



## A Few Tips for Legislative Relationships

1. **Timing:** The worst time to forge a relationship with legislators is during a session. Connections should be built during the interim.
2. **Contact Info:** Keep your legislator's contact info handy.
3. **Issues:** Legislators should know your city's goals, projects, challenges, and achievements.
4. **Support:** Stay abreast of your senator's / representative's agenda. What are their priorities and aspirations? Are you in a position to assist them?
5. **Speaking:** Can you provide opportunities to speak with your shared voters?
6. **Recognition:** If your delegation is helpful, recognize those good deeds.
7. **Dining:** Meeting for a meal is both common and customary. Buying someone lunch does not buy their vote; you just get a few quality minutes of their time.
8. **Staff:** Get to know legislative staffs. Involve them in your activities.
9. **Campaigning:** Re-election takes money and positive exposure. As the leaders of your community, you are in a unique position to offer (or withhold) support.
10. **Accountability:** Is your delegation accountable to you and your town? If not, *are there consequences?* Are there political costs to opposing your city?

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