2024 Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

KEY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Infrastructure

Support of bonding efforts that encourage development and sustainability to enhance the Rochester region, including road infrastructure and community projects that positively impact the regional business community (e.g., Next Generation Resource Recovery, Riverfront Public Realm Redevelopment, RST Parking Improvements).

Workforce Mandates

Advocate for the modification of workplace mandates passed in the 2023 legislative session. Oppose additional mandates that can impede the ability of a business to grow and operate in the Rochester region and Minnesota.

ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

Workforce

- Support legislation to reduce barriers to employment and address workforce gaps by reforming occupational licensing processes in high-demand careers.
- Support of workforce programs and initiatives that promote career pathways and increase awareness of high-demand job opportunities, including experiential learning opportunities (e.g., PTECH, CTECH, career simulator, and internship programs).
- Support of investment in talent attraction and retention initiatives and programs.

Infrastructure

• Enhance safety and mobility along the Highway 14 corridor through the construction of interchanges on TH 14 at CSAH 3 and CSAH 5 which would facilitate regional development along the TH 14 corridor in Byron and Olmsted County.

• Support the creation of new initiatives and continued funding for existing programs that can address the region's housing needs.

General Business

- Support efforts to reform the regulatory and permitting processes, including improved efficiencies and transparency while remaining environmentally responsible, to ensure Minnesota and the Rochester region is competitive in business attraction and retention.
- Encourage effective economic development through support of programs, incentives, and tax reform that can inspire investment in enterprise, drive regional business growth, and strengthen the ability of Rochester and Minnesota to be competitive in business attraction and retention.