

Public Policy – Quad Cities Chamber

Maintaining a business-friendly climate is essential to growing our economy. The Quad Cities Chamber's Public Policy Platform is centered on policies that will assist overall economic growth in the region, focusing on the core areas of business climate and balanced growth, education and workforce readiness, infrastructure and transportation, and quality of place.

Quad Cities Chamber Public Policy Platform

The Business Advocacy Council (BAC) is the advocacy committee of the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce. The BAC will work to identify policies that will assist overall economic growth in the Quad Cities region, with a focus on our core industries: advanced metals & materials; agricultural innovation; corporate operations & support; defense; logistics. The BAC is committed to advocating for policies at the local, state and federal level that will benefit our members and region, with an emphasis on small to medium sized businesses, which make up well over 85% of our 2000 member companies.

Specifically, the BAC will focus its advocacy efforts in the following core areas:

Business Climate and Balanced Growth:

- Support policies that improve and enhance the overall business climate of the Quad Cities region.
- Advocate for policies and collaborations that foster and encourage balanced growth in our region.
- Oppose unnecessary and undue regulations.
- Support tax policies that are fair, simple and not overly-burdensome to our members.
- Advocate for professional, efficient and effective local governments.

Education and Workforce Readiness:

- Support policies that will directly impact the availability and quality of skilled workers in our region.
- Advocate for data-driven education policies and practices that ensure high school graduates are college and career ready.
- Advocate for data-driven policies and practices that ensure early success in school.
- Support innovative policies and practices that make it easier for Quad Cities' residents to achieve certificates, degrees and career credentials in order to make our region more attractive for business attraction and retention.

Infrastructure and Transportation:

- Support policy initiatives that will maintain, improve and enhance our multi-modal transportation network (road, rail, water, air) throughout the Quad Cities region.
- Support new, long-term, sustainable revenue sources for infrastructure maintenance and improvement at the local, state and federal levels.
- Support policies and efforts that would facilitate and enhance broadband connectivity within our urban region.

Quality of Place:

- Support and engage in long-term visioning/planning related to enhancing and improving our world-class riverfronts.
- Support and engage in long-term visioning/planning related to creating and maintaining attractive and vibrant downtowns.
- Advocate for policies and mechanisms that will support and sustain key cultural institutions and amenities.
- Back quality of life initiatives in the Regional Vision that support workforce attraction and retention.

Approved: Business Advocacy Council - November 19, 2014; Chamber Board – November 20, 2014