

2025 ADVOCACY A G E N D A

TAXES AND FEES

We support a competitive and fair tax climate that promotes and fosters economic growth paired with an efficient use of tax dollars by government entities.

REGULATION

We support a competitive and fair regulatory climate that promotes and fosters economic growth.

WORKFORCE

We support efforts to attract and retain a dynamic workforce and promote population growth, especially an increase in affordable housing supply and childcare options.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We support the responsible use of standardized tax incentives to retain, expand and attract business and special-use cases in certain circumstances where the community benefit is of a highly significant nature.

TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ENERGY

We support quality, free market-driven transportation, infrastructure, and energy solutions vital to the region's economic growth.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

We support legislation that emphasizes that the free market coupled with a fair and level playing field is the most efficient and profitable way to conduct business.

EDUCATION

We support investment in quality education that leads to a more skilled workforce and consistent collaboration between the business community and education providers to upskill our current workforce to meet the needs of business.

HEALTHCARE

We support local providers recognizing that quality health care services are a key element in attracting and retaining businesses and organizations.

AGRICULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

We support policies that allow agriculture producers to enhance their operations with modern farming procedures while turning a profit and that allow agriculture-related businesses to support them and take their product to market.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

We support increased collaboration and sharing of resources between local units of government to increase the cost effectiveness and efficiency of service to taxpayers and businesses.

2025 ADVOCACY A G E N D A

1. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

We support efforts to attract a dynamic workforce and promote population growth. The largest need to accomplish that is an increased, affordable housing supply.

- *Platform Connections:* Workforce, Economic Development, Education.

2. QUALITY OF LIFE AND PLACE PROJECTS

We support community development projects that enhance the quality of life and place for residents because business thrives in a community where people want to live. This especially applies to redeveloping our city centers and stretches out to our community gateways.

- *Platform Connections:* Transportation and Infrastructure, Workforce, Economic Development, Intergovernmental Cooperation.
- *Community Development:*

City of Bloomington: We support significant public investment in Downtown Bloomington, specifically via the Downtown Bloomington Streetscape Project. We support structural and cosmetic improvements in the following community gateways: Along Route 150 off I-55, Along S. Veterans Parkway off I-55, Along Business 51 off I-74, Along Route 150 Coming from Downs, Along Route 9 Coming from the Central Illinois Regional Airport. We support the redevelopment of the Bloomington Mall.

Town of Normal: We support public investment in Uptown Normal that will pair well with the needs of the market. We support structural and cosmetic improvements in the following community gateways: Along Veterans Parkway off I-55, Along Business 51 off I-55.

All of McLean County: We support standard and fair tax incentives for economically viable projects that will enhance the overall quality of life for McLean County residents that may not otherwise occur without incentives.

3. COMPETITIVE FEDERAL TAX POLICY

We support competitive and fair federal tax legislation that promotes and fosters economic growth as Congress works on tax reform as many of the 2017 *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* provisions sunset in 2025. This includes provisions that support business and our workforce.

- *Platform Connections:* Taxes and Fees, Economic Development.