

# 2021 **URBAN-SUBURBAN** CHAMBER POLICY AGENDA



A coalition of Chambers of Commerce from Blount County, Bristol, Chattanooga, Clarksville, Jackson, Kingsport, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Rutherford County and Williamson County.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Support local governments' continued ability to promote economic development and affordable housing through public/private partnerships such as tax increment financing (TIF), payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) and Housing Tax Credits, and encourage the State of Tennessee to promote and support these efforts.
- Create a mechanism to incentivize remote workers to further encourage worker recruitment to Tennessee.
- Champion efforts at the local, state and federal level to increase investment in wired and wireless broadband networks to improve education, medical care and economic opportunities for all Tennesseans.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION**

- Support increases in transportation funding at the federal and state levels to ensure adequate and equitable funding for regional funding projects around Tennessee.
- Support increases in funding for regional airports around the state.

## **EDUCATION**

- Advocate for increased funding for local school districts, particularly to address learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, lack of Internet access and to eliminate disparities among socioeconomic groups.
- Support increased funding for early childhood education.
- Support strategies that encourage Tennesseans to get a post-secondary credential, including: dual enrollment, vocational training, expansion of apprenticeships.
- Increased funding for Tennessee's community colleges and TCATS to increase graduation rates and ensure workforce demands around the state.

