**Chapter Advocacy Committee Efforts DRAFT**

Chapters have the opportunity to coordinate policy efforts in collaboration with their council and TU staff through a variety of models.  Many chapters choose to organize a committee of individual TU members from across their chapter geography to move policy efforts forward with guidance and support from their council and local or regional TU staff.  Below is an example of activities a committee might engage in to facilitate effective advocacy efforts.

**January (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

Draft newsletter updates for submission

**February (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

Host special event to build awareness and offer action item (e.g. Pint Night for Postcards Against X Pipeline)

**March (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Meet with representatives during their recess to share TU priority areas

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

Draft newsletter updates for submission

**April (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Start to plan in-person meetings with legislators (especially during an election year)

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

**May (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

Draft newsletter updates for submission

Attend a council advocacy training/meeting (bring information back to committee)

**June (In-Session)**

Weekly legislative status calls with committee members, council advocacy committee representative & TU staff

Committee debrief of the closing legislative session

Meet with TU staff to discuss upcoming session priorities

Communicate session outcomes to members

Organize testimony volunteers (provide pre-meeting coaching with talking points)

Identify upcoming commission and advisory group positions and candidates

**July**

Attend a council advocacy committee training/meeting

**August**

Meet with representatives & their staff during their recess to share TU priority areas

Invite council advocacy committee to upcoming chapter meetings to introduce committee, learn about local policy issues and build interest in upcoming priority issues in the legislature

**September**

Meet with council and TU staff to discuss upcoming session priorities

Plan an upcoming advocacy tactic (e.g. special event, LTE’s, postcard writing campaign)

Organize a candidate’s forum (election year)

**October**

Identify committee priorities and confirm with council

Draft list of potential TU member testifiers for priority areas in upcoming session

Identify legislative staff that relationship building would strengthen your efforts

Confer with communications committee about upcoming priority issue(s) outreach plan

Draft newsletter updates with priorities for submission

**November**

Offer training opportunity for members who will likely provide testimony for upcoming session

Attend a council advocacy committee training/meeting

Implement priority issue outreach plan (i.e. LTEs, blogs, turn blogs to video using Lumen5, social media, draft email action alerts)

**December**

Meet with TU members to update them on upcoming legislative priorities and share how they can help