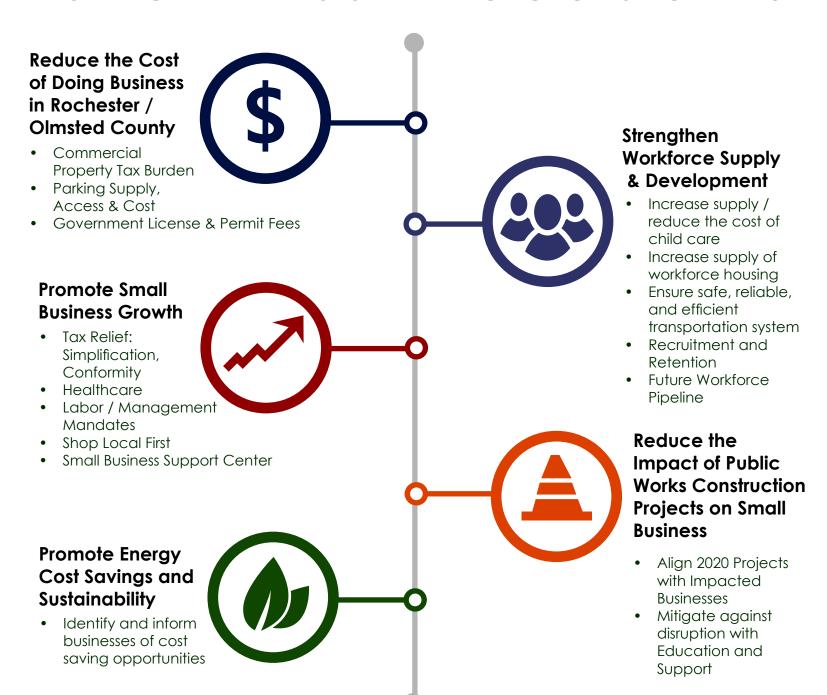


ROCHESTER AREA CHAMBER 2020

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Rochester Area Chamber 2020

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES





REDUCE THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS

COMMERCIAL TAXES

Advance innovative solutions to reduce the commercial property tax burden

PARKING SUPPLY, ACCESS, & COST

- Reform the parking slot allocation system to meet the needs of small business employees, customers, and Rochester visitors
- Advocate for city government to provide more parking for downtown small business
- Ensure consistency and fairness in slot allocation
- Align timing on parking meters to fit the needs of small business customers

GOVERNMENT LICENSE & PERMIT FEES

 Oppose significant increases in government license and permit fees on small business



STRENGTHEN WORKFORCE SUPPLY & DEVELOPMENT

INCREASE SUPPLY OF WORKERS

- Increase the supply and reduce the cost of child care
- Increase the supply of workforce housing
- Ensure the development of a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system
- Maximize the utilization of Hubsource for employers and job seekers

FUTURE WORKFORCE PIPELINE

 Leverage all tools - FutureForward & Hubsource - to connect employers with students for job shadow opportunities and internships



PROMOTE SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

- Tax Relief: Simplification & Conformity
 - Modify Minnesota's income tax system to reduce the tax rates that impact pass through entities
 - Conform Minnesota law to Federal section 179 standards
 - Simplify the tax credit available to those who are engaged in research and development
 - Conform Minnesota with the federal estate tax threshold of \$11.4 million
- Enhance small business ability to provide healthcare coverage
- Oppose mandates that increase cost and reduce flexibility in workplace management

SHOP LOCAL FIRST

• Support operational excellence of Rochester area businesses to enhance competitiveness and sustainability

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT CENTER

- Provide web-based resources for small business
- Collaborate with relevant partners to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in our community



REDUCE IMPACT OF MAJOR PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON SMALL BUSINESS

- Identify, triage, and align relevant public works construction projects with impacted businesses
- Educate businesses of the variety of ways they can promote their business and stabilize operations during times of disruption
- Develop a construction mitigation program for small business



PROMOTE ENERGY COST SAVINGS & SUSTAINABILITY

- Identify and inform businesses of cost saving opportunities
- Collaborate with local utility companies to increase small business engagement and energy saving opportunities
- Promote reliable, safe, and cost-effective power at competitive prices