

2025 POLICY AGENDA

CINCINNATI REGIONAL CHAMBER GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & ADVOCACY

The Cincinnati Chamber recognizes that to achieve our region's growth objectives, we must have an ambitious policy agenda that is aggressively pro-growth – and that means pro-business and pro-development. Working at all levels of government, we will advocate for policies that drive a strong and healthy business climate and we will oppose policies that harm the region, its businesses, and our residents. We will ensure that businesses and their leaders have access to the decisionmakers who matter most to get things done.

GROW OUR POPULATION

Federal

- **Immigration Reform:** We will advocate for policies aimed at addressing immigrants seeking entry into our workforce to boost our talent and population pipelines and help our region supply its job growth.
- **Housing:** We will champion bipartisan policy that expands access to critical tax incentives, grants, and other funding to pave the way for more housing development.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure:** We will champion policies and projects that drive investment in the Cincinnati region, including continued support for public transit and robust funding into our region's infrastructure.

State

- **Licensure Reform:** We will push to reduce barriers for entering the workforce and for a simplified state licensing process for highly skilled immigrants or those relocating to our region from other states who have extensive training or education within their field.
- **Housing:** We will advocate for tax credits, incentives, and programs to spur housing development for all levels of income and promote affordable pathways to home ownership throughout the region.
- **Workforce Development:** We will promote policies that strengthen our workforce and talent pipelines, recruit and retain people, and keep university students within the region.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure:** We will champion policies and projects that drive investment in the Cincinnati region, including continued support for public transit and robust funding to support transportation systems in the major metro areas.

Local

- **Land Use:** We will advocate for reforms that modernize zoning codes and development processes to enable commercial and residential development across the region.
- **Development:** We will support the creation and expansion of incentives and investment tools that drive development, support housing growth, and attract jobs.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure:** We will continue advocating for developing a transportation system that safely and efficiently connects people to jobs, education, health care, and all that our region has to offer.

GROW OUR ECONOMY

Federal

- **Maximize Federal Investment in the Cincinnati Region:** We will advocate for and strategically support initiatives and investment that drive our local economy.
- **International Trade:** We will work to remove barriers to ensure companies in our region can import and export the products they need to compete in a rapidly changing global economy.
- **Economic Health:** We will advocate for policies that support the health of the American economy with a focus on creating an environment that is beneficial for the business community.
- **Small Business:** We will push for policies that create a strong climate for small, MBE, and WBE businesses to thrive, including the modernization of the SBA.
- **Childcare:** We will support policies that enhance the childcare industry to allow for more parents and caregivers to enter and thrive in the workforce.

GROW OUR ECONOMY (CONTINUED)

State

- **Pro-development:** We will push for policies and incentives that promote commercial and residential development in our region to help grow our population and economy.
- **Public Safety:** We will advocate for policies that promote – and against policies that hinder – a business's ability to operate safely within our region, particularly in the urban core.
- **Small Business:** We will push for policies that create a strong climate for small, MBE, and WBE businesses to thrive.
- **Childcare:** We will partner with business groups, including other Ohio Metro Chambers, to promote policies and investment in childcare opportunities for all working parents to help sustain a strong workforce.

Local

- **Cincinnati Futures Commission:** We will advocate for the recommendations that lay the foundation of economic growth and fiscal sustainability for our region moving forward.
- **Pro-development:** We will advocate for systems and processes that incentivize both commercial and residential development and reduce regulatory burdens within our city and region.
- **Public Safety:** We will advocate for policies that promote – and against policies that hinder – a business's ability to operate safely within our region, particularly in the urban core.
- **Small Business:** We will push for policies that create a strong climate for small, MBE, and WBE businesses to thrive.
- **Childcare:** We will support policies that enhance the childcare industry to allow for more parents and caregivers to enter and thrive in the workforce.

GROW OUR CULTURAL VIBRANCY

All Levels

We will advocate for policies and projects that advance our region's cultural vibrancy, including and not limited to:

- The exploration of a new arena
- The completion of the convention center district
- The completion of caps over Ft. Washington Way
- Funding and support for arts and community-wide cultural events
- Support for professional sports team venues
- Vibrant and safe entertainment districts throughout our region

A STRONG BUSINESS COMMUNITY

All Levels

- **Effective Government:** We will push for leaders, systems, and policies that promote effective, efficient, and collaborative government.
- **Strong Business Climate:** We will advocate for inclusive policies that enable business growth, ease the cost and complexity to operate in our region, ensure talent recruitment and retention, support our startup ecosystem, and drive job creation in our region.

Local

- **Growth:** We will support funding and partnerships with local economic development organizations and civic initiatives that enable growth.