

GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP

All In Advocacy Plan - 2022

Greater Cleveland Partnership has launched the All In Vision and Plan towards the region once again being one of the Great Regions in the Great Lakes. The foundation is a set of shared values that aligns private, public, and nonprofit sectors as a civic system to accelerate growth and prosperity for the region. The All In Plan frames our priorities and creates a rallying cry for the community.

The All In Plan highlights interlocking priorities, strategies, and target metrics in the key areas of dynamic businesses, abundant talent, inclusive opportunity, and an appealing community, all of which are enhanced via pro-growth policy. The outline below aligns GCP's advocacy efforts to each priority area and serves as a roadmap for our work with members and partners at the local, state, and federal levels.

DYNAMIC BUSINESSES

Small Business Growth

- GCP/COSE will increase efforts to maximize growth, profitability, and investment in small businesses. Recent and ongoing examples of this include supporting the small business tax deduction, maintaining the commercial activities tax (CAT) rate, advocating for grant, loan, and funding programs. GCP will also continue policy efforts that ease administrative and regulatory burdens on small businesses.

Business Expansions

- GCP is an early and enthusiastic supporter of JobsOhio. Recent successes have proven it remains a valuable partner and approach for economic development. We will support enhancing Ohio's competitiveness for business expansion and attraction efforts through new or enhanced programs including sites readiness. GCP will also identify and advocate for policies that support productivity investments and organic growth.

Innovation Initiatives

- GCP remains focused on public policy efforts that enable technology adoption, incent and provide innovation capital, support startup companies, and activation of our research institutions to enhance development opportunities (e.g., Third Frontier, SBIR/STTR). These activities include specific support for key sectors such as smart manufacturing, health innovation, and water technology, industry-led innovation collaborations, and development of innovation districts. It also includes leading advocacy to grow NASA Glenn Research Center (Lewis Field and Armstrong Test Facility).

ABUNDANT TALENT

Post-Secondary Training for In-Demand Skills/Degrees

- GCP will expand workforce development and high-wage, in-demand career opportunities by advocating for training and credentialing programs (e.g., Tech-Cred), expanding STEM degree programs, and advancing innovative approaches to improve established regional and state programs. In addition, GCP will support efforts to make post-secondary training and degree programs more affordable and accessible including through reduction of barriers to participation (e.g., Ohio-to-Work). Finally, GCP will support talent retention and attraction initiatives.



Work-Based Learning Opportunities

- GCP will advocate for workforce program funding and to eliminate identified obstacles related to accessing work-based programs through policies that strengthen pre-existing organizational roles with our partners and promote the integration of remote learning and work opportunities. GCP will also promote policy that expands apprenticeships and internships, especially through industry-led initiatives.

High School Career Exposure

- GCP will advocate for the creation of high school career exposure, scholarship, and mentorship programs. GCP will seek opportunities for school districts to gain access to computer science licensure / endorsements to manage cost, provide students with tech skills.

INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

Scaling Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)

- GCP will enhance advocacy efforts for MBE access to capital and business contracts at local, state, and federal levels, paying special attention to the creation of seamless pathways to leverage economic development incentives and projects. GCP will also seek expanded MBE business assistance.

Expand Diversity in High-Wage Positions

- GCP will support efforts to increase Pell Grant funding and other financial support to reduce barriers and better equip those eligible with attractive and necessary credentialed skills and degrees for employment. GCP will also advocate for incentives that encourage company expansion or relocation to areas proximate and accessible to underserved minority communities. GCP will also continue to support programs that enhance immigration to the region.

Ensure Digital Equity

- As a key partner in the Greater Cleveland Digital Equity Coalition, GCP will continue efforts to encourage federal, state, and local government resources are put in place to address digital connectivity, digital adoption, affordability and training – particularly in historically underserved and minority communities.

APPEALING COMMUNITY

Downtown and Waterfronts Development

- GCP will support the large-scale downtown Cleveland transformational development projects (e.g., Lakefront, Riverfront, Irishtown Bend, Public Square, Centennial, Progressive Field, and Cleveland State University) and initiatives consistent with the enhanced “Downtown Cleveland” vision under development. This will include advocating for and coordinating funding, investment, and public-private partnerships to advance initiatives.

Thriving Core Neighborhoods

- GCP will support policies and funding tools for residential and commercial development and small business lending (e.g., New Market Tax Credits, ARPA resources, sites readiness programs). GCP will also work to broaden transit connections to regional jobs hubs.

Recreational Offerings and Amenities

- GCP will advocate and facilitate funding and resources for parks and trails, arts and culture, sports and other recreational offerings. This will include supporting direct funding opportunities, programmatic support, and public-private partnerships.

Expanding Air Services

- GCP will work closely with the City to increase flights to Cleveland (working with partners), examine passenger-facing and air services upgrades to Cleveland Hopkins, and an examination of the future of Burke Lakefront Airport.