

The Clayton Chamber of Commerce is committed to maximizing business development and economic growth of the community through advocacy, education, and collaboration. The CCOC Board of Directors has adopted the following legislative priorities as recommended by the Legislative Committee to guide our advocacy efforts. These priorities will help our community grow in a responsible way and address key issues related to the following categories.

Transportation & Infrastructure



- Supports the 42 East extension, 540 Loop and I-42 completion, Connection of 42 East and Covered Bridge Road (The Northern Connector), and the 42 West Widening.
- Advocate for legislation and funding for road improvements in Clayton and Johnston County.
- Supports state and local funding for commuter/passenger rails and bus rapid transit projects in Johnston County.
- Identifying and addressing critical water, sewer, power and broadband infrastructure needs.

Economic Prosperity & Competitiveness



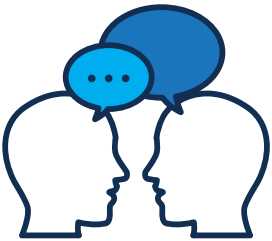
- Preserving, expanding and promoting flexible, targeted incentive tools at the local, county and state level that support continued job growth and investment.
- Identifying additional Opportunity Zone sites that encourage business investment in areas within the region that have not maximized their developmental opportunities.
- Expanding shovel ready development sites throughout the region.
- Supports regional economic development initiatives in conjunction with the Clayton Economic Development Department.

Education & Workforce



- Supports legislation and funding for the construction of schools that meets the demand of growth in Johnston County.
- Bring a new emphasis to entrepreneurship and Career and Technical Education in Johnston County Public schools and at Johnston Community College that matches skill sets needed to fulfill the workforce needs in Clayton and Johnston County.
- Supports efforts to provide diverse and quality housing to attract and retain a local workforce, which will also attract new businesses and industries to Clayton
- Supports local efforts to increase the talent pipeline for businesses and industries through initiatives such as JOCO WORKS and the development of a workforce development study for Johnston County.

Community Vitality & Resiliency



- Supports the enhancement of community amenities such as multimodal greenway connectivity, walkability, biking, parks and recreation, arts and entertainment options, and more.
- Increase small business access to affordable healthcare/support access to affordable health insurance options or association health care plans
- Investments in sustainable technology, high-speed fiber and digital information infrastructure, plus modernization of the region's energy grid, renewable assets and natural gas connections.

Committee Members: Brad Palmer (Committee Chair), Melissa Oliver (CCOC Chair), Dave DeYoung (RiverWild), Ruth Anderson (RNE Consultants), Matt Thompson (Align Family Chiropractic), Patrick Pierce (Town of Clayton), Jenn Gallimore (Town of Clayton), Shaylah Jones (Novo Nordisk), James Lipscomb (HomeTowne Realty), and Kyle McDermott (Johnston Health).