to be tabled?

MR. SMITH: Given the tremendous attention to competitive reform and what is



going on in those negotiations and the complications associated withit, we may be asking for trouble. I'm trying to be diplomatic.

MS. MANDALA: Would the research committee want to pull back at this time because of what's happening?

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The reason for my question -- and I don't know if you want to defer to Kevin to pick up your diplomacy where you just left off. But what I'm trying to determine is, are you good with Options 1 and 3 and Option 2 having A and B?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's a balance of funds there that are unallocated within the ESTA fund. There's \$10 that goes to DHS, and there's \$10 that are held in trust for Brand USA. But there's additional revenue that is generated over and above the hundred million.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: This becomes 2B to me. If that's the sticky point, let's have the conversation there. That's what I'm



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asking. I'll let Kevin answer Part 1.

But what I'm saying is, well, right now as you all know, the access fee we don't get. The access fee goes to deficit reduction. There are alot of good parts in the immigration bill. And I think there's some things in there that could be very effective and helpful to many of the themes that have been spoken about in the last few hours.

It's not to be diplomatic. But I'm not prepared -- well, I'm prepared but maybe not willing in an open forum -- and I'm willing to go off-lineand talk about this.

I think Robin is picking up on there's an underlying situation going on that we have to be cautious about.

And it's not to take away the good smart research. We support that wholly.

But there is significant complications within the funding streams to how we want to look at doing that.

MS. MANDALA: Is it acceptable to say that we are advocating for a dedicated



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2 source of funding without going into how that
3 happens?
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A dedicated
5 source of funding, yes. The issue is Option

source of funding, yes. The issue is Option

1. It's sort of hard to actually exercise

Option 1 because funds are appropriate. And

so it's unclear to me.

I think it's fine to have it. It's unclearto me operationally how that sustains the survey formany years because there are still decisions that need to be made and the appropriators need to appropriate to us.

Now, let me just ask, is your concern --because, on the other hand, you can make recommendations to us, and we just don't have to respond.

There's lot of information up here.

Do you have a particular concern around the recommendation coming in? Because we can simply say there's are commendation that comes, and we will think about it.

MR. SMITH: I think you're opening up a can of worms with 2B. There's air turbulence at the moment, and we're trying to



navigate and we're trying to fly this plane in for immigration reform. And I think we just need to walk cautiously. You probably all find it hilarious saying that you have to be cautious. I'm being sensitive.

But there are a lot of moving parts, and there are a lot of people that want to be cautious that we don't overextend.

MS. MANDALA: Can we make the statement that we would like a line item in the budget?

MR. SMITH: You can make that statement. We're just here to listen. I'm just offering some cautious advice as to how we work through this.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think getting better information, thinking about how we organize these surveys, how we can create steps to gather information. There's other conflicting -- not necessary conflicting ideas with the survey, but things that people want to get funded. Until we understand what all of those are, what impact we think it's going to have.



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1	MEETING
2	You look at countries in Europe who
3	have made big increases in fees and taxation,
4	and then they've pulled them out because of
5	the catastrophic impact they had in terms of
6	numbers. I think that's something we're very
7	nervous about until we better understand
8	that.
9	MS. MANDALA: Would you say in a
10	few months' time you will have more
11	information that will guide us in a better

r direction?

SMITH: For DHS I think we play out the clock for the 2014 budget before we cloud the playing field with other complications.

MR. BAGER: Is it still as complicated without 2B in there?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can I make a recommendation in terms of the language? you got rid of Options 1, 2 and 3 and leave it as long-term dedicated funding for SIAT achieve its support inthe tourism industry. How about extending that with a discussion of appropriate funding mechanisms?



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127 1 MEETING 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It would be 3 fine. 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Dedicate 5 sufficient funding for the SIAT to achieve 6 its mandate in support of the tourism 7 industry. 8 ZUK: Is it okay to do a 9 negative recommendation and say we advocate 10 There was a not to raise the ESTA fee. 11 push back to \$14. And if we change it to 12 \$30, the explosion would be worse. 13 CHAIR DAVIDSON: This would not be 14 the letter to do it in coming from our 15 research task force. That would be a 16 recommendation that would be complicated. Wе 17 would want to refer it to one of our 18 subcommittees. 19 From my personal perspective, 20 to run into the same concern we've 21 here in terms of how it plays out. I don't 22 think this is a letter todo that 23 Jonathan. 24 MR. ZUK: I agree. It is a concern 25 in the industry. These countries when



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they've looked at these charges in the past, they've viewed it as we can just put these things up. And my concern is if you keep increasing these charges, we decrease the demand for coming in.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A bolder step would be to say dedicated sufficient funding for the SIAT to achieve its mandate in support of the tourism industry with a discussion over appropriate funding mechanisms, including but not limited to Option 1 and Option 3. And you just eliminated Option 2, which is sort of the red herring here.

But you were not limiting it to that. So you're sort of saying one option is dedicated funding that shows that the group believes that this is important to fund, but we also recognize maybe someof the challenges of a line item like that.

Option 3 shows that perhaps putting this within Brand USA and funding it within their existing mechanism is an option, but there might be some other ones out there on the table.



129 1 MEETING 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And the 3 subcommittee will further explore, et cetera, 4 et cetera? 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right. 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And if I may, 7 just to hijack the moment. And I'm sorry 8 for hogging the mike. If we agreed by the 9 way with the hypothesis that the more 10 expensive we make it to come here, the less 11 likely people are to come. Where do we have 12 that dialoque? Because I'm extremely 13 concerned that some of the things that we 14 may choose to do in the United States the 15 next two or three years may mirror some of 16 the things I've seen in Europe. 17 airline industry, we're concerned with the 18 direction of demand. 19 MS. ANDOLINO: I think that this 20 conversation moves that up on the list of 21 things that the business climate subcommittee 22 needs to address. CHAIR DAVIDSON: 23 That was one of 24 those topics that was handed to your 25 committee that was raised by the full-time



board to look at taxes on visitors as well as taxes on businesses themselves and the climate we're creating.

MS. MANDALA: I'm kind of remiss that Rossi is not here because I know he feels strongly about the funding component, and he feels there should be agovernment funded survey. So I just wanted to make that statement.

And I'm hoping that we're going to be able to pick up funding maybe at our next meeting or before the end of the year because it sounds to methat this initiative is getting put under the table because certain folks think there's more important initiatives taking place.

And I'm sure there are important things going on, but this is a source of balance of payments. And to keep putting off funding this thing just seems like a bad dream.

MR. SMITH: Don't take hesitation from this side of the room as -- we do research in everything we do, and there's a



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1 MEETING 2 huge support for research. I think we just 3 need to be walking into that fully aware and 4 just being fully aware. No one is opposed 5 to research. We're all for it. We think 6 But we want to do a deep-dive it's great. 7 fund research. look at how we 8 Adding another fight into the mix, 9 my guidance, putting on my advisory hat is, 10

don't back off the importance of doing Let's just be cautious about how research. we talk about financing it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would just say there's nobody questioning --I think everybody knows the importance of research and how to fund it. I think we don't want to undermine the larger recommendation simply because there is an option in here that touches the third rail. You'll have opposition to the entire recommendation in my view.

And that's why I would suggest and I concur with Kathleen's recommendation in terms of how we might change the language. It doesn't change anything about



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132 1 MEETING 2 our warranting to get funding for it. I 3 think you share my view in that. 4 MS. MATTHEWS: I think it's an 5 important thing for this group. I think we 6 had not addressed that head-on. And for 7 that conversation to start in the 8 subcommittee and come to the Advisory Board 9 willbe a very good thing. 10 I think just UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 11 take the options out. It says everything we 12 need to say rightthere. 13 MS. MANDALA: We can live with that, 14 taking the options out. 15 MR. BAGER: There should be some 16 dedicated funding mechanism. The intent of 17 it is, these are the three we discussed. 18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But it's going to touch a nerve. Yeah, we've unhighlighted 19 20 the one that has 21 Like everything, everyone BAGER: MR. 22 is competing for funds in research. Just so 23 I understand, we're removing all of the 24 options?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:



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Why do we

133 1 MEETING 2 need options if the recommendation says 3 dedicate sufficient funding for the SIAT to 4 achieve mandate insupport of the tourism 5 industry? 6 CHAIR DAVIDSON: The options would 7 be removed from the letter, and then later 8 explore what those options would be. 9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Put in a 10 discussion of funding not limited --11 including Options 1 and 3. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 12 We probably 13 should take a vote on this. 14 CHAIR DAVIDSON: The consensus is 15 driving towards pulling the detail of the 16 options out but putting in the language that 17 there needs to be a dedicated sufficient 18 funding source identified and there needs to 19 be conversations going forward that weneed to 20 be engaged in around what these funding 21 options are. 22 We are going to either put a period 23 there or say "including but not limited to 24 Option 1 and Option 3." No references to

Option 2 in our including but not limited



134 1 MEETING 2 language. 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We already 4 know that Option 3 would be a legal problem. Why not simply take 1, 2 and 3 out and 5 6 summarize what we need, andit will be open 7 for discussions. 8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: bluow T 9 support taking 1, 2 and 3 out, but I would 10 leave the line in. 11 CHAIR DAVIDSON: And that's the line 12 we would add. Is that this group would work 13 with the federal government to discuss what 14 our options would be. 15 I'm not hearing any strong visceral 16 So we will consider reactions either way. 17 this letter adopted subject to the options. 18 We have taken all three options off the table, and we will reference this 19 20 That there needs to be recommendation. 21 dedicated tabled funding source, and it will 22 be working in conjunction with the TTAB and 23 the SIAT subcommittee. MR. LYNCH: The advocacy committee 24 25 has decided not to put in a report, not put



in a letter today. We are doing it in the fall. And part of the reason for doing it in the fall is that so many of the committee reports have advocacy issues in them, like this, for example.

And so we wanted to see what that was first, and we wanted our report to in some instances reflect what you all are saying and in some instances make sure we are not redundant in what you're saying. So that will be coming up.

In our meeting today, we looked at a variety of recommendations that we've been working on for awhile, but there are three real categories of that: Impediments to travel and tourism, legacy issues from the last committee, issues about destination and enhancing going to destinations, partnering with destinations, content of destination, and then promotion and communications around those issues. So that's what we're looking at.

We have a number of things that the committee today discussed that were in your recommendations, like whole government and



issues that are related to the various segments of population, to tribal ethnicities, to different kinds of destination communities to work in there.

So with that, that's pretty much what we're going to be working on over the summer. And, Maureen, anything else?

Maureen is the vice chair. Thank you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Robert,
Maureen and everybody on that committee.

Thank you very much. We look forward to
your recommendations when we get together in
September.

Jenna has some house keeping items for us as we come up on adjournment.

JENNA: Thank you everyone for your comments and letters. We have two meetings in the next two days. We will be confirming the September meeting. There is a reminder for tomorrow for the tour of the airport, the CTP and TSA operations. If you want to learn the differences between what a TSA and CTP officer does, here's the chance. Wе will meet at the Alaska Airlines ticketing



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2	counter.
3	Thank you to Douglas for putting
4	that together. Thank you to U.S. Travel for
5	hosting us. It's an incredible partnership
6	to be able to be here at the IPW in Las
7	Vegas.
8	Rossi invited you all to a show
9	tonight to Beatles Love. If you took him up
10	on those tickets, see me at the reception,
11	which is right across the hallway right now.
12	As soon as Todd adjourns us, we will see you
13	there.
14	CHAIR DAVIDSON: If that doesn't
15	tell you what I need to do next, so I don't
16	stand in the way of a martini, showgirls or
17	anything else, then all I have to say is we
18	are adjourned.
19	(Whereupon the meeting was concluded
20	at 5:25 p.m.)
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1	138 MEETING
2	CERTIFICATE
3	
4	COUNTY OF CLARK
5	
6	I, Jane V. Efaw, certified shorthand
7	reporter, do hereby certify that I took down
8	in shorthand (Stenotype) all of the
9	proceedings had in the before-entitled matter
10	at the time and place indicated; and that
11	there after said shorthand notes were
12	transcribed into typewriting at and under my
13	direction and supervision and the foregoing
14	transcript constitutes a full, true and
15	accurate record of the proceedings had.
16	
17	The Thour
18	
19	Jane V. Efaw
20	
21	DATED: June 18, 2013
22	
23	
24	
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Page 1 U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Monday, June 10, 2013 Las Vegas Convention Center 3150 Paradise Road Las Vegas, Nevada, 89109 Room-N237N241 2:06 p.m 5:25 p.m.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	And Ben Touvall was not able to join us at this meeting, but I am confident he is very much here with us in spirit. I am asked to remind you of a few housekeeping items. First of all, which I'm not doing a very good job here, for the sake of the process and our transcriptionist, please use the mikes as we do our introductions or make our deliberations. As we make our comments, if you would state your name and then make your comment. It will help not only the folks on the phone to know who's speaking but also our transcriptionist who is here. So I would ask you to do that as well. We have letters that are in the folder. We have four different sets of recommendations that a recoming forward from our subcommittees today. So we have a very piffy agenda today. That's why it's three hours rather than our more traditional two-hour agenda. It's also three hours because you guys are pretty dog gone engaged, and you like hanging out together and discuss the
1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Jenna just acknowledged that we had some folks on the phone. I understand Mr. Talbert is attending from Spain. It's very early in Spain. Bill, I appreciate you joining us very much and welcome you to the very first meeting of the TTAB. I want to welcome Brian and Trudy and Sherry and Ingrid, who are here today and joining us and will be momentarily sworn in as official members of the Travel and	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	issues and have asked for our meetings to be longer. So we wanted to honor that request and make sure that our meetings allowed for that type of discussion and deliberation as we go forward. So with that, I would like to introduce and ask Mr. Rossi Ralenkotter, who is the president and host of IPW 2013 and our immediate past chair of the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, to offer us his welcome to Las Vegas. MR. RALENKOTTER: Thank you, Todd. And I do want to welcome all of you to IPW 2013. That is the fourth time that Las Vegas has hosted. Each time wedo host the convention and trade show, it's a record breaking number. And this one isn't any different. There will be over 6300 attendees, which is a record as I said, but more importantly members ofthe press and 1900 buyers that are going to be here. So it's a great opportunity for all of us to

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every one of you today.

Tourism Advisory Board. I welcome each and

Bill is joining us on the phone.

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a great opportunity for all of us to

have to offer to the visiting public.

showcase the United States and everything we

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And this particular show coming at this time is very critical because all of us are experiencing a sustained growth in the travel business right now, and we need to continue that as we go into the future.

A couple of things to tell you about my hometown that's happening right now. We've got about \$2.5 billion worth of construction that's going on. So as you go through this destination while you're here, you may notice the construction. The largest observation wheel, which is next to the Flamingo Hotel and what used to be the Imperial Palace, the quad is halfway finished, and there will be 12,000 square feet of bars, nightclubs and shopping. We also have some renovations going on in town.

So the confidence in the travel industry is being demonstrated when you see that type of investment coming back to our city.

In fact, there's over \$5 billion of new construction and new projects that have been announced in the last 30 days. So we truly can say that Las Vegas is back as well Page 7

been better. Three organizations have definitely made a difference. So all of us can take credit for that. All of us should be proud of it.

So if there's anything you may need while you're here, please call me, and we'll try to take care of that for you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I would like to go around the room and have each of us introduce ourselves since we have some new members that are going to be sworn in in a moment.

I just realized I failed to introduce myself. Those of you that don't know me well yet, my name is Todd Davidson. And when I'm not chairing the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, I am the CEO of Travel Oregon.

I ask that we begin with John. MR. SPROULS: John Sprouls, Executive Vice President of Universal Parks and Resorts.

MS. RAMUDO: Olga Ramudo, Express Travel of Miami.

MR. HOESSLE: Kirk Hoessle, President

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as the industry. We always stay on the cutting edge here of technology and the cutting edge of entertainment.

The new Michael Jackson Cirque show, which was previewed last night, is an indication of that, whether it's new entertainment, the observation wheel, new convention space, or new hotels. We have one proposed hotel that's going to be under construction here soon, the Genting project, which will be representing the Far East. There's even going to be a panda exhibit at this hotel. I don't know if the pandas are going to learn to gamble, but we will have that.

So it just shows that you need to continue to evolve product as you go forward, and all of that is happening. So I welcome all of you to our town. It's going to be a good three, four days.

The fact that we have this opportunity to make this presentation to the travel and tourism industry is very critical. Two to three years ago, the partnership started, and the administrations have never

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of Alaska Wildland Adventures and Alaska Travel Association.

MR. ZUK: Jonathan Zuk, Amadeo Travel Solutions and the Chair of the Receptive Services Association of America.

MS. RIVERA: New Member Ingrid Rivera, Executive Director of the Tourism Company Puerto Rico.

MR. LYNCH: Bob Lynch, President and CEO of Americans for the Arts.

MS. FERENC: Maryann Ferenc, Founder, President and CEO of Mise en Place restaurant inTampa, Florida.

MR. HAYES: Good afternoon. Robin Hayes, Chief Operating Officer of JetBlue Airways.

MS. RAUTIO: New Member Trudy Rautio, CEO of Carlson.

MR. GIBBONS: Mike Gibbons, President and CEO of Mainstreet Ventures, which is a restaurant company in Ann Arbor, Michigan. And I'm here representing the National Restaurant Association.

MS. BAUSCH: Maureen Bausch. I'm Executive Vice President of Mall of America.



MS. ANDOLINO: Rosemarie Andolino, Chicago Department of Aviation. MS. AGRA: Holly Agra, President of Chicago's First Lady Cruises. MS. HEIZER: Julie Heizer, Office of Traveland Tourism Industries, U.S. Department of Commerce. MS. PILAT: Good afternoon. Jennifer Pilatat the Department of Commerce. MS. HILL: I'm Isabel Hill. I'm the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning at the Office of Travel and Tourism Industries, Department of Commerce. MR. HYATT: I'm Ken Hyatt, Deputy under Secretary for International Trade. MR. SMITH: Douglas Smith, Assistant Secretary for the Private Sector, Homeland Security. MR. RAMOTOWSKI: Ed Ramotowski, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services, U.S. Department of State. MS. ADAMS: Gail Adams, Director of Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior.	MS. MATTHEWS: Kathleen Matthews, Marriott International. MR. GILLILAND: Sam Gilliland, Chairman and CEO of Sabre Holdings. CHAIR DAVIDSON: Ken, I would like to turn it over to you to offer us some remarks from our colleagues at the Department of Commerce. MR. HYATT: Thank you, Todd and Rossi. I was thinking as we watched the luncheon presentation by Brand USA, as I was sitting next to Carolyn, I said, "What a difference a year makes," and then it popped at me on the screen. It seems like an extraordinary year with Brand USA and the implementation of strategy. I think again from our perspective this continued commitment and energy that we continue to have, which I know is sort of an issue when we think of administrations, I think that energy still is with us. So thank you for this day. I did want to welcome the new members, and I do want you all to stand up. So you can stand up. Bill, I know you're
Page 10 MR. FERGUSON: Elliott Ferguson, CEO of Destination D.C. MS. RUPERT: Sherry Rupert, Vice President of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association. MR. PATEL: CK Patel, Past Chairman of the Asian American Hotel Owners Association and Presidentof BVM Holdings in Atlanta, Georgia. MR. CHAMPLEY: Dick Champley, Department of Commerce. MR. ERDMANN: Ron Erdmann, Office of Traveland Tourism Industries, U.S. Department of Commerce, in the research area. MR. MULLIS: Brian Mullis, New Member, CEO and Founder of Sustainable Travel International. MS. WALLACE: Carol Wallace, San DiegoConvention Center Corporation. MR. MANDALA: Laura Mandala, Mandala Research and Founder of Women in Travel and Tourism. MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Greg Stubblefield	on the phone. But those new members, if you would stand up. MR. TALBERT: I'm going to stand up at my hotel room. MR. HYATT: You also have to raise your right hand. (Whereupon, New Members sworn in.) MR. HYATT: Thank you in advance for your service. We were just commenting on that I remember when I joined three years ago the government and had the opportunity to give that oath. And I think it's a great oath to give. And thank you in advance for your service. You are joining an extraordinary group and an extraordinary committee that I think has made a real difference in the way we think about what we're doing. So again welcome. We look forward to working with you as we go forward. MR. HYATT: Let me just start our conversation with Douglas and I were in New York a few weeks ago at the invitation of

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Senator Gillibrand. Brand USA was there.

And Brand USA announced a marketing program

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for the Niagra/Buffalo region. And it was memorable to me.

Number one, it was incredibly cold, just unbelievably cold. There were tourists there. As we spent the day there, again it was a reminder of how far we came in a year for Brand USA standing next tous on the stage talking about a new program with the Senator there. The local news maybe was there, and a bunch of communities were there. Again, another example of a higher level of coordination that I think we have and again this continued commitment. So we're excited by this.

If you've seen the numbers this year, 2012 is an excellent year.

International visitation hit 67 million visitors, which is up 7 percent from 2011, spending \$168 billion, up 10 percent. And again I now track whether we're above the compound annual growth rate. We need to hit the hundred million visitors by 2021.

So I am delighted we're up above those numbers, and it's great to see great results. So we were delighted to see those

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really key points. Some of you have been in service to previous Travel and Tourism Advisory Boards. Some of you have been new to this one. And some of you are new tothis one.

I want to hit on a couple of points. The work of previous TTABs really helped fuel and give the President a foundation from which he could then propel his Executive Order forward. The changes we have seen as a result of that, the board response, the executive administration's board, the acknowledgment constantly being given to the Travel and Tourism Industry. I have been involved two decades and have never seen the level of engagementat this high level. It's terrific to be involved.

As I was reading the letters of recommendation, it's really about sustaining that momentum and making sure as this industry grows, it's growing in a wise way. And we're identifying where some of these other choke points may be where we want to make recommendations to address. That's our role, is to bring policy recommendations

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results. From our perspective, the Tourism Policy Council continues to work very effectively. We are excited about our nominee, whom many of you know. She's going to be a great advocate.

But the Tourism Policy Council continues to work working groups against each of the chapters of the strategy, great correspondence to which you are doing here, and lots of progress from recreation, having the teams describe to me just how much has changed, which was great to see. I think the coordination with Brand USA is working very well.

So lots and lots of progress. We're excited to be here today. I'm going to turn it back to you, and we're very interested in the recommendation. I have particular interest in the research. But, again, we're delighted to be here, and thank you for your service.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I'm confident Douglas and Ed would love to see the spotlight shift.

Ken hit on a couple of really,

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forward for the Secretary's consideration and bring back this whole government approach.

When you consider the fact that the strategy was embraced last May, a year ago in May, the Secretaries of Commerce agreed they wanted to continue that collaboration, not just chairing the task force but also to move forward with the Tourism Policy Council.

So we're at an amazing moment of time. We said that when we were first sworn in in January of 2012 when we were down in Orlando together. What's been nice is to see that moment in time continue for what's been the next 18 months. And I believe it's going to continue into the future. And it's happened because we have terrific federal partners as well.

(Applause.)

CHAIR DAVIDSON: With our colleagues at Homeland Security, Department of the Interior, with the recommendations we brought forward, they made suggestions. It's become this virtual circle where we're bringing ideas to one another that will help us agree.



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Ken was calling us in Tokyo as we were working on the goals for the growth of tourism strategy. It's kind of a stretch goal. But is it too much? And we have gone to 67 million visitors, 33 million more to go. Mr. Hyatt, we're obviously well along our way.

Another thing I love about Ken is every time he sees an opportunity, he says, "How will I be evaluating this market value? How are we going to be working internally?"

MR. HYATT: As I watched Cirque Du Soleil, I was wondering how this can become fair market value.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I just wanted to share these sentiments with you more or less on my behalf, especially for those of you who are new to the board, that this is an amazing moment in time.

I also want to share these comments with you as we move into an update. Edward, Douglas, and Gail, I understand they have comments they want to share with us. And, Douglas, I believe you are going to lead us off.

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joke. We're past that. We understand just how important it is for us to balance the critical ports and what our officers have to do.

They couldn't figure out the challenges of wait time and kept pushing me. I said it's a simple equation. If growth is going like this and our hiring is like this, that's what you are faced with.

As I said at the beginning, I am so proud with what our officers are doing with what they have. But we are reaching that breaking point.

In the 2014 budget we've asked for new front line officers. I believe that will go a long way in helping us to hold that and allow the gentlemen behind me to do what they need to do, to process passengers safely, quickly and efficiently through our ports.

And I come here and ask. And the ask is we need you to be vocal with that. As we look at the growth in international travelers, if we don't haggle it with bringing in new officers, we're going to be

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MR. SMITH: I'm going to go briefly through some highlights, but what I am most interested in, as I always am, is engagement. I believe we are closing the gap.

Before I get started, I have our port director from Las Vegas and Los Angeles behind me. Gentlemen, if you want to wave.

In all seriousness, I want to start with CTP, and then I'm going to dig into some other areas.

I want to use the word "challenge" as we tackle the situation at our airports for foreign visitors to visit. The most important thing is to figure out a way to balance the ports of security with economic through put. It's the partnership that we continue to work it.

So much of what we do, much like you do in your industry, is touch people. In our airports today we will process 1.7 million people. It's a big operation. That doesn't take into consideration the cargo we do in our ports.

We also understand just how important that touch is and know this is not a TSA

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with a tough challenge.

Global entry. This past week we celebrated five years of global entry. We're at 1.3 million with global entry benefits.

Now we continue to add international partners. Task Number-2, we need more foreign partners to join this program. We need France and Japan in particular. I would love to add ten more countries.

If we can just take the couple of the biggest international countries coming into this and get them into the program, tell them what we can do to bring this program on board.

As the airlines know, this is an incredibly effective way to take care of their customers. They're in the market competing, but when it comes to safety, this is one of the programs where we can have our cake and eat it too. We will keep it safe and move your customers where they need to go. Those are the two highlights I would like to talk about.

And the last is TSA. When we were first meeting, the TSA checklist was just a



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gleam in our eye. It is a program that is working. Once again, it is a program that is working. We need help in partnerships.

I will single out Chicago because what we've been able to do in Chicago and with John's team in Orlando, with the Orlando Authority partnering with the airport authorities, we have been able to move the needle in a staggering fashion.

In two weeks Rosemarie is going to host a really exciting announcement. Let's just say on July 1st there will be a fabulous announcement in Chicago what the partnership is going to achieve and how we were able to move the needle.

So my final ask that I close with is to continue these partnerships. When we first started model ports two years ago is what Rosie is doing in Chicago and the challenges that Chicago faces. Next year we go out there for IPW. You are going to see significant changes.

I emphasize that we ware a partnership. I have mellowed with my years. I try to mix in the humor and lessen the

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and Tourism Advisory Board at our meeting 18 months ago that he was going to grow this thicker skin. And, Douglas, I want you to know that you have done a great job. You have brought a spirit to this Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. So thank you very much for your updates and report.

MR. SMITH: It is really our frontline officers that deserve the credit because they are having to do this all day long.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Ed at the Department of State.

MR. RAMOTOWSKI: I'll just tie onto what Douglas said about the value of partnerships. The two biggest elements of that that affected the Department of State were the requirements to increase visa capacity in China and Brazil by 40 percent before the end of 2012 and also to ensure that at least 80 percent of all these applicants worldwide receive an interview within three weeks of applying for one.

And the choice of China and Brazil did not come about through happenstance. It

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outbursts that some across from me have witnessed. I no longer call you at 3:00 a.m. when you malign my front-end officers.

But the partnership part is critical. It's the only way we can continue to improve what we are trying to do. I hope in the discussion period both for you, Todd and Sam and the new members, you have a chance to offer comments, ideas and thoughts on how we continue to close this gap because it will only close through these partners, through this collaboration.

And the White House reminded me this week when I came out here that you are our representatives out there. You need to remind us how much this isimportant. And I said, "Valerie, they know. They get it."

The President rides all of us. He rides Ken's team on the economic numbers. He rides my team on the value of the ports of tourism. With that, I'll turn it over.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Douglas, thank you very much.

For those of you again that are kind of new, Douglas made a pledge to the Travel

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came about through dialogue with the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and other industry groups as being two of the key markets of your business.

Well, before the end of 2012, the Department of State had increased visa staffing in Brazil by over 50 officers and in China by over 40 officers. And you can see the results today. The wait times in both of those key markets are in the single digits after being at a hundred to 120-day levels two years ago.

So that's a concrete success that we can attribute directly to the dialogue we have and public and private partnership.

We also achieved the target of 80 percent in two weeks' time in August 2012, well before the end of the year. I am happy to report as of right now, which is the peak period for visa applications worldwide, more than 90 percent of all applicants get an interview within three weeks and well over 80 percent within two weeks of applying.

So that's a tribute to the frontline



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personnel that we have all around the world who are working incredibly hard to ensure that every legitimate traveler gets an opportunity to visit the United States.

I would just like to highlight a few more things. As of the end of May 2013, we are seeing a 7 percent increase in visa demand worldwide. So compared to the 19 percent increase last year, it's much smaller.

But some countries are running well ahead of that figure, most notably China where demand is up by 13.5 percent compared to an increase of 34 percent last year.

So again we continue to facilitate the international travel to the greatest extent of our abilities within the budget and resource constraints that we have.

And I would like to close by just emphasizing two points. One, as Douglas said, resources are key. If you don't have the staffing and other resources to do the work, we simply won't be able to reduce wait times or maintain the wonderful averages that we have now.

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opportunity to hear about the work we've been hearing about on this board and see the recommendations in action and the executive order in action.

And after a simple e-mail to Ed, I received a near immediate response because he was somewhere in the world. Within a matter of a few days, I was getting confirmed appointments with Don Jacobson, who traveled to Sao Paulo.

Phil and Brendan in Rio were terrific. I had a chance to observe some of the interviews in action and to see how that whole process works, to see the amazing absence of lines that have become somewhat legendary in these discussions.

There were maybe 25 people in line, and only because they had arrived earlier because they probably needed to be because there's still a shadow of the legend that you need to show up earlier because the lines were long. Not to mention the fact the whole process took about 30 to 35 minutes from the time you started until the time you were walking out the door.

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So your support for adequately resourcing this work is critical, and we're very grateful for it.

And then finally I would like to invite all members of the board to come and visit our operations abroad on your next visits overseas. We had the privilege of hosting today and two of our consulates in Brazil.

It was great for the officers there to see this high level interest from the private sector and feel that their efforts are appreciated by the private sector in the industry.

We are happy to arrange that for any members abroad in any one of our facilities abroad. So please do consider that and let me know. Thanks again for your support.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you for your report and partnership. Ed's exactly right. A few weeks before I headed to Brazil -- and this was going to be my first trip, and I was headed down there for tradeshows in Rio Grande and Sao Paulo.

But I thought what a tremendous

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It was great to have the opportunity to experience it firsthand in Brazil. And I thank you again for your responsiveness and your partnership.

So, Gail, it's good to have you here. And it's good to have you representing the Department of Interior. Again, a terrific partner for this board and the industry nationally. So we look forward to your report, Gail.

MS. ADAMS: Thank you. And I'll just echo what Douglas and Ed have said. The key for the progress we have been able to make have definitely been our partnerships. Without you all and without your input and giving us your expertise, we definitely as federal agencies could not do any of the things that we're doing. So thank you for that.

The first thing is that the things that have changed is just our ideology, which is really great the difference a year makes. Just two years ago when I came on board with the Department of Interior, you couldn't say the M word and the A word. The M word is



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"marketing," and the A word is "advertising."
When I first came, it was, "Don't say those words."

In a very short two-year frame, we have not only gone from not being able to say the M and A words, but a lot of that is due to you and the leadership that you all have brought.

Another thing is when we talk about how this remains a very important aspect of the administration, we have Great Outdoors Month. Because June is Great Outdoors Month, the President mentioned travel and tourism in the Great Outdoors Proclamation.

We continue to get feedback from people across the country. Thank you to all of you who I have called and bothered to ask questions.

One of the big accomplishments we've had has been regulations.gov. We are totally not there, but we are working on it. One of the things we have heard is, "It's only in English. So what are you going to do about it?"

So now we've got Google translator

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the funnest job and I am really happy about that, I have this for every one of the board members. This is to demonstrate how we have come together across federal government, including state department, DHS. This is a thumb drive that we're giving to all of the people that are coming by our federal booths, and it has all of the information for all of our federal participants.

If you want to know how you get a visa, all of this information is here. If you want to know where to go and what we have to offer, it has all of our brochures.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Gail, very much. I thank all three of you for your reports and updates and most importantly for your engagement with this board not just at our meetings but everything you're doing 24/7, whether it is a phone call at 3:00 a.m. or something else.

Gail's department kind of epitomizes that right now in the Department of the Interior with a secretary that has recently been selected and sworn in. Sally Jewell comes from the private sector, comes from a

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that translates into 60 languages. It's really huge on that. We have built out itineraries for different regions. So if you like hiking or snowboarding, whatever it may be, we can link all of our assets together. You probably didn't know what's a parks service property versus national forest.

So when I talk about the ideology, we have actually gone in as all of the federal management agencies. With that we are not just talking about our own representative lands, but we are talking about them in a way where we can link them all together.

Where our national parks might be the recognizable economic things people know immediately, we have lesser known sites that we want to promote. So we are using our national parks as the hook to introduce people to new experiences here in the United States. So I would just like to acknowledge some of the federal team.

So that concludes my report, and thank you very much.

Oh, one other thing. Because I have

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major outdoor sportswear brand that also happens to sell travel because REI also has a travel selling component as part of it as well.

It would not be inappropriate if you were to welcome Sally to her position as Secretary of the Interior and let her know how much the engagement with the Interior Department, with this board, and with our industry has meant as we move forward.

There was a reason the Secretaries of Commerce and Interior were asked to co-chair that task force, and we want to continue to see that momentum and recognition continue.

With that, thank you all for your presentations.

We're going to move into the discussion and deliberations of proposed recommendations. This is the piffy part of the meeting, as I mentioned earlier on, as we start diving into the kinds of recommendations we want to bring forward as a board. And we have formed subcommittees to do the deeper dive in certain key areas.



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Just a little bit about the process. We are going to discuss and deliberate these letters. We're not a rubber stamp group. So I do want to see discussion from members of the board even though it's affirming points and directions that are being brought forward. This is our opportunity to do that.

Each of the chairs and representatives will be providing us with a brief presentation of their recommendations. You've had them in advance. You have copies behind the agenda in your folders so that you can refer to them as we move through them. And they were put in your folders in the order we will be going through them today.

We will be adopting by consensus. We will not be doing a roll-call vote or show of hands. I'll just look for consensus at that point. And with that, we will then move on to the next letter of recommendation.

So with that, I am going to turn it over to Mr. Stubblefield, who graciously agreed to chair our business climate

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and Tourism Strategy and started to put together the information on how successful we've been with that based upon the National Travel and Tourism Strategy that was put forth back in January of last year.

One of the things we want to do is look at all the historical data and adverse things inside of there to show we are meeting and achieving what was set out in that national strategy.

And we had a session earlier today. And we spent a lot of time talking, for example, about the international inbound traveler, and it's very measurable.

One of the things that the National Traveland Tourism Strategy calls for is domestic travel by Americans. This is not as easily tracked.

So that's our first recommendation that we would put together and then look at the general prospective of the TTA and the government staff engage in this collaborative process. So that would be the first one.

Do you want me to go through all four of them, Jenna?

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subcommittee for a review of their recommendations. Greg?

MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Thanks, Todd. I echo the same things that Douglas, Ed, Ken and Gail said. The partnerships we've seen over the last 18, 24 months have really proven to be very, very successful.

And one of the things that we've kind of taken on in our subcommittee is this sustainability of that. There's got to be some processes that have to be put in place and some different things so we can memorialize the success that we're having asopposed to just talking about it. We want to continue to put the necessary things into place so it's sustainable over time.

So with that, I'm going to take the first couple recommendations, and Maryann is going to talk about the others. But anybody else on the subcommittee, please chime in as you see fit.

So the first one is really a recommendation that in the September TTA board meeting, we actually put on the agenda session for discussing the National Travel

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JENNA: However you want. MR. STUBBLEFIELD: We can have discussions about that now if there's any questions or thoughts about that.

And this framework really becomes important for this next recommendation we have. That's why we want to do it at the September meeting.

Because the second recommendation we have is that the work of the Tourism Policy Council is really fantastic, but one of the things it does not do is have an annual report that talks about all the things that are either in process or making progress on or accomplishing or starting to accomplish.

We want to make sure there's an annual report that describes the activities of the TPC, including the four working groups, that describes the challenges and goals and success for the following year. We think that's a really important recommendation.

The first one really lays the groundwork and the framework for the second one. And the second one we think is very



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important for the sustainability of the things that we have taking place. I would like to see if there's any other comments about that or any other discussion. Maryann?

MS. FERENC: I might just point out that although it is written, it also includes a report from the Director of the National Travel and Tourism Office. We think those are really important pieces in this as well as an opportunity for the TTAB to comment or respond in a letter from the acting chairperson at that time that is weighed in by the entire board.

MR. STUBBLEFIELD: Thanks for bringing that up, Maryann. We think it's important as we formalize all the great work that's being done and collaborative effort between the TTAB, the TPA, and National Travel and Tourism Office, to kind of formalize that every year and put that together.

So with that, Maryann, the third recommendation?

MS. FERENC: I would like to take a brief moment to add my thanks to Gail,

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also in the future, to look back at a time when this public-private partnership -- and "partnership" is the word we use so often in our different conversations, but we have named it "the collaborative" because it is a collaborative process. This is our opportunity to set forth that it has worked and how can it continue in the future.

The first paragraph is talking about the current scenario. But the second paragraph is a recommendation to review the practices and policies by and through which they work and partner and work with the private sector when there are written laws, guidance and written acknowledgment that an opportunity is not always available for the public and private sector to work together.

But at the same time, it's been clearly demonstrated, and we are around this table. And the private sector is so engaged in this process because there are opportunities where we can work together to achieve mutual goals.

And so this is asking for that to become a bit more formalized, some attention

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Douglas and Ed and all the different agencies as well as the chairs of this board the opportunity to serve as our committee chair because it's always exciting and invigorating to come here and see the representation around the table and the in-depth and lively conversations at the subcommittees bringing so many different perspectives together in consensus.

That leads to this third recommendation, which has been introduced by Ed and Doug and Gail. And it's actually listed on the strategy on page 5 of the executive summary in talking about the whole-of-government approach, the necessity to talk across different federal agencies, and the necessity to work in public and private partnerships.

So Number-3, again in going along with the things that Greg has said, is an opportunity to memorialize that process and the success of that. So that not only for the immediate folks that might be coming in and joining this group, whether at the board level or certainly at the agency levels but

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paid to it, and find where our circles cross and really work within those areas, and for all the different agencies to look at how does it work for them. Because everybody has different rules, regulations, and quidelines that they must follow.

So understanding that doing it better today and memorializing so it will be done tomorrow is what this recommendation is about.

Is there some conversation or questions? Guy from Chicago.

MR. SMITH: This is great. You should hold our bosses more accountable for that. I apologize. I missed Number-4 in the pre-read. Don't underestimate the importance of holding our feet to the fire under public and private partnerships because they exist anywhere. Continued planning only works if we're all sitting here doing this stuff and we're all moving around. Ed's a career foreign service officer. He's here now, but he may be in Paris next year.

On Number-4, Greg and Mary, I would beef it up a little bit and put something



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more there that holds to the test of time that isn't dependent upon the four of us, that speaks to a larger ongoing process. So that would be my one thought.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Are you referring to recommendation 3 or 4?

MR. SMITH: 4.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Because recommendation 4 is new language.

MR. SMITH: I tried to read all the letters, but I just think that's a great point. But I think you're being too passive.

MS. FERENC: I couldn't be happier to hear that, Douglas. I think my colleagues agree.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Douglas, for that.

We want to go through some of those things and formalize so it's easier for people to access it.

MR. SMITH: Each of our agencies do have slightly different rules and regulations that we have to follow but laying out a road map or creating better ways for customers to Page 43

So that's what this recommendation seeks to do, is create and talk about the goals in a relative and quantitative fashion. We are not recommending a new measure at this time, but to simply gather some existing data and have it be gathered at the federal government level so it could be looked upon as that data across all of the states. And I'll read that more specifically in a moment.

And the other piece is a qualitative goal that really talks about the NTTO through the TPC. And that addresses the necessary and desired reach into ethnic markets, the SPA. We talk about it in terms of acknowledging and articulating the role of the National Travel and Tourism Office, NTTO, and domestic travel. And it talks about the national strategy, not just international but domestic travel, impact of travel and tourism such as visitor volume, total expenditures, tax revenue and jobs to quantify domestic travel, track progress, and disseminate the information back to the states.

So again the motion is to collect existing data, not creating new mechanisms in

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come into this country. And not to single out Enterprise.

MS. FERENC: It's a great public relations story because it is so much fun to go back into our communities and say, "You think this is how it works, but let me tell you stories what's happening between the federal government and the average citizen." So thank you very much for your comments.

Number-4 we think is essential. So this recommendation is addressing domestic travel as part of the national strategy. And it's a goal across both the public and the private sectors.

The strategy has an obvious constant focus on domestic travel. It's in every headliner in the document practically, obviously as well as international travel, but it does not set up a specific goal in domestic travel as international travel. Amongst our discussions the conclusion that we came to as the best way to do this was to address the role of the National Travel and Tourism Office relative to domestic travel.

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collecting data at a federal level.

And this is a piece that would be on the qualitative end of things to support domestic travel by encouraging travel beyond gateway markets as called for in the -- we recommend the NTTO on a basis as described in recommendation Number-2.

And, lastly, we look forward to working with the NTTO implementation, which leaves the door open that there's more work to be done here and perhaps bring more recommendations in September to the Secretary.

And for all of the board, we thank you for your patience. This is a completely rewritten Number-4, which came from our meeting this afternoon. So we thank those of you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The subcommittee actually took the initiative to look at what it was they wanted to accomplish but why did they feel so strongly about it. And that's what led to this rewriting of this. So with that, I would like to turn it over to Rossi.

MR. RALENKOTTER: The National Travel and Tourism Strategy has been approved two



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weeks ago to be implemented -- to take effect to begin to operate in October of next year. But that was approved by the House and Senate roughly three weeks ago.

So this question then is that the office essentially gather, coordinate, analyze and disseminate data. That's essentially what this is asking with respect to the domestic side. Is that the sense of it?

MS. FERENC: Every tourism office has their own data that they count on. So instead of creating a home set of data for this, we use what the state is already using and then measure that year on year. They count on year on year. They're not consistent between dates. Each have different drivers they're looking for.

So we wanted to use the data that was already out there. And as part of the National Tourism and Travel Strategy, it doesn't say we have to have a goal in there by 2021, but it does say an increase in travel by the American public.

We figured we could then determine if more people were traveling. And then the

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just a question. In our advocacy language, we were looking at the old language and excited by the old language. It was less about data, which is also great, but it was more about encouragement of strategies for encouragement of American travel within the United States. So having not actually read the new data, is it about that too or just the data?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is just one component of it. The qualitative field has a lot more on the encouragement side. It could be through the parks. It could be through the marine sanctuaries, a whole host of things that we're going to put a punch down. We just didn't have enough time.

 $\label{eq:MS.FERENC:} \mbox{ I think the qualitative} \\ \mbox{is much stronger in the recommendation.} \\$

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MR. ZUK: I want to go back to Item Number-3 and want to ask basically, after we establish the corroboration and the ground rules for them giving us information to what is being done, there are a lot of government programs that a lot of people don't know

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quantitative part we'll tie back to the agencies that would tie back in the TPC report.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think we're asking for an analysis.

MS. FERENC: No.

MS. MANDALA: Since our conference call last week, I was able to check with you. And they have consistently been monitoring domestic travel for decades.

So they have that historical data. They have current data. They have forecasts. They base it on consumer data and economic data on consumer confidence.

But currently they are telling us that there's 20 billion trips in the United States, and for the past five years it's been increasing. And I've been told that by your chief economist.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Laura. And again I'm going to remind the committee members, again for our transcription folks as well as our folks on the phone, if you will introduce yourselves before you begin your comments.

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about. Do you see us using information in other programs?

For example, we were discussing yesterday the commercial services. Most people don't even know they can call them and ask them to assist them. Can we use that as a vehicle to get information from those government programs out to the business community?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Clearly one of the things we want to do is educate people, whether it's on government programs that we're talking about here. We have other things in the community we were talking about and how we can educate and disseminate that out to people to take advantage of it. And that's forthcoming from the committee.

MR. RALENKOTTER: There's another aspect to this whole domestic travel discussion. It came up when Brand USA came into effect. There was some discussion that Brand USA should be the organization that markets domestic USA.

I'll give you an example of the split. Of the 40 million people that come



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to Las Vegas each year, only 17 percent is international. The other 83 percent is domestic. So for most of us, the biggest market share is domestic.

So it comes down to who owns domestic USA brand. Who owns that brand? And it's about how you motivate us as Americans to travel and see our own country.

We had a little bit of that if you go into the '70s and 80 with Discover America. But nobody really owned it. We had those discussions at USA America. If you look at the total number of unused, lost vacation days that the working people in America don't take, that's a huge opportunity for all of us.

So I think part of the discussion needs to come down to, is it the responsibility of commercial? Should it be another initiative within commercial to talk about a cohesive effort to say the education value of travel, the health value of travel, the memories that travel creates for families. It's all of those things. It's the emotional side of the brand. If we can

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just think that we miss a lot of opportunities there.

So whether it comes into this recommendation or somewhere along the way, we need to look at that side.

MS. FERENC: I think we tried to leave it open with our last line there hoping that this will force the conversations that we as an industry need to have about this issue. And asking the NTTO to do these qualitative measures, that we will get some small successes perhaps or maybe some large successes.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Rossi, those are excellent points. And I know the subcommittees will have the opportunity because you're already discussing a second round of discussion to bring forth at a future meeting. Ken?

MR. HYATT: Two questions for you to consider as we think about the domestic side. The first is, if it's a government role, how do we favor consumption in one sector versus another? Because as we've had these conversations, part of what we wrestled with

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get the research, we can find out how many trips and how many people.

The millennium is coming up, and all of the new customers that we all have, the 13-, 14- and 15-year-olds of today that hopefully will be in Las Vegas ten years from now because they can gamble then, they're on the techie side. Their experience is on some type of device. Who knows what it will be ten years from now.

So when we look at motivating travel, we have to look at the domestic side because it's a huge market for all of us.

So that's really it. I believe that it has to have one organization, one body, that's going to be responsible for delivering the message of travel domestically and one body that's funded to do one branding campaign for the United States, for us as Americans to see the country.

There's too many people who live in Las Vegas. I can take a survey tomorrow and find out that probably a large percentage have not seen the Great Basin National Park, who have not maybe gone to Hoover Dam. I Page 52

was to say is it appropriate for us to somehow opine that buying a washing machine or a car or education or travel?

So that's one question that I would ask you to think about. How we would think about that. Because we thought about that, and we couldn't figure out a way out of that question.

And then the second question is what role, if any, should the government have in particular if the government is involved on the domestic side? That action is somehow perceived by other governments that we're saying don't travel. Like don't go internationally.

So those would be just two questions that we would find extremely helpful. And what I like about this recommendation is we're gathering data to have a conversation. But I know those are two difficult questions that we would need help on as we think about what's the right role versus maybe it is more appropriate for the private sector to be leading this chart, the companies doing it, when we're in the data gathering.



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MR. RALENKOTTER: We know we can create a demand that after he buys that TV set, he comes to Las Vegas. On the other side, it is really more the value of travel, who is responsible for that brand experience.

It's not to say go to Disneyworld or go to L.A., Chicago, or any place you want. It's getting curriculums within the schools. It's taking that vacation. It's the value people get by taking that break and knowing that for many of them, the only vacation they are going to have is within the United States. We have done a little bit of it on the research side. I think it has a lot of great opportunities going forward.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Any other questions or comments for -- yes, Rosemarie.

MS. ANDOLINO: Oh, I am resonating the "You got milk" commercial that you discussed a moment ago. But if you want to promote better health and better wellness, take a few minutes, explore with your families, build the memories, decompress, reduce stress. It's almost like a health campaign to some degree.

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prominent spokesperson.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thanks, Laura. Brian?

MR. MULLIS: I'm Brian Mullis. What I think I'm hearing today is that more domestic travel and vacation days are happening. It seems to me one question we should consider is, could there be cooperation among the states to determining a couple measures and key metrics that could be harmonized across the states so we are actually getting data in a similar matter and it's easier to track on an ongoing basis?

CHAIR DAVIDSON: And I think Brian is the first new member to speak. So the ice has been broken. Other comments?

All right. From my perspective, I kind of see one lingering issue regarding the recommendations that are contained within this letter. And that is it originated with Douglas's comment with the strengthening of the language and recommendation Number-3.

A couple possible ways to address that, but I'm not sure one is appropriate. So again I'm looking at Jenna. But I don't

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I think part of the messaging is, it's okay to do that. In the U.S. it's still that guilt that if you travel, you're going to lose your job or somebody is going to replace you. To reduce that thinking that a few days away, a long weekend, that you and your family can decompress and enjoy life as well.

So there might be a way to combine it with kind of the healthcare movement as well and wellness.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Yeah, I've often wondered. Maybe a better way to put it for me personally, a benchmark for this industry for all the momentum we feel will be during National Heart Health Month when the Surgeon General is on the morning talk show and says, "Exercise, eat healthy, and take your vacation." Rosemarie, good point.

Any other comments or questions for the subcommittee?

MS. MANDALA: It may also be a movement that a high-level political figure takes on, like the First Lady. It wouldn't necessarily need to be funded, but it's a

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believe that we could adopt the letter as is with consensus asking the subcommittee to strengthen that language.

What I believe may be the better course is that we pull Recommendation-3 out and that the subcommittee continue to work on Recommendation Number-3 and bring it forward to our September meeting.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think it's a great idea, Todd.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I'm loving the head nod. Jenna, we're good with that suggestion, right? So with that --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The only hesitant I have is, does that not delay us executing --

CHAIR DAVIDSON: If we pull it out and bring the recommendation forward in three months with stronger language.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As opposed to making the recommendation now?

MR. SMITH: Maybe an extra sentence? UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have a lot of work to do underneath this to give the understanding of a partnership so within that



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we can strengthen.

MR. SMITH: This has got a marker.

MS. FERENC: So maybe we can go ahead with the recommendation, Todd, and we can make another recommendation that strengthens this concept in September.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: We can do that. I've got the nod.

So the first recommendation that I thought we couldn't do, we can. So we can go forward with this one and then add stronger language to this when we meet in September. But I have every confidence that Douglas, Ed, Ken and Gail can add stronger language.

So with that and not hearing any other comments, I will declare that this letter is adopted by consensus. Thank you. Good work, subcommittee. I appreciate it very much.

(Applause.)

JENNA: I just wanted to say it is absolutely unprecedented to have two federal agencies argue to have more work to do. So kudos.

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issues and challenges as a result of that. But if we're going to get to that goal of a hundred million, we have to do our job.

So the work that you're doing here, the cooperation among the federal agencies, as I say often on the record and you have heard me say this, it's unprecedented in my 30 days to see the support that the administration has given to the travel and tourism industry. And it's invaluable to us as we're trying to navigate telling the world that we're open for business and inviting more and more visitors to come to the United States.

You're going to hear a lot of this during the course of this week. We love IPW. I've always had a great appreciation for it when I was in Florida. I have an unbelievable appreciation of it now. It's the one time a year where the United States has an opportunity to sell to the buyer community around the world. And I can have both sides of my stakeholds in one spot, which is the buyers and sellers.

Congrats to Rossi for record numbers,

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CHAIR DAVIDSON: And let the record show they both said they wanted their boss to have their feet held to the fire.

I'm going to take the chairman's prerogative here. I'm going to ask that we move down one agenda item.

Chris Thompson, President and CEO of Brand USA. I was thrilled when Chris decided to become the next CEO of Brand USA. It's succumbing to pressure, he accepted. But he is the right individual for the job. He is the DMO and DNA in recognizing the role. And, Chris, thank you for joining us today.

MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the opportunity to be here. I have not said it often because I really haven't thought about it until I'm around you again, but there were very positive things associated with taking this position. But one of the downsides was giving up my position here.

I truly appreciate the work of this board. It's so important and so valuable to what we do. We're the marketers. Lots of

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record attendance, doing it only as Las Vegas can do it. I think it will be a tremendously productive show. I think all the participants are going to get a lot out of it.

I'm going to cover broad categories. The last time I was here, I wasn't official yet. I was here with Carolyn. I was tendering my resignation. I don't know how much of this will be duplicative. If there are questions you would like answered, I would be happy to do that.

As of January 31st, we actually had 18 people. So I'm happy to say that right now we have 40. We have a staffing plan that takes us to 54. I continue to be amazed by the number and quality ofpeople that want to be a part of what we're doing.

Right after that January meeting, we posted all the positions. We eventually have to hire into them. So I said just put them all out there. We got a hundred applications an hour.

I would like to introduce our newest member of our team. Yvonne Penteer is the



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newest addition of our team. We went on an executive search. Again, the quality of the individuals who wanted to become apart of that was amazing.

She brings a tremendous background career to the table. I said, "So this will be your honeymoon period, and after this, you'll have to start producing." I encourage you to get to know Yvonne. She's going to be a great member of the team and as we continue to grow this.

I'll cover a couple categories.
Representation. We currently have representation in 14 markets. That will grow to 18 when we're done with what we think we need to be doing at this point. When we're in those 18 markets, we'll actually have representation through regional representations in 40 countries and represent 93 percent of the representation to the United States.

All the committees have kind of been out there doing their own thing. That's great and challenging. What we're trying to do now is bringing discipline to that resource. We're the newest guy to the

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the outcome and wanted to be engaged with us in future activities.

We had 300 companies step up that allowed us to draw down on the allocation that the federal government gives to us. We had to double our production. The first year we had a two-for-one match. And that generated a hundred. And this year we have to generate 100 to get to 200. There was enough of that to where we have a lot of optimism in being able to do that. I have two new additions to my staff. I am an internal optimist.

The month of June is a big month for us. Most of our engaged partners are destinations. A lot of fiscal years are tied to July 1 and June 30. So we're seeing a lot of interest, and we're excited about that.

The good news is that we are able to follow up the intent to travel from 12 to 22 percent. That was really good as it relates to what was set up as a metric.

Starting next week we'll be launching the campaign in Brazil and Mexico. After

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block. So we're humbly stepping up to the block and saying how can you help us.

We're also active in 30 international tradeshows around the world. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to get in major opportunities.

We are creating Brand USA pavilions and increasing the attendance at the shows. Not only the attendance but the relevance and effectiveness for everybody. So if we can bring more visibility to the pavilions.

We just in May hosted a mega family in cooperation with British Airways. They brought a hundred of their top trade over for the first time ever. We designed seven itineraries that obviously had to come in through the gateways but then took people from the gateways to areas that they would otherwise have not thought about on their own.

They partnered with other airlines and threw them to Miami for a send off. I did not attend that event, but the staff that attended that said it was the most compelling thing. The BA was excited about

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that we'll be in China and other countries.
That's 11 new markets. Otherwise, what we're
trying to do is build off the success of the
first year identifying ways for us to partner
with the industry and for the industry to
see the value where they're contributing to
our cause and to our efforts.
A lot of what came in came in at

A lot of what came in came in at the end of last fiscal year, which was August or September of last year. Now we've got to go get another hundred million. I have had a lot of fun meetings with our board.

That's kind of the overview and the highlights of the major things that we're doing. I'd much rather answer any questions that you all have. I see many people around the table here that have been engaged with us by contributing and otherwise deploying in cooperative marketing, and I sincerely appreciate that.

I realize initially in some cases that was a leap of faith. I don't underestimate the fact that in some cases it is still a leap of faith, but I promise you



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next year you won't recognize the organization, and the year after that, you won't recognize it.

With the confidence and the enthusiasm and support that the industry has given us, I appreciate the opportunity to come and present to you. Thanks for having me.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Chris. Travel Oregon is a very proud partner of Brand USA.

Just one quick example. We did joint advertising together where we were collaborating on our media buy into Vancouver, British Columbia specifically but into Canada. The increase in advertising increased 30 percent in one year. It did exactly what the industry believed it could do because of the inspiration that has continued to campaign.

The other thing to see with Chris's engagement and the openness of the Tourism Policy Council with our federal partners has been their desire to reach out to Chris and make sure that that's working and inviting

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she and I were going to have on the stage.

I said, "Roseanne, you have no idea what you did last year." I was in the audience. And we were watching the review of the campaign. And we saw the song. And every one of us were going, Holy mackerel. She literally had no idea.

She said, "My little song?" I said, "You are a rock star in the travel and tourism industry." How about that young girl. She was unbelievable.

MS. PENTEER: How about the guy?
MR. THOMPSON: Yvonne says, "What about the guy?" We always have to remember that we're in the audience. But more importantly, the people in the audience are our buyers. So we want them to feel energetic and fired up and realize this thing is going to work. And it's only going to work in the ways we need to engage them.
So I hope that luncheon accomplished

So I hope that luncheon accomplished that and got everybody excited and fired up about going in.

MS. RIVERA: Ingrid Rivera. I'm the Executive Director of the Puerto Rico

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him into the marketing and promotion task force meetings and to make sure that that level of engagement is there with Chris and Brand USA.

MR. THOMPSON: What a platform. If you're trying to make the private/public partnership work and you have that kind of network on that side of it, that's amazing. Carol Reem joined our team. She comes from Focus Right. She's got tremendous potential and credentials.

So we're going to be working really hard to expand what we're holding ourselves accountable for. I want to wrap ourselves around the macro things. If we're in the market, then we can claim part of that humbly, put things again that are going to help us measure that.

I think, Ron, you're going to see an increased level of activity, and we look forward to continuing to partnering with you.

How much of you were at the lunch today? I was in the green room with Roseanne. So I was just trying to get a little feel from her with the conversations

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Marketing Company.

I thought the ad was inspirational. How are you going to use that in countries where English isn't spoken?

MR. THOMPSON: We're determining the effectiveness of an English-spoken message. In translation sometimes that gets lost. But those are the conversations we're having. Those countries that don't necessarily have a lot of English-speaking folks.

MS. RIVERA: The campaign that you're going to launch in Brazil, is that going to be in English?

MR. THOMPSON: Actually, it is to start with.

MS. RIVERA: On the first video we had last year and we played again last year that showed New Orleans and other places, I think the one thing for me as an American, some of the images I knew where those locations were and if you see something in that image and think that's beautiful. But I don't know where to look. So if you can put something in that image.

MR. THOMPSON: That was the



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intention. On our website that's done, to be able to identify where that is and what that opportunity presents. Certainly not in the spot, but we try to extend that on the website.

MS. RIVERA: Some of those pictures were just gorgeous. If you at least had Utah or something in there, that would make it simpler for people.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Sherry?

MS. RUPERT: I'm Sherry Rupert. Chris, I'm trying to remember. At the very end, was the website on there so somebody could go back to the website to look at where those places were?

MR. THOMPSON: Absolutely. It's a close to that.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Chris, thank you very much. I appreciate you being here.

Mr. Hayes on behalf of the infrastructure and sustainability subcommittee. You are up, my friend.

MR. HAYES: You're putting me before the tea break?

CHAIR DAVIDSON: There is no tea

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is exactly what you expect an airline guy to say. So it would be good to get other constituents who are as excited as we are.

We put up there a picture of the National Travel and Tourism Strategy. I think it's great. We have a goal of a hundred million by 2021.

The aviation infrastructure that we have today actually can't get us there. If you look at the amount of inefficiency that we have in our system today, already there's a few spots where flights get delayed.

Now, for those of you who may not be familiar with Nextgen, if I was to tell you the navigation unit -- who's got a GPS in their car? That is more sophisticated than what most airplanes have in the sky.

Imagine if you were driving along and your navigation system said, "You are around here somewhere. And by the way, there's huge roads and there's huge airways where you need to call us and tell us where you are and let us know." That is what the aviation system is like.

So the FFA and the DOT have been

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break.

MR. HAYES: I think I'll keep my comments very brief because although this is I think a very significant recommendation, I think it's one that you've probably been exposed to in some form before.

We have a couple of slides. So you can just T-up the first one.

First of all, today what we're going to talk about is an aviation infrastructure recommendation. We have a sustainability component to the group and envision that coming either in December or September. So today we're focusing on aviation.

I would also like to thank the members of the subcommittee. It's been a very engaging subcommittee. A lot of people with strong opinions, putting airport and airline people in the same room. It's amazing we can agree on anything, but we did.

A special thanks to Holly as well, who is the vice chair.

I have asked the team to speak up in favor of this recommendation because this

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leading a wonderful plan that is really upgrading that technology. The technology as it sits in the aircrafts, it's designing new approaches into airports, on the ground. It's designing new ground-based navigational units and receivers that can all talk to each other.

The problem of it is that it all feels technical and it's all invisible. It's probably one of the infrastructure projects that the United States is currently looking at undergoing in the future. I think it gives you the size and scale on that.

I think what we wanted to get out -- and we can come back to dialogue -- is I don't think it's moving as quick as it could. And once you get into designing approaches for airports, what happens?

The thing about these very high position Nextgen approaches is if you run over a house that is in that aircraft pathway, you're going to get a lot of noise. You can potentially get any set of local residents or local representatives who could maybe slow things down. And from a national



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perspective, it's tough if that happens.

So our recommendation is really predicated on the principle. But we really want to engage communities at a local level to highlight the importance of Nextgen and maybe get ahead of some of these proverbial things.

I think if we do that, if it's more than the FAA and DOT and the airline industry calling for this, we think it will give us a better chance of funding things more quickly and allow Nextgen to be implemented more quickly.

So we've asked the federal agencies to work with us. Some really nice work has been done already that talks to some of the savings. There's reduced fuel use. That's good for sustainability. Reduced carbon monoxide emissions. Growth without adding new infrastructure. If we want to hit these travel and tourism goals, we've got to have the infrastructure that supports that.

There's a plan to achieve it. What we want to do is collaborate and work across public and private stake holds at a local

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much. How do we prioritize it?

So I think it's an excellent point,
and I hope this is one of the first

priorities that's memorialized going forward. So thank you for that.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Jonathan?

MR. ZUK: I served on the subcommittee as well. And what we tried to do over and above everything else is basically the concept of Nextgen is that it's an airline and airport issue, and it's not really the general public's issue.

But if we can educate the public that the more Nextgen implementation we have, the more traffic there will be in the cargo arena or any type of aviation area. It will influence the whole economy.

MR. SMITH: We are operating on 1950s technology in the 21st century. But be careful what you ask for because one of the wonderful things about Nextgen is that it will allow that many more people. You think the lines are bad now. It's going to be the safest and most efficient system in the air as long as you are in the air.

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level to try and get more passion and interest to get this to happen more quickly. We think it's a great topic for the President's State of the Union Address.

For those of you who travel Asia and different parts of the world, I was in South Africa last week. This is getting better much more quickly. There's a lot of other destinations out there that are really opening up and doing a better job on some of these issues.

That's really in a nutshell our recommendation on the aviation side of the sustainability. Is there any other members of the subcommittee that want to add anything?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: This recommendation was two boards prior to this. They discussed Nextgen. But the board prior to this really didn't choose it as an action item.

So I think your idea to memorialize that work going forward is really spot-on because we didn't want to forget about it. Certainly it's worthy of work, but it's so Page 76

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Douglas, it's job security for a future Advisory Board because we're going to have to come up with more recommendations.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is an issue. We are conscious of that.

We have a show point today, and it's going to be a show point in the future. If you think about space in an aircraft, I think we will have a problem. We'll hit a point where we can't stretch the system any further unless we get Nextgen, ATV and other infrastructure improvements over the course of the next several years, the best way to increase our past system.

MS. MATTHEWS: In the same way that Nextgen really advances the ball, I'm sure we'll see new technologies, things like CCB. Just the invasion we've seen on TSA in terms of the arrival at the airport. We've seen many generations of technology there. I think in some ways it challenges us to find solutions at the various other choke points we have.

Perhaps I missed this. But I don't



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know if the Travel and Tourism Advisory Board has actually had a chance to watch airports where Nextgen would be coming in. As you talked about your recommendations, it sounds like it's a rolling process. And I think it will be very good for this group, since we are ina wonderful position to be advocates and ambassadors for Nextgen, for us to have the latest exposure to what it actually looks like, how it operates.

If we could sort of have a field trip at the earliest point to do it, then I think we will have better ideas to amplify what you might be doing in these regional town halls around the country.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Kathleen. Any other comments or questions for discussion?

MS. ANDOLINO: I'll touch on it a little bit further. With the Nextgen, that's going to improve the system in the air. It's important to have a complimentary infrastructure on the ground and, therefore, the role of the airport infrastructure to improve the runways and taxi ways.

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mission. It's not truly infrastructure.

In addition, I did verify with triple E. There's an art conference but not an arts advisory committee. So that doesn't actually exist. We need to definitely change that.

But we talked about using a sense of place and branding strategy. As we explore our opportunities in Chicago, we're looking at ways to partner with our neighboring community members, like our institutions, our art museum, our museum of natural history, and again looking at corporate sponsors to help build exhibits and help fund exhibits, and maybe student opportunities with our institutions or high-education institutions or even younger, or again the museums, that it truly is a public/private partnership.

In terms of building new space, there's usually state requirements and local requirements about public projects and having a budget for art. In most cases, at least .5 percent to 2 percent of your construction budget goes to art programs or developing public art.

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Nextgen will make some improvements to New York's air system, but will it truly make a difference? New York is building new runways. It's a marginal benefit that comes into play with Nextgen.

The airports that do not have the opportunity to increase their infrastructure, it's the only opportunity they have. But the reality is putting in that infrastructure on the ground allows us to get those planes out of the sky and onto the ground safer and faster.

The one thing we did discuss as well as a group -- and I think it's in our letter -- is that where this actually goes is the Art Advisory Committee. The Art Advisory Committee of the American Association of Airport Executives has been improving environments and airport staff alike.

Integrative public art design enhancement scan be implemented and/or installed in the existing infrastructure and funded through local capital. And in terms of budgets, we were talking about should that go some place else in terms of the overall Page 80

Again, I see the art component as an important component in the sense of creating space. But I think we should put it in public/private rather than infrastructure. So any comments or thoughts or conversation further on that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think that recommendation came from me to put that in there, just in case anybody was wondering.

The thing about it is simply it came because of the way the language was written. Everything else was written more about a different kind of infrastructure.

The first half of that paragraph was already there, and it talked about impression of the experience, not the other kinds of things that are more about runways and so on. It's the traveler's image of arrival and departure and so on.

So when it comes to that, one of the things that has happened since 1958 is the evolution of about 500 public art programs across the country. And you're absolutely right. Most of them are funded. Most of their money comes from 1 percent or



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2 percent of construction of programs. 1 percent of the budget is going to the arts that come from all these various cities.

But these enhancement programs have been very successful around the country. Denver is agreat example of that enhancement program. Most people here if they thought about it, would recognize if they're coming into Miami, would see the art on the floors and so on.

So if somebody is talking about the lasting impressions of travelers, it seems like it's a problem. If that's not what it's about, it could go to different places, where it should go, and if you're actually talking about the impressions of travelers as they're arriving and departing as opposed to infrastructure.

That was the only reason we identified that there, is because it was an aesthetic point of view that was also expressed in the committee report.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I think Rosemarie's recommendation was perhaps where the subcommittee talks about the private/public

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Holly as members of this committee. But also it does make sense to Greg and Maryann as members of the climate committee. But I'll start with you, Robin and Holly.

MS. AGRA: I think as much as we appreciate the inside of the airport, I think the initial sentence was referring to the time spent on the outside of the airport, specifically on the runways. So in this particular instance, I think we were speaking about time spent on the runways.

I think about this as the big infrastructure that's going to impact growth. I think it's the warmth and how do you feel when you arrive. It actually gives me a different thought. If these are the goals in 2021, then I think all stakeholds, whether they be private or public -- Doug mentioned the number of people coming through. It's incumbent upon all of us to have these goals to make these plans fall into place.

In Asia and China, you get a sense that they're playing catch-up. I don't think we need to do all of that in the U.S., but we have to move away from the tactical

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collaborative, one of their illustrations of that may be in another place where this language could go. How does that feel to you?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It feels fine for me to go someplace else if this is not a recommendation related to aesthetics or impression. You can see that distinction. The original language is slightly different than just seeing it now. But it's talking about airports are often the first and last impressions for travelers. And their experience in our cities, states and country are affected by the time spent in those airports.

That's an environment experience statement. And that was the statement that was in there already, and we were just adding that to the statement. So if the concept of that whole statement should go some place else, then sure. That sounds great.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: So we have two options, then, it seems to me. So I'm going to look at both Robin and Rosemarie and

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nature. And I think that applies to all stakeholds here as well.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Go ahead, Maryann. MS. FERENC: I think that it is a place where we could continue to identify and talk about that as part of an example of success.

MR. LYNCH: I think I agree with that. I think we can possibly take a look at some of that, especially with the model port program that's out there.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Robert, if that's agreeable to you -- and it sounds like it is to the two subcommittees that will be involved in this -- then I will suggest that we strike the language from that third full paragraph on page 5 beginning with "anairport's visible connection" through the end of that paragraph. That we would strike that. And I would ask the business subclimate committee to look at strengthening that collaborative language at our meeting in September. John?

MR. SPROULS: Another recommendation would be to create a long-term solution,



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maybe a five-year funding or something like that, where they can plan long-term and not go back every six months to getmore paperwork.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The airlines have been criticized for saying we want this and not having the funding to do it.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Maryann?

MS. FERENC: Something we didn't talk about on our conference call. Do we have to re-language that to address it more directly to the Secretary and the Department of Commerce in order for it to fit into our charge?

JENNA: We will make that clarification.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: We will make that technical correction as well. I will consider this letter adopted by consensus.

And we will move on to our next subcommittee to discuss and deliberate their proposed recommendations. And that was chaired by Mr. Sproulson our travel facilitation subcommittee.

MR. SPROULS: The president's

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particular order.

With respect to streamlined visa processing and visa access, we would like to ask that we explore and pilot a better utilization of consular locations with agents that are presently at out posts.

We realize that with a lot of the things that happened, it may take a while before such a pilot could happen. But we think it's something we should put on the radar stream. We like to see that both in terms of benefiting our country but also toput pressure on the Chinese government to deliver that reciprocity.

We would like to request that the State Department give us information and let us know about the process they currently use to process and factor into deciding where that happens.

We urge the administration to work to pass the JOLT Act and the elements of the JOLT Act. There are a number of things that are on the table now with respect to legislation that we think would really help from a facilitation point of view. They're

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executive order, our subcommittee really wants to say thank you to our partners in government because it has been a partnership and they have listened.

I was part of the previous subcommittee, and there were a number of goals established and a number of things that came forward. And they really formed the base and backbone for a lot of things that happened over the last 18 months, and we applaud that.

We are serious about a hundred million visitors in 2021. So we identified a number of recommendations that both maintain momentum and try to accelerate progress. Many of them are tactical. Some of them are operational. But they're both about moving the ball forward and continue on with success.

I'm going to talk about the recommendations and then devote the time to any questions. They are clustered around five areas: streamlined visa processing, staffing and resource integration, expansion of pre-check and model ports, in no

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detailed in the letter, but I would just point outone or two.

Within the JOLT Act, for example, with respect to the measurements of what countries can participate in the visa waiver program, the visa refusal rate, which right now is at a 3 percent threshold, will be moved to 10 percent.

With regard to the Senate legislation bill, there is authority for the Secretary of State to waive in-person visa interviews where appropriate. That legislative authority does not exist, but that would go a long way to allow the Secretary of State to decide where there are very low risk categories.

Turning to staffing and resource integration. We would like to request a staffing analysis briefly so it allows some of our top talent that deals with processes and best practices of moving around people.

I met Randy Garfield from Disney during the lunch. He said to us, "I know you're on the solicitation committee." We've done that with model ports, but we would like to do that more.



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Part of that staffing analysis ought to be also in the Appropriation Act. As we continue to free the number of visitors and don't grow the officers, it doesn't show how efficient our practice has become. It's going to be sheer volume. I strongly support it. I know you can't lobby, but there's people that can lobby to make sure we get new officers in 2013. Anytime you get customer feedback, it helps in managing processes.

In our industry -- and I'm sure other industries do as well -- we do a lot of cross-utilization of people. You've got CTP and TPA.

Moving on to global entry. We like to see global validity expand during the next ten years. The point that was raised early by Douglas was to increase.

We talked in our subcommittee this morning that the process in the UK for being able to participate in global entry is so cumbersome. We think there are 120 people in the UK that can actually participate in global entry coming into our country. And

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that.

With respect to model ports, there's a lot of things that go on in terms of infrastructure on the ground. And we'd like to see and understand, from a national point of view, some standardization when CTP gets brought into discussions with respect to infrastructure.

So recognizing that there's only so much you can do wasn't getting things built. If we could try to have a process whereby before capital commitments are made, CTP can participate in those discussions to see how it could be set up.

We recommend national standardizations of signs and symbols to guide people in international ports. In most every airport there is a standardization. We're confused enough. And for those folks that are visiting the country, it's gotto be impossible.

We would like to see DHS and CTP dedicate a staff resource to help expand and enhance the model ports.

So those are the recommendations with

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that's just insane.

Along those same lines, we would like to see new bilateral agreements, especially France and Japan. But we would like to see us have new conversations.

One of the issues that's come up in the conversations we've been having over the last few months is that your global entry approval doesn't automatically transfer when you get a new transport. It's a process that the individual passport holder has to take responsibility for.

We would also like to, from a marketing point of view, see us get the numbers higher, expansion of TSA pre-check. We think pre-check is a wonderful thing. Anything we can do to increase the use of pre-check.

I applaud the airlines for participating in and making it able to be launched. But I think ultimately if it is going to be driven as a major way to offset the lines, it's going to have to be a plan independent of the airlines. It should be a partnership, but it should be bigger than

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respect to the facilitation subcommittee. I would ask any of the subcommittee members if there's anything they want to add or if there's any questions.

MS. MATTHEWS: As the co-chair of this, I think that we also want to go on record thanking all of the agencies for the incredible amount of cooperation and integration of systems that have in the past really been in silos and to really applaud you and encourage you for continued collaboration on this because this is how we've made progress and will continue to make the kind of progress we've set forth in this letter.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Kathleen. Any comments for discussion?

MS. AGRA: I really like your idea about informing the passport offices to talk about global entry. I have a new agency for you to enlighten. It is the U.S. Postal Office. Because I saw a sign atmy post office advertising, "Apply for your passport here." And I said, "Do you have any information on global entry?" And they have



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not heard of that before. So it's a new agency for us to enlighten.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thanks, Holly.
MR. SPROULS: Holly, thanks for
bringing that up. For those of you who
don't know, the U.S. Postal Service and other
agencies do handle passport acceptance duties
for Americans either renewing or applying for
their first passport. And there is a lot
going on now to inform those other agencies
about global entry.

So that's definitely something that we're going to expand in the future.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: I have a laundry list, but I'll wait.

JENNA: Wait until the recommendations are adopted.

MR. SMITH: This is all great. And, John, first of all, thank you. You and Kathleen and Melissa have been amazing. Just a couple points, somewhat just as a level set and to clarify.

We have talked about this TSA/CTP thing. There are many different employees. The employees of CTP are federal law

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the flight attendant to go to the cockpit and fly the plane. They are very good in what they're trained to do in the cabin and passenger safety.

Just a clarification on that. An idea is that, John, you should try to be in Chicago on July 1st to see the cool announcement that O'Hare is going to be doing, because they are leading the way in our next evolution of what a model port can look like through several innovative programs. I think it will be a great place to do a sub-meeting after the exciting announcement that O'Hare is going to do. We are doing it in Chicago, and I think it will be apretty neat thing to see.

MS. MATTHEWS: In the staffing resource integration, this is where it's popping up as a concern. That you think maybe it implies that we thought people could shift from one to another. Isn't that sentence that both sides can discuss how they can learn from each other?

MR. SMITH: The things we can improve on, absolutely.

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enforcement officers. They go through the academy. They are part of federal statutes and immigration authorities that TSA employees don't.

So you really can't cross-pollinate it. And while they both work very closely in the same department, it sort of ends there.

Todd, as a port director, will work with the head of TSA for his ports, and they communicate a lot in terms of immigration of passenger flow input. In terms of the actual bodies, they are very different.

MS. MATTHEWS: Did we conflate this in the letter that we need to address?

TODD: There's really no way that we could cross-use them. They're very different employees.

MS. MATTHEWS: Can we table this?
MR. SMITH: They each play a very,
very important role in what we do, but
they're trained entirely differently and
they're given by law very different
authority. So you can't sort of shift back
and forth. It would be kind of like asking

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Let's use Chicago as an example. You're going to see something very innovative. I think that will be a great starting point. In Orlando we used you guys and the Disney folks to maximize the efficiency there. I don't want to speak for Todd, but we're always looking for smart ways to do it better. Our port directors try to be very engaged and active in our community.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't know what to add to the conversation. But in terms of cross-pollination, CTP officers, they're law enforcement officers. They're trained. They do extensive questioning. Whereby TSA personnel, I'm not sure exactly what their training is, but it's a whole different skill set.

And one area we are looking to work with TSA -- and this kind of gives you an example -- is through global entry whereby TSA personnel can help us with some of the administrative duties at point of entry. Not being allowed to do the interviewing portion, but to help with administrative functions. We take that very seriously, and we don't



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think we can just put a TSA officer in there and just increasethe staffing that way.

MR. SPROULS: What you just said you're going to try out, that's what we're talking about. Where it's possible for those kinds of things to happen to see if we can make that happen.

MS. MATTHEWS: It's like outsourcing some of the administrative work on some of your visa processing to non-foreign service officers.

So this would be a case where potentially onsome of administrative back-of-the-house kind of work, if there are opportunities for TSA to support CTP where they don't need the law enforcement training, that seems like that would be a comparable thing of manpower deployment.

MR. DOUGLAS: CTP is funded every other year, but we do a very comprehensive survey. Last year's survey was some passengers coming in. It's not uniformed officers doing the survey. It's civil people doing the survey. We're hopeful that the funding will be in existence for us this

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haspublicly endorsed the JOLT Act. There's nothing wecan do about that. But we have put out our support paper, and we are pretty much in a holding pattern. The line we can no longer cross we are at.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thanks, Doug. Rosemarie?

MS. ANDOLINO: I have to say thank you to Douglas and his team. We have been working collaboratively with not only CTP but our stakeholders and airline parties to be ready for our July 1st announcement. Again, another collaborative measure where we're able to expedite people coming through.

If you're carrying on and don't have any checked baggage, you can go through the side entrance of O'Hare and not go through inspection. So you bypass that.

In fact, we were there when we welcomed our first passenger through. And his comment was, "They told me this was going to be an hour wait or more, and it's three minutes."

So that's where we quoted him in our press statement. And we said, "You need to

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coming year to once again do a refresh.

And, John, if you have not seen that survey, I will be delighted to get that to you as the comprehensive. You might have not sat through the comprehensive work staffing presentation.

MR. SPROULS: No, I didn't.

MR. DOUGLAS: A lot of guys from DC got to sit through that.

One last thing. Global entries. We think that is our secret weapon. The more we can do about that, the better.

I was just getting clarification after our morning meeting. One of you asked me where are we at with Brazil on the visa waiver. On the visa waiver side of it, no, they have not asked yet. There has been discussions, but they have not pushed on anything.

Recently, though, they have been asking about global entry. We might not get visa waiver, but this may be an interest from Brazil to see how they can bring on a global entry type system.

On the JOLT Act, the administration

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tell your friends." He said, "You need to tell yours." He was very excited about how quickly this process went through. And the ability to pull as many people out of the primary lines and kind of minimize the risk task. So what your officers have to concentrate on is important.

One of the things I learned during our dialogue and discussion is what really might help here. As a CTP officer, your work rules does not allow in CTP to have the flex time. If we can encourage labor to sit at the table to develop a process to invite that, that will help us with those peaks. Not mixing lines of business but actually using your resources more efficiently.

Because for our challenges, we have peaks and lulls in our banks of arrivals. So if you have part-time officers, you can bring them in for that.

Or another thing that we actually looked at as well for the Department of Aviation is using people that are retired to come back for part-time because they have all the training. Just different ways to look



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at utilizing resources that may have already existed and gone through training and minimize wait times.

MR. SMITH: I think the short answer is we have always looked at innovative ideas. The challenge we have found with bringing back retired officers is just keeping the trainings current. It's one thing if literally they're on the job today and they retired tomorrow and they want to scale back alittle bit. I think that would be an area we could look at.

The longer term retirees would probably be more challenging just because the training they go through is ever-present. It's not that they learn it once and forget it. It's a recurrent effort.

With all that being said, we've got a tough situation. And with that tough situation, we can look at any reasonable solution to help us get where we want to get.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Douglas. Andt hank you, Rosemarie, for the suggestion. Jonathan?

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capacity to handle a hundred thousand applications a year, that doesn't address your point of people having to take a trip to take a trip. But legislatively we have to interview applicant and collect their biometric fingerprints. So they have to go to a facility where that can be done.

We want to make that process as quick and painful as possible. That's where the single-digit wait times help so people can plan their visit and have the confidence that it won't take extra time. And then with other things that are in effect, they can renew that visa and never have to come into one of our facilities again unless something shows up in the database.

But to be frank, using small facilities around the world is probably not something we're going to be able to do in the near term.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Which doesn't make it anyless appropriate for the subcommittee's recommendation.

Not seeing any other comments or questions at this time, I will consider this

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MR. ZUK: Going back though your point regarding the visas and the officers in countries that are large. This is something that we've heard many times. That people basically need to take a vacation to go on vacation because they need to go through the lines. Is this something in the works or is this something you are thinking about doing to make it easy to process?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The issues and probability of micro office is something that could not happen in the near term. We are looking at locations to establish visa services. Iraq will start visa services by the end of this month.

But if you look across the board at the Brand USA marketing campaign where they've identified 11 countries that supply 75 percent of the people coming in those markets, a micro-post would be overwhelmed anyway even if the security situation would allow for its establishment.

Where we are putting in the new posts, which Brazil and China are going in big with new consulates that will have the

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letter adopted by consensus.

Before the last letter of recommendation comes to us, I want to thank both John and Kathleen for co-chairing the great work that was done by the travel subcommittee.

Our research task force was chaired by Rossi, but he was called away. We have Kevin, who is going to be standing in. I'll turn it over to you, Kevin.

MR. BAGER: For the record, my name is Kevin Bager, and I work for Rossi. He offered his apologies. But his bosses, our board, had the audacity to do stuff like now. So he is busy in the midst of that.

Rossi is a market researcher at heart. He understands these programs inside and out. Over the last several months, he and Laura have spearheaded the program to optimize it. And I know in the interest of time, we'll do this quickly.

I think part of the reason he had me talk is because I am the fastest speaker on the staff. Laura is going to walk us through the recommendations.



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MS. MANDALA: Thank you, Kevin. We have outlined briefly in some of our earlier meetings that we have assembled the task force from a variety of members of the travel industry, these including major polling companies such as Gallup. They include someof the major users including Las Vegas, Oregon, New York, California.

We included travel companies, travel agencies, associations, Universal Studios, and airlines to all come together and really seriously look at this as a tool for providing the industry with the only source of data it has on understanding inbound international travelers.

I won't go into the recent history where funding was at jeopardy. It didn't exist for the latter half of 2013. But we'd like to think that part of our work on focusing on this, along with new travel and other members of the industry, resulted in SIAT having a line in the budget for 2013.

But there are still questions about SIAT and its effectiveness and its ability to be as robust and informed a tool as

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to improve each of these areas.

And we can open those up for discussion if you'd like, but I'm going to go over the top level recommendations now, and we'll talk about the specifics if you have any questions about those.

So let's go to our second recommendation. The second recommendation was really the most critical and formed the foundation for us moving forward on this recommendation by SIAT. We had face-to-face meetings and conference calls -- I would say about six in all -- with our task force. It was determined that there really is no other reliable and valid approach to gaining methodically sound data that you need for understanding inbound travel to the United States.

While undergoing this process, we also learned from the BEA that they've decided to use the SIAT for looking at balance and payments. They looked at the credit card data, and they don't represent the bulk of international travelers.

So BEA has stated their intent to

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possible. So with the think tank, which we like to call it with industry people, in fact, we have our university partners there as well. And we provide you a list of the organizations that were present in these conversations on the back of this memo. It's called an appendix. And you can see who were present at these meetings.

Some of the conclusions we've come to, the first conclusion is to increase the sample size of SIAT. The TPA, Traffic Promotion Act, mandates a 1 percent sample. Well, 1 percent is not critical. You can still have a very robust sample size at 5 percent. And that's what we are recommending here.

By increasing the sample through a variety of ways, you're going to make the data available and relevant to more destinations. You're going to capture more countries and overall improve this as a research tool.

And we've gone through each of these recommendations. We have pretty in-depth recommendations for steps that you could take

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use SIAT as the use of balance and payments.
We're going to enhance -- keep the
SIAT the way it is, maintain the methodology,
but improve it. We can improve it by
expanding at more airports. Right now we're
at 27 airports. We can go to 40 or 50.
We can improve the data collection methods
right now. It's kind of an old-fashioned
method, standing and interviewing people at
the gates, but it's still a valid and
reliable way to go.

But we can improve that through electronic tools. So instead of handwriting a questionnaire, we can have data inputted into a tablet. Or instead of having face-to-face interaction with the customer, we can give them a link to go online on their mobile device or computer and have them fill it out when they get home. So a lot of technical improvements can improve the data collection.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can I ask you two questions? One is, did you make any estimates on how to drive the cost per survey? There's a current cost structure per



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survey, and one of the fundamental questions has been, are there ways to reduce the costper survey through scale.

In the current world of that individual filling it out, you don't get any kind of scale. Therefore, the cost of survey has stayed somewhat constant. With some improvements, have you estimated at all where you think the cost of survey could go?

MS. MANDALA: I don't have a specific number, but we believe it will decline because of these improvements. However, those reductions in cost are going to be offset by the fact that we anticipate to be interviewing more people.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Fair enough. And the second question is, did you quantify the cost of test? It says here test.

MS. MANDALA: Right.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there any sort of quantitation what the test will cost?

MS. MANDALA: We will determine the cost of the test once we have agreement on the approaches that we want to take. So we have estimates right now.

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MS. MANDALA: The original approach is to stand at the gate.

MS. MATTHEWS: I'm trying to decide how far away from that continuum you were at.

MS. MANDALA: The testing is going to determine what the ratio will actually be.

MR. BAGER: Where the visitor is intercepted will be at the gates of the airport. It's how they fill out the survey is what we're suggesting. You'll still get a sample based on inbound to the United States, if it's 15 percent.

MS. MANDALA: Kathleen, we'll keep that in mind because our goal is to capture the entire inbound copy. So we'll look at what will skew how many travelers.

The next recommendation is we feel that SIAT needs a line item within the federal budget since it's now so critical to the balance of payments. We feel it cannot be subject to the vagaries of political and economic life. To have that a dedicated line item is going to provide some stability not only in the travel industry, but for

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MR. BAGER: In discussion, the test we were debating was what is the amount of a test. Is it one month of data? Is it three months of data? Whatever that cost is at the end of the day, we do believe a three-month period would be optimal to prove that the improvements are doing what they need to do.

MS. MATTHEWS: You suggested mobile in there, and we all know in China.

MS. MANDALA: It won't be exclusively mobile. It will just be adding mobile for a certain portion. So we're going to maintain the original approach.

MS. MATTHEWS: Does going exclusively to mobile skew your samples too much?

MR. BAGER: The testing will tell that. This was an online sample to skew your response. We believe that online, whether it's a mobile device oryour PC at home, an online element is absolutely a key improvement.

MS. MATTHEWS: Mobile is so critical right now. If you don't have mobile, you don't have an accurate sample.

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government in its reporting globally what the balance of payments are.

Then there were a variety of options for I guess this dedicated funding. One is to ask the Department of Commerce to ensure that that funding is allocated every year. It could be part of their annual budget.

Option-2 is to take some of the unallocated ESTA monies that have been captured for the TPF, travel promotion fund, and an additional ESTA fee to support SIAT.

I should preface this by saying we're not the government funding experts. We just talked to a lot of people and are laying out what our options are. We would see it as government's role to identify what the best approach is for finding the funding for making this happen.

The third option was to look to Brand USA's budget outside of manufacturing funds to pay for both the core and testing phases. We've had talks with Brand USA. And needless to say, it would involve alot of legal investigation. So we didn't go down that path since we weren't sure how the



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TTAB felt about us moving in that direction.

But if we were to move in that direction, it would be explored fully with government and government lawyers as an option.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Outside of manufacturing funds, I'm curious. What does that mean?

MR. BAGER: What it's intended to mean is it's a line item that's not tied to a donation. They have a dedicated fund for SIAT regardless of how the money moves around on their side of the ledger.

Again, we have to see what the government lawyers decide, if that's even feasible or not. But we were told the manufacturing fund absolutely complicates the effort.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's hard for us to map and then get that money back to do something.

MR. BAGER: Certainly.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It puts us in

24 a difficult position.

MS. MANDALA: SIAT will now be

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you're talking about. The language keeps changing. The initial language was relating to the ability to pay for a biometric exit, I believe. I don't know if that's been settled upon.

MS. MANDALA: Do you find CTP officers apart of it as well, Todd?

MR. SMITH: Half of it is through appropriation, and that would be \$4. And that is tied to immigration tax.

MS. MANDALA: Does that then further complicate it?

MR. SMITH: We probably should table this one. This is opening up large can of worms that we should probably dial back and address maybe a little bit offline today on some of these things that relates to funding. This is not the appropriate moment to delve into it.

MR. HAYES: It is the government's job tofigure out how things get funded and not funded. I think we need to point out some of the risks thatcome with all these additional fees and charges. You know, it's \$2 here, \$5 here.

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handled under the National Travel and Tourism Office. So I would really be a proponent of Option-1, which is let's fund what's necessary appropriately through the budget process.

Dick and I were talking about this yesterday. The funding has now been restored. It was actually going to be taken out and put in for2014. So we've been able to maintain it. Now, ifit's not funded appropriately or to its right levels,I think we should then look at doing it in the budget.

My concern on Option 2 is the fact that inthe immigration proposal, that's how there's the increase on the ESTA basically almost doubling the ESTA fee to \$30. Today it's \$14. It's adding another \$16 onto that.

In addition, the ESTA money really goes to support the DHS's role and CTP.

22 MR. SMITH: A very small part of 23 that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It was \$16. MR. SMITH: Oh, within the bill

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By the way, it's not just on the U.S. end, but when travelers come from all parts of the world, it also increases charges. You very quickly get to several hundred dollars of fees and charges. I think that we haven't yesterday understood what an impact it's having on demand.

And specific to the item here, there's a lot of companies, and there's been so much collaboration with companies. But the ability in this area to get step-changed on the amount of information, one of the things we do every week now is, social media is so big. You get a one-page work file. It's not market research in the purest form that allows you to go and allocate assets, but it gives you a very good snapshot that says now you have a problem with U.S. arrivals from what China officials are telling me.

I think just being transparent I think on behalf of the airline sector, adding \$2 as an extra fee on top of other charges, we're not helping them build the goals to get travelers come to this currently.



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CHAIR DAVIDSON: So are the second and third paragraphs in the letter being asked to be tabled?

MR. SMITH: Given the tremendous attention to competitive reform and what is going on in those negotiations and the complications associated withit, we may be asking for trouble. I'm trying to be diplomatic.

MS. MANDALA: Would the research committee want to pull back at this time because of what's happening?

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The reason for my question -- and I don't know if you want to defer to Kevin to pick up your diplomacy where you just left off. But what I'm trying to determine is, are you good with Options 1 and 3 and Option 2 having A and B?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's a balance of funds there that are unallocated within the ESTA fund. There's \$10 that goes to DHS, and there's \$10 that are held in trust for Brand USA. But there's additional revenue that is generated over and abovethe

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at doing that.

MS. MANDALA: Is it acceptable to say that we are advocating for a dedicated source of funding without going into how that happens?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A dedicated source of funding, yes. The issue is Option 1. It's sort of hard to actually exercise Option 1 because funds are appropriate. And so it's unclear to me.

I think it's fine to have it. It's unclearto me operationally how that sustains the survey formany years because there are still decisions that need to be made and the appropriators need to appropriate to us.

Now, let me just ask, is your concern --because, on the other hand, you can make recommendations to us, and we just don't have to respond.

There's lot of information up here. Do you have a particular concern around the recommendation coming in? Because we can simply say there's are commendation that comes, and we will think about it.

MR. SMITH: I think you're opening

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hundred million.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: This becomes 2B to me. If that's the sticky point, let's have the conversation there. That's what I'm asking. I'll let Kevin answer Part 1.

But what I'm saying is, well, right now as you all know, the access fee we don't get. The access fee goes to deficit reduction. There are alot of good parts in the immigration bill. And I think there's some things in there that could be very effective and helpful to many of the themes that have been spoken about in the last few hours.

It's not to be diplomatic. But I'm not prepared -- well, I'm prepared but maybe not willing in an open forum -- and I'm willing to go off-lineand talk about this. I think Robin is picking up on there's an underlying situation going on that we have to be cautious about.

And it's not to take away the good smart research. We support that wholly. But there is significant complications within the funding streamas to how we want to look

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up a can of worms with 2B. There's air turbulence at the moment, and we're trying to navigate and we're trying to fly this plane in for immigration reform. And I think we just need to walk cautiously. You probably all find it hilarious saying that you have to be cautious. I'm being sensitive.

But there are a lot of moving parts, and there are a lot of people that want to be cautious that we don't overextend.

MS. MANDALA: Can we make the statement that we would like a line item in the budget?

MR. SMITH: You can make that statement. We're just here to listen. I'm just offering some cautious advice as to how we work through this.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think getting better information, thinking about how we organize these surveys, how we can create steps to gather information. There's other conflicting -- not necessary conflicting ideas with the survey, but things that people want to get funded. Until we understand what all of those are, what impact we think it's



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going to have.

You look at countries in Europe who have made big increases in fees and taxation, and then they've pulled them out because of the catastrophic impact they had in terms of numbers. I think that's something we're very nervous about until we better understand that

MS. MANDALA: Would you say in a few months' time you will have more information that will guide us in a better direction?

MR. SMITH: For DHS I think we play out the clock for the 2014 budget before we cloud the playing field with other complications.

MR. BAGER: Is it still as complicated without 2B in there?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can I make a recommendation in terms of the language? If you got rid of Options 1, 2 and 3 and leave it as long-term dedicated funding for SIAT to achieve its support inthe tourism industry. How about extending that with a discussion of appropriate funding mechanisms?

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they've viewed it as we can just put these things up. And my concern is if you keep increasing these charges, we decrease the demand for coming in.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A bolder step would be to say dedicated sufficient funding for the SIAT to achieve its mandate in support of the tourism industry with a discussion over appropriate funding mechanisms, including but not limited to Option 1 and Option 3. And you just eliminated Option 2, which is sort of the red herring here.

But you were not limiting it to that. So you're sort of saying one option is dedicated funding that shows that the group believes that this is important to fund, but we also recognize maybe someof the challenges of a line item like that.

Option 3 shows that perhaps putting this within Brand USA and funding it within their existing mechanism is an option, but there might be some other ones out there on the table.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And the subcommittee will further explore, et cetera,

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It would be fine.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Dedicate sufficient funding for the SIAT to achieve its mandate in support of the tourism industry.

MR. ZUK: Is it okay to do a negative recommendation and say we advocate not to raise the ESTA fee. There was a push back to \$14. And if we change it to \$30, the explosion would be worse.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: This would not be the letter to do it in coming from our research task force. That would be a recommendation that would be complicated. We would want to refer it to one of our subcommittees.

From my personal perspective, it seems to run into the same concern we've got here in terms of how it plays out. I don't think this is a letter todo that in, Jonathan.

MR. ZUK: I agree. It is a concern in the industry. These countries when they've looked at these charges in the past,

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et cetera?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And if I may, just to hijack the moment. And I'm sorry for hogging the mike. If we agreed by the way with the hypothesis that the more expensive we make it to come here, the less likely people are to come. Where do we have that dialogue? Because I'm extremely concerned that some of the things that we may choose to do in the United States the next two or three years may mirror some of the things I've seen in Europe. For an airline industry, we're concerned with the direction of demand.

MS. ANDOLINO: I think that this conversation moves that up on the list of things that the business climate subcommittee needs to address.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: That was one of those topics that was handed to your committee that was raised by the full-time board to look at taxes on visitors as well as taxes on businesses themselves and the climate we're creating.



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MS. MANDALA: I'm kind of remiss that Rossi is not here because I know he feels strongly about the funding component, and he feels there should be agovernment funded survey. So I just wanted to make that statement.

And I'm hoping that we're going to be able to pick up funding maybe at our next meeting or before the end of the year because it sounds to methat this initiative is getting put under the table because certain folks think there's more important initiatives taking place.

And I'm sure there are important things going on, but this is a source of balance of payments. And to keep putting off funding this thing just seems like a bad dream.

MR. SMITH: Don't take hesitation from this side of the room as -- we do research in everything we do, and there's a huge support for research. I think we just need to be walking into that fully aware and just being fully aware. No one is opposed to research. We're all for it. We think

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that conversation to start in the subcommittee and come to the Advisory Board willbe a very good thing.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think just take the options out. It says everything we need to say rightthere.

MS. MANDALA: We can live with that, taking the options out.

MR. BAGER: There should be some dedicated funding mechanism. The intent of it is, these are the three we discussed.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But it's going to touch a nerve. Yeah, we've unhighlighted the one that has --

MR. BAGER: Like everything, everyone is competing for funds in research. Just so I understand, we're removing all of the options?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why do we need options if the recommendation says dedicate sufficient funding for the SIAT to achieve mandate insupport of the tourism industry?

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The options would be removed from the letter, and then later

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it's great. But we want to do a deep-dive look at how we fund research.

Adding another fight into the mix, my guidance, putting on my advisory hat is, don't back off the importance of doing research. Let's just be cautious about how we talk about financing it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would just say there's nobody questioning -- I think everybody knows the importance of research and how to fund it. I think we don't want to undermine the larger recommendation simply because there is an option in here that touches the third rail. You'll have opposition to the entire recommendation in my view.

And that's why I would suggest -- and I concur with Kathleen's recommendation in terms of how we might change the language. It doesn't change anything about our warranting to get funding for it. I think you share my view in that.

MS. MATTHEWS: I think it's an important thing for this group. I think we had not addressed that head-on. And for

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explore what those options would be.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Put in a discussion of funding not limited -- including Options 1 and 3.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We probably should take a vote on this.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: The consensus is driving towards pulling the detail of the options out but putting in the language that there needs to be a dedicated sufficient funding source identified and there needs to be conversations going forward that weneed to be engaged in around what these funding options are.

We are going to either put a period there or say "including but not limited to Option 1 and Option 3." No references to Option 2 in our including but not limited language.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We already know that Option 3 would be a legal problem. Why not simply take 1, 2 and 3 out and summarize what we need, andit will be open for discussions.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would



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support taking 1, 2 and 3 out, but I would leave the line in.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: And that's the line we would add. Is that this group would work with the federal government to discuss what our options would be.

I'm not hearing any strong visceral reactions either way. So we will consider this letter adopted subject to the options.

We have taken all three options off the table, and we will reference this recommendation. That there needs to be a dedicated tabled funding source, and it will be working in conjunction with the TTAB and the SIAT subcommittee.

MR. LYNCH: The advocacy committee has decided not to put in a report, not put in a letter today. We are doing it in the fall. And part of the reason for doing it in the fall is that so many of the committee reports have advocacy issues in them, like this, for example.

And so we wanted to see what that was first, and we wanted our report to in some instances reflect what you all are

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Maureen and everybody on that committee.

Thank you very much. We look forward to your recommendations when we get together in September.

Jenna has some house keeping items for us as we come up on adjournment.

JENNA: Thank you everyone for your comments and letters. We have two meetings in the next two days. We will be confirming the September meeting. There is a reminder for tomorrow for the tour of the airport, the CTP and TSA operations. If you want to learn the differences between what a TSA and CTP officer does, here's the chance. We will meet at the Alaska Airlines ticketing counter.

Thank you to Douglas for putting that together. Thank you to U.S. Travel for hosting us. It's an incredible partnership to be able to be here at the IPW in Las Vegas.

Rossi invited you all to a show tonight to Beatles Love. If you took him up on those tickets, see me at the reception, which is right across the hallway right now.

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saying and in some instances make sure we are not redundant in what you're saying. So that will be coming up.

In our meeting today, we looked at a variety of recommendations that we've been working on for awhile, but there are three real categories of that: Impediments to travel and tourism, legacy issues from the last committee, issues about destination and enhancing going to destinations, partnering with destinations, content of destination, and then promotion and communications around those issues. So that's what we're looking at.

We have a number of things that the committee today discussed that were in your recommendations, like whole government and issues that are related to the various segments of population, to tribal ethnicities, to different kinds of destination communities to work in there.

So with that, that's pretty much what we're going to be working on over the summer. And, Maureen, anything else?

Maureen is the vice chair. Thank you.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: Thank you, Robert,

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As soon as Todd adjourns us, we will see you there.

CHAIR DAVIDSON: If that doesn't tell you what I need to do next, so I don't stand in the way of a martini, showgirls or anything else, then all I have to say is we are adjourned.

(Whereupon the meeting was concluded at 5:25 p.m.)



1 CERTIFICATE 2 3 COUNTY OF CLARK 4 5 I, Jane V. Efaw, certified shorthand 6 reporter, do hereby certify that I took down 7 in shorthand (Stenotype) all of the
proceedings had in the before-entitled matter at the time and place indicated; and that there after said shorthand notes were transcribed into typewriting at and under my direction and supervision and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of the proceedings had. Jane V. Efaw DATED: June 18, 2013 Jane V. Efaw DATED: June 18, 2013

