



2018 Public Policy Agenda

Complementing the Chamber's new Strategic Plan, the 2018 Public Policy Agenda aims to enhance the Chamber's standing as the voice of business, its positive influence politically and with public policy/advocacy efforts. The Public Policy Agenda supports the Chamber's new vision statement: We position our community for prosperity by cultivating business growth.

- Proactively work with federal and regional partners to ensure Brunswick County is returned to the Wilmington Metropolitan Statistical Area. (Federal, State, Local)
- Support critical coastal infrastructure by encouraging continued Congressional support as well as requesting the North Carolina General Assembly to provide recurring funding for the newly created Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund. (Federal, State)
- Ensure a focus on economic development and quality of life in the ongoing New Hanover and Wilmington development ordinance drafting processes. (Local)
- Support ongoing initiatives to promote new jobs and enhance existing businesses, including the film industry, shellfish aquaculture and other opportunities thriving in the region. (State, Local)
- Enhance critical education infrastructure at all three levels by supporting our local schools as well as the strategic plans and legislative agenda of CFCC, the UNC Board of Governors and UNCW. (State, Local)
- Support regional workforce development initiatives that build diverse talent and are inclusive of groups of people that have been traditionally disenfranchised such as: minority populations, the formerly incarcerated, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, etc. (State, Local)
- Continue to support UNCW's rapid enrollment increase, including funding for the additional students and capital projects related to growth and new programs. (State)
- Seek opportunities to enhance regional infrastructure investment by utilizing federal Infrastructure initiatives. (Federal)
- Support acceleration of critical transportation initiatives including interchange improvements, the Hampstead Bypass, rail-realignment, Cape Fear crossing, Independence Boulevard extension, Wallace to Castle Hayne rail extension and I74 corridor. (Federal, State, Local)
- Utilize the Water Resources Task Force to discuss and strategize on water supply issues. Monitor potential impacts of unregulated contaminants on public water supply, new growth and existing regional businesses. (Federal, State, Local)
- Promote timely completion of parks and transportation infrastructure enabled by successful bond referenda (Local)
- Support policies that address substance abuse issues including funding and the collaborative opioid pilot program created by the STOP Act (SL 2017-74) (State, Local)