



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The business community must partner with stakeholders and policymakers to advocate for adequate resources to help recruit, develop and retain talent in Tampa Bay. Plans must be in place today to market and train the workforce of tomorrow.

### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Hillsborough County's new education investment as an opportunity for matching dollars, not replacing them; we will work diligently to deliver that message to our elected officials
- ✓ Legislation that prevents the Legislature from diverting the Sadowski Housing Trust Funds
- ✓ Funding for the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine & Heart Institute in Water Street Tampa
- ✓ Funding for the successful consolidation of USF under one accredited university
- ✓ Resources for Hillsborough Community College to include: the growth of the FUSE pathway program between HCC and USF; a supply chain & logistics program; workforce center at the SouthShore campus; and operational and deferred maintenance needs
- ✓ Investing in Hillsborough County Public Schools by restoring the full value of the Required Local Effort millage rate to capture full value of new development
- ✓ Incorporating Career and Technical Education curriculum into all institutions of K-12 education
- ✓ Increase in Associate of Science dual enrollment course offerings
- ✓ Adequate resources for apprenticeships



## TRANSPORTATION

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Transportation is a core service of government that is critical for economic development and facilitating the efficient delivery of goods and services. Sufficient transportation funding of all options is needed to implement a robust and connected transportation network in Tampa Bay.

### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Hillsborough County's new transportation investment as an opportunity for matching dollars, not replacing them; we will work diligently to deliver that message to our elected officials
- ✓ Funding for the Westshore Interchange project as part of the Tampa Bay Next Program
- ✓ Modernization to Florida's motorized vehicle laws



## WHAT WE'RE MONITORING

- ✓ Mandatory Personal Injury Protection (PIP) for auto insurance either through the current PIP program or through a mandatory Medical Payments policy
- ✓ Florida's educational system to ensure balanced funding and accountability measures for all K-12 schools that receive public funding
- ✓ Medicaid Block Grant
- ✓ Medicaid Retroactive Eligibility



## HEALTH CARE

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce supports reducing the cost of health insurance to the business community by increasing access to health insurance for all Floridians and legislation that gives our health care providers the infrastructure and regulatory environment needed to best serve our community.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Florida's existing Certificate of Need (CON) program
- ✓ The Telehealth Advisory Council's recommendations for both coverage and adequate reimbursement of health care services provided via telehealth to promote access to care for Floridians
- ✓ FHA's opposition to Advanced Birthing Centers
- ✓ Maintaining current Medicaid rate levels



## BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Economic development and business thrive where regional collaboration is strong, regulatory and tax burdens are minimal, right to work laws that protect our citizens remain in place and wages are economy based. Businesses locate and expand in areas where these factors exist.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Phased initiatives to reduce the tax burden on commercial real estate transactions
- ✓ Legislation that strengthens Florida's local governments, economic development and tourism agencies
- ✓ Fiscally responsible legislative policies that support a Tampa Bay Rays ballpark in Tampa Bay
- ✓ Assignment of benefit reform that protects Floridians against abuse and fraud
- ✓ Restoring arts & cultural matching grants recommended by the Florida Department of Cultural Affairs



## MILITARY & DEFENSE

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, has enjoyed a close working relationship with MacDill Air Force Base – a vital part of our nation's defense that has a \$3 billion impact on the Tampa community. We understand the importance of promoting and supporting our brave men and women and their families who serve our country and call our community home.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Adequate transportation options for military families in Hillsborough County
- ✓ A MacDill Ferry Connection
- ✓ Increased circulator routes for high density military populations in East/South Hillsborough
- ✓ Discount tolling services for active duty military serving at MacDill AFB
- ✓ Coordination between Hillsborough County Public Schools and military families to ensure a seamless education transition for military families
- ✓ Opportunities that support veteran & military spouse gainful employment and a pathway to entrepreneurship

## BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Economic development and business thrives where regional collaboration is strong, regulatory and tax burdens are minimal, right to work laws that protect our citizens remain in place and wages are economy based. Businesses locate and expand in areas where these factors exist.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Protecting the proven economic benefits the United States enjoys under NAFTA
- ✓ Fiscally responsible legislative policies that support a Tampa Bay Rays ballpark in Tampa Bay

## MILITARY AND DEFENSE

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The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce has enjoyed a close working relationship with the MacDill Air Force Base - a vital part of our nation's defense that has a \$3 billion impact on the Tampa community. We understand the importance of promoting and supporting our brave men and women and their families who serve our country and call our community home.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ The need for federal budget certainty and predictability to help our defense community plan and support MacDill Air Force Base
- ✓ Funding for the Department of Defense Community Infrastructure Grant Pilot program
- ✓ Opportunities that support veteran and military spouse gainful employment and a pathway to entrepreneurship
- ✓ Mission Zero Act facilitating collaboration between Military and Civilian trauma centers
- ✓ Adequate transportation options for military families in Hillsborough County
- ✓ A MacDill Ferry Connection
- ✓ Increased circulator routes for high density military populations in East/South Hillsborough
- ✓ Discount tolling services for active duty military serving at MacDill AFB

## HEALTH CARE

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The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce supports reducing the cost of health insurance to the business community by increasing access to health insurance for all Floridians and legislation that gives our health care providers the infrastructure and regulatory environment needed to best serve our community.

#### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Better coordination of behavioral health funding between the Federal government and Florida
- ✓ The 340B outpatient drug pricing program



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### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Hillsborough County's new transportation investment as an opportunity for matching dollars, not replacing them; we will work diligently to deliver that message to our elected officials
- ✓ Federal funding for transportation improvements in Tampa Bay, including Hillsborough County's BUILD Grant application for an over-haul of I-75 and the Big Bend interchange
- ✓ Efforts to continue to grow and enhance Tampa International Airport and Port Tampa Bay, specifically:
  - ✓ Increase in the Passenger Facility Charge
  - ✓ Additional Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) officers to assist in processing increased visitors at Airport and Port Tampa Bay
  - ✓ Reimbursement for in-line baggage screening systems installed after September 11<sup>th</sup>



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- ✓ Making Pell Grants available to students who are pursuing short-term certifications
- ✓ Adequate resources for apprenticeships



## WHAT WE'RE MONITORING

- ✓ Tax Reform 2.0



## BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Elected leadership at all levels impacts the business community. However, Local Government policies may have the most immediate impact on small business growth. The City of Tampa and Hillsborough County should ensure tax dollar investments are targeted to economic development initiatives.

### The Chamber Supports

- ✓ Budget prioritization for a local annual revenue source in Hillsborough County to address workforce housing
- ✓ Incorporating Career and Technical Education curriculum into all institutions of education at the K-12 level
- ✓ Increase in Associate of Science dual enrollment course offerings
- ✓ Adequate resources for apprenticeships
- ✓ Fiscally responsible legislative policies that support a Tampa Bay Rays ballpark in Tampa Bay
- ✓ Bus Rapid Transit as the catalyst project per the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan
- ✓ Modernization to Florida's motorized vehicle laws
- ✓ Adequate transportation options for military families in Hillsborough County
- ✓ A MacDill Ferry Connection
- ✓ Increased circulator routes for high density military populations in East/South Hillsborough
- ✓ Discount Tolling Services for active duty military serving at MacDill AFB
- ✓ Coordination between Hillsborough County Public Schools and military families to ensure a seamless education transition for military families
- ✓ Opportunities that support veteran and military spouse gainful employment and a pathway to entrepreneurship