

Grassroots Networking tips: Effective Conversations & Meetings

Scheduling time to talk with your legislator can be difficult during the legislative session – legislation can move quickly and calendars can change with little notice. Whether you talk with your legislator in-person or over the phone, make sure you SPIT – keep your message Specific, Personal, Informative and Timely.

Below is a sample script format that may help you tailor your message:

Information to Include

Start by stating your name, position and city. Provide context for why you are reaching out, highlight your district connection.

Then, state your specific issue.

Describe why the request is important to the people you represent. Mention local perspective and informative details.

Make your request, including any specific deadlines or timeframes.

State that you plan to follow up with the legislator.

Wrap-up by asking for contact information for the legislative assistant. Always thank the legislator for their time.

Sample Conversation

Hello, my name is George Jones, and I'm a town councilman in Asheboro, North Carolina.

I would like to talk about continued funding for Main Street Program grants.

This is important to Asheboro citizens because past program grants assisted the city in leveraging \$5 million in private investment.

As a committee member, please consider voting to increase the grant program funding to help our district.

I plan to follow up by inviting you to attend the downtown development association banquet to hear about success stories this year.

May I have contact information for your legislative assistant?