GREATER IOWA CITY, INC.

2026 State & Federal Public Policy Agenda

Incentivize Business Growth & Economic Investment

Policymakers on all levels should work in tandem to ensure essential community priorities are met. Tax structures need to be simple, predictable, promote fairness and fiscal responsibility, and lead to economic growth and job creation. Existing economic development incentives have been successfully leveraged to grow our economy and allow us to remain competitive. Updates to tax structures and tax incentive programs should continue to encourage capital investment, entrepreneurship, and job creation in Iowa. For Iowa to be competitive, we must also support policies that help secure large-scale investments.

Ongoing review and analysis of agency rules and regulations is essential to promote a business environment that fosters an entrepreneurial mindset and works to grow our regional economy. Small businesses, which contribute significantly to local economies and identities, need innovative solutions and resources to continue to grow. To further support small businesses, we must expand access to affordable, high-quality, and transparent health care services that do not overburden employers with costly regulations that prohibit their ability to grow.

Policy Solutions	**Federal Policy**	**State Policy**
Support tax policy changes that alleviate the disproportionate burden on businesses while also allowing local governments to continue providing services and amenities employers depend on to stay competitive in retaining and attracting new residents and businesses. *		✓
Ensure federal tax policy changes hold businesses harmless from any revenue volatility, uncertainty, and confusion.	✓	
Support government efficiency efforts that enhance a pro-growth business climate, regulatory processes, and workforce programs.	✓	✓
Support the implementation of new economic development incentive programs to continue to meet demand and address increased costs while also supporting proven economic development tools, such as Tax Increment Financing (TIF).		✓
Support policies that ensure a sustainable, reliable, safe, and predictable supply chain of products, and keep costs down.	✓	

Support policies that ensure a sustainable, affordable, and flexible healthcare and insurance system with transparency, fairness, and reduced burdens on small businesses.	✓	✓
Support policies that improve access to capital and opportunities for early and growth-stage companies and expand access to capital to allow minority business owners to start and grow businesses.	✓	✓
Allow local governments and businesses the authority to address issues unique to their communities.	✓	✓
Support funding and flexible policies to modernize water, energy, and other essential infrastructure, ensuring reliable, efficient systems with affordable utility rates for businesses while supporting growth and economic development.	✓	✓

***Featured priority**