

GUIDING POLICY PRINCIPLES, STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA, & ADVOCACY RESOURCES

Creating and sustaining a favorable business environment
in which all businesses can grow and prosper

GUIDING POLICY PRINCIPLES

The Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce (“Cocoa Beach Chamber”) is organized to, among other things, advocate, promote, and advance legislation, regulations, policies, political and social issues, and programs at the local, state, and national level conducive to creating, expanding, or maintaining a strong and vibrant pro-business climate within our service area.

The Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Guiding Policy Principles provide a baseline allowing the Chamber to be nimbler when considering positions on current and on-going issues at all levels of government. The principles will be reviewed and approved periodically by the Chamber’s Board of Directors to ensure scope and relevance.

**Scan the QR code to view the areas that the
Cocoa Beach Chamber believes are critically
important to its mission and purpose.**





WE SUPPORT

AI, CYBERSECURITY, & ASSET PROTECTION

- ADVOCATE FOR ETHICAL GUIDELINES AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORKS IN AI DEVELOPMENT TO ENSURE RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION AND PREVENT MISUSE.
- ENFORCE ROBUST CYBERSECURITY STANDARDS AND FOSTER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO PROTECT BUSINESSES AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.
- STRENGTHEN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS AND SECURE DIGITAL ASSET FRAMEWORKS TO SAFEGUARD INVESTMENTS AND INNOVATION.

AEROSPACE

- SUPPORT POLICIES AND FUNDING TO ENHANCE FLORIDA'S ROLE IN THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY.
- ENCOURAGE INITIATIVES TO ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND GROW AEROSPACE BUSINESSES AND TALENT ACROSS THE STATE, PARTICULARLY ON THE SPACE COAST.

ATTAINABLE HOUSING

- BACK INCREASED INVESTMENT IN WORKFORCE HOUSING PROGRAMS, INCLUDING SHIP, SAIL, AND THE SADOWSKI TRUST FUND.
- MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "LIVE LOCAL ACT."
- ADDRESS CONDOMINIUM AFFORDABILITY AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS IN FLORIDA BY SUPPORTING POLICIES THAT ENHANCE FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY, PROVIDE RELIEF PROGRAMS, AND PROACTIVE MAINTENANCE TO EASE FINANCIAL BURDENS ON RESIDENTS WHILE ENSURING SAFE, ACCESSIBLE HOUSING.

CHILDCARE

- ADVOCATE FOR LEGISLATION EXPANDING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE TO REDUCE STRAIN ON HOUSEHOLDS AND BUSINESSES.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- COLLABORATE WITH FLORIDACOMMERCE AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING BUSINESS INCENTIVES AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS.

EDUCATION

- PROMOTE EQUITABLE FUNDING AND STRATEGIES THAT ENHANCE EDUCATION QUALITY, AID BUSINESS RECRUITMENT, AND DEVELOP LOCAL TALENT FOR IN-DEMAND JOBS.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & DISASTER RELIEF

- ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED THRESHOLDS FOR BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING IN THE EMERGENCY BRIDGE LOAN PROGRAM TO ENHANCE DISASTER RECOVERY.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- SUPPORT INVESTMENTS AND POLICIES THAT FOSTER GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURS.

ENVIRONMENT & RESILIENCY

- ENDORSE POLICIES STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT IN FLORIDA.
- SECURE FUNDING FOR INITIATIVES IMPROVING THE RESILIENCY OF THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON, BEACHES, WATERWAYS, AND NATURAL HABITATS.



WE SUPPORT

HEALTHCARE

- SUPPORT POLICIES TO IMPROVE WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE WITHOUT ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE.
- EXPAND ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND TREATMENT OPTIONS.

HOME RULE

- DEFEND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' "HOME RULE" POWERS TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE & PORTS

- PROMOTE POLICIES AND FUNDING THAT EXPAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN TRADE, SEAPORTS, SPACEPORTS, AIRPORTS, AND MANUFACTURING.

MILITARY & VETERAN'S AFFAIRS

- MONITOR POLICIES BENEFITING VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES AND WORKFORCE MEMBERS.
- EXPAND RESOURCES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PROTECTIONS FOR ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, SPOUSES, AND DEPENDENTS.

PROPERTY INSURANCE

- ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS IN THE PROPERTY INSURANCE MARKET TO LOWER RATES AND REDUCE RELIANCE ON CITIZENS PROPERTY INSURANCE.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED STATE AND LOCAL INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE AND PERSONNEL TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN SKILLED FIRST RESPONDERS.

TAXATION

- SUPPORT THE GRADUAL ELIMINATION OF FLORIDA'S BUSINESS RENT TAX ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES.

TOURISM

- ENDORSE EFFORTS TO BOOST TOURISM AND SUPPORT BUSINESSES RELIANT ON THE INDUSTRY WHILE ADVOCATING FOR FULL FUNDING OF VISIT FLORIDA.

TRANSPORTATION

- ADVOCATE FOR FULLY FUNDING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM TO SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS.
- SUPPORT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS THAT DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- CHAMPION INITIATIVES FOSTERING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-WAGE JOB CREATION, INCLUDING WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS, APPRENTICESHIPS, AND STATE COLLEGE FUNDING.

ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

<https://www.cocoabeachchamber.com/advocacy/>

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee (GAC) promotes policies and initiatives that support a business-friendly climate, plans public policy programs and briefings, crafts our legislative agendas, and recommends policy positions to the Chamber's Board of Directors.



ADVOCACY RESOURCES

The Cocoa Beach Chamber has created the following list of advocacy resources that allow our investors to gain access to elected officials and key stakeholders, be viewed as an authority on issues, and serve in an advisory role to influence advocacy positions while providing opportunities for active involvement in the process.



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WHERE WE STAND

The Chamber periodically generates position papers on issues of importance to our business community, one of which is our Legislative Agenda. The Chamber's Legislative Agenda is developed annually by the Government Affairs Committee and communicates the Chamber's positions on issues at the state level of government. Working together with partner organizations, the Chamber promotes public policy decisions that reflect the priorities of our region's economy. Chamber investors are encouraged to complete the Legislative Matrix form for submission to the Government Affairs Committee for consideration of inclusion in our Legislative Agenda.



THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

The Florida Scorecard™ provides Florida leaders and local stakeholders with the metrics needed to measure progress within our community.

TheFloridaScorecard.org provides hundreds of data points, categorized by the Florida Chamber Foundation's Six Pillars, that are important to our community and Florida's economy.



ADVOCACY & POLICY EVENTS

The Chamber hosts various policy briefings and advocacy-focused events throughout the year. These include the Legislative Wrap-Up Breakfast, State of Series, Leadership Forums, and participation in the advocacy trip to Tallahassee for Brevard Day at the Capitol.

