



2023 Legislative Affairs Priorities

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Position Statement

ChamberWest supports and encourages economic development that is sustainable long-term for both existing and new businesses investing in our area. We support an equitable and streamlined regulatory environment to encourage and enable business prosperity. We support balancing the needs of business along with the health and wellbeing of our community.

Balanced Growth and prosperity for new and existing businesses

As the Wasatch Front region continues to see accelerated rates of new business growth, it is important that sustainability is a priority, both for new and existing business. With the ongoing advancement of regional developments at the Point of the Mountain (aka The Point), the new Utah State Correctional Facility and Northwest and Southwest Quadrants of Salt Lake County, we encourage the use of data-driven decision making coupled with acute awareness and consideration of existing business and community needs in considering any economic development activities. ChamberWest looks forward to working proactively with the legislature to utilize available funding to the benefit of business, including possible infrastructure funding. We support and encourage creation and use of funding to ensure business continuity and to incentivize a strong, skilled, and stable workforce.

Maintaining a Modern Regulatory Pattern

ChamberWest recognizes that business regulation is necessary to create a level playing field to protect commerce, public safety, and general welfare of the community at large. ChamberWest supports and promotes a modern, and balanced regulatory system that is transparent so both existing and potential businesses have the confidence they need to invest in the ChamberWest business region. We support the utilization of innovative programs such as the Office of Regulatory Relief to foster and encourage industry creativity. Additionally, as the tax structure and state revenue sources are considered, we encourage an approach that is balanced and participatory. We support a simplified regulatory framework that is business friendly, improves quality of life, and provides public value in the communities we represent. We seek active and regular consultation between business owners and legislators in developing on-going necessary regulatory adjustments.

Supporting an Educated and Dynamic Workforce and Housing for all

Creating, retaining, and attracting a highly educated and technically skilled labor force is foundational to achieving sustainable economic development. As we have resources within the Chamber footprint, ChamberWest members encourage the use of technical and skilled trades training specific to the needs of ChamberWest businesses. Furthermore, we support efforts that enable our educational institutions including high school, community colleges, trade schools, and others to create availability and accessibility to these programs. We also encourage legislation that supports innovative solutions for the workforce of tomorrow, including work from home and gig worker opportunities. ChamberWest also recognizes that continued prosperity requires the availability, accessibility, and affordability of housing for a growing labor force. With sizable growth expected to continue over the next several years, ChamberWest encourages policies that focus on development that adds to the stability and livability of our communities.

Ensuring infrastructure that is foundational for sustainable growth

In addition to supporting workforce needs, we support efforts to ensure that critical infrastructure, such as public transportation, highway improvements, water, wastewater, broadband are in place and maintained to minimize or eliminate impact on the feasibility, convenience and accessibility of businesses and commute of workers as economic growth continues in the region.

ChamberWest

Empowering Local Business

3540 South 4000 West, Suite 240, West Valley City, UT 84120

801-977-8755 --- www.chamberwest.com

Subcommittee Members

Stephen Smith, UIPA, Chair
Mayor Dirk Burton, City of West Jordan
Casey Bulkley, Valley Fair Mall
Nicole Cottle, West Valley City
Jason Helm, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
J Patrick Ireland, Hillcrest Bank
Ryan D. Nelson, Avalon Health Care Management, Inc
Davina Spencer, Ruff Tuff Products
Mark Thorne, CPA, Thorne and Associates

Becky Guertler, Veterans BRC, Vice Chair
Jill Burton, Dominion Energy
Paul Coates, City of West Jordan
Greg Fisher, Granite Mountain Storage
Paul Howard, Chick-fil-A West Valley
Makaila Kelso, Spherion Staffing Services
Mayor Kristie Overson, City of Taylorsville
Jeff Worthington, Utah AFL-CIO

ChamberWest

Empowering Local Business

3540 South 4000 West, Suite 240, West Valley City, UT 84120

801-977-8755 --- www.chamberwest.com