

# 2018 Local Legislative Priorities



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

*The Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce seeks to create an environment where business can grow and thrive. Accomplishing this goal requires that government and the business community come together and actively pursue policies that help encourage investment, grow the economy, and create jobs.*

## MISSION STATEMENT:

*The Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce actively fosters a better business environment through community and economic development, member services and advocacy.*

## PRIORITIES:

1. Actively promote development incentives in all communities
2. Improve integration of transit systems in the Corridor and explore new transit options
3. Collaborate with established affordable housing groups and support efforts to increase the affordable housing stock

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local development and the University of Iowa have helped to propel the growth we enjoy and are projected to see over the next few decades. Integral to maintaining this sustained growth is taking advantage of the incentives at our disposal without making them overly complicated to use.

Goal:

1. Actively promote development incentives in all communities

## TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure and transit are important factors in the economic growth of the area. Ensuring that infrastructure needs of our largest employers are met helps retain these pillars of the community. In addition to infrastructure needs, transit is often cited by local businesses as inadequate, making it difficult for employees to get to and from work.

Goal:

2. Improve integration of transit systems in the Corridor and explore new transit options

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ensuring that our community remains a welcoming place for all individuals helps local employers attract and retain the best employees. Taking on initiatives such as improving affordability of housing or nurturing the arts community support these attraction and retention efforts.

Goal:

3. Collaborate with established affordable housing groups and support efforts to increase the affordable housing stock

## GENERAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Economic development, transportation, and community development all play a key role in the quality of our business environment. In addition, the general business environment, dictated by the rules and regulations put in place by government, determines our business community's ability to thrive and grow. The Chamber will aggressively promote a business environment that fosters the entrepreneurial mindset and works to grow our economy, not limit it.

Ryan Sempf, Director of Government Relations & Public Policy

[ryan@iowacityarea.com](mailto:ryan@iowacityarea.com)

c: (319) 270-7462

o: (319) 337-9637