

2020 Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Agenda

	<u>Talent and Workforce</u>	<u>Infrastructure</u>	<u>Business Climate</u>
Issues	<i>Employers are struggling to attract, train, and retain top talent.</i>	<i>Employees are struggling to get to work because of a congested and limited transportation network and strategies.</i>	<i>The barriers of entry are too high and businesses must be given more opportunities to drive change.</i>
Solutions	<p>Support employers in recruitment and retention of employees through incentives, grants, and tax credits</p> <p>Support strategies for housing affordability for all income levels</p> <p>Education Ensure increased actual funding for school operations and school construction</p> <p>Expand relevant and applicable workforce initiatives, Career Technical Education (CTE), apprenticeships, STEM, and curriculum to prepare graduates to find jobs in the county</p>	<p>Transportation Comprehensive relief for congestion along the 270/495 corridors by leveraging smart technologies, road capacity, transit options, and abilities to telework</p> <p>Increased monetary federal investment in WMATA and other programs</p> <p>Comprehensive approach to expand access for broadband internet to unserved areas</p> <p>Ensure access to affordable, clean, renewable sources of energy through current/new technologies</p> <p>State and County Budgets Maintain or increase investment in infrastructure and control spending in other budgetary areas</p>	<p>Small Business Transparent, public, and thorough analysis of taxes and fees across counties and surrounding areas to ensure competitiveness</p> <p>Adopt federal standard definition of small business</p> <p>An analysis of the annual filing fee for businesses</p> <p>Investment in ‘Green Tape’ initiative, RISE zones, and Opportunity Zones</p> <p>Taxes and Costs Expand State R&D Tax Credits and new business tax credits</p> <p>Sunset increase in Energy Tax</p> <p>Ensure globally competitive taxes and fees through analysis and tax reform</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GovConNet Federal Initiatives</u></p> <p>GovConNet Midsize Initiative focuses on addressing the challenges midsize companies face with federal contracting: procurement policies, critical support for entrepreneurs, and issues that impact the business community.</p> <p>5-year Look Back</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solidify the Small Business Runway Extension Act five-year look-back for Small Business Administration (SBA) size determination. <p>Subcontracting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting accountability, transparency and best practices in the federal marketplace. <p>Sole Source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise sole source thresholds to \$8 million generally and at \$10 million for manufacturing contracts. Eliminate inclusion of option years which would allow these amounts to be awarded each year. <p>Prompt Payment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage agencies to pay small business contractors for work performed within 15 days of receipt of proper invoice. Encourage prime contractors to pay small business subcontractors for work performed at an accelerated rate. 			<p>Strengthen customer service, accountability, and data collection in state and local agencies and remove unnecessary requirements to streamline and quicken processes</p> <p>Procure matching state funding for the MOVE program</p> <p>Provide bridge financial assistance to businesses impacted by major construction projects</p> <p>Approach to economic development where resources and tools are used to attract/retain all types of businesses to the county and state</p>