



*THE VOICE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY BUSINESS*

**WILLIAM EISIG, CHAIRMAN  
GEORGETTE W. GODWIN, PRESIDENT & CEO**

## **2010 MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

### **VISION 2030**

*The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports policies that will ensure our community's global economic competitiveness into the future. MCCC believes that there are fundamental elements essential for maintaining a vibrant community and fostering healthy growth of knowledge economy industries*

*Those elements are reflected in our 2010 Business Agenda and include: Investment in infrastructure, a commitment to an educated workforce to support the growth of knowledge economy jobs, balanced and sustainable budgets and a predictable and consistent business climate.*

*In this economic climate, we urge the State to put additional emphasis on economic development and job creation, attraction, and retention. Maryland should aggressively target employers, both public and private sector, for location here.*

### **PRUDENT FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

- Restrain new spending initiatives in order to protect Maryland's future financial stability.
- Advocate for redistribution of State revenues to Montgomery County so that more tax dollars paid by our businesses and residents return to the County.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS**

- **Invest in Transportation** - Invest in a balanced transportation system in order to enhance Maryland's competitiveness, promote economic growth and maintain homeland security.
  - Seek solutions to structural and financial challenges in Transportation Trust Fund.
  - Protect funds in the Transportation Trust Fund – Ensure the integrity of the Transportation Trust fund by limiting transfers to the general fund.
  - Advocate for federal and state funding the Purple Line, Corridor Cities Transitway, in order to promote economic activity, transit oriented development and congestion relief.
  - Advocate for I-270 widening in order to support future growth in the State's high technology corridor.
- **WSSC**
  - Support WSSC in addressing critical capital needs that impact the quality of life for all Montgomery County residents.
- **Broadband**
  - Invest in initiatives aimed at significantly accelerating adoption of broadband by consumers, businesses and government enterprises

## **COMPETITIVE BUSINESS CLIMATE**

- **Avoid further tax increases** – Avoid further tax increases or structural changes, such as combined reporting, that would further harm Maryland’s competitiveness in an already depressed economic environment.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** – Economic Development efforts should support the growth of knowledge economy jobs, include investment in infrastructure, and enhance the overall business climate in Maryland.

- **Aggressively pursue new public and private sector employers to locate jobs in Maryland.**
- **Grow technology sectors to stay economically competitive-** Develop new tools to encourage capital formation for new and growing technology companies.
  - Support Life Sciences Advisory Board strategic approach to advancing health, research, and biotechnology.
  - Advocate for a small amount of Maryland’s pension fund to be invested in local technology start up companies.
  - Support legislation fostering the growth of energy technology, green technology and information technology.
- **Energy**
  - Ensure access to affordable, clean, renewable sources of energy through the expanded use of current technologies and the development of new technologies.
  - Allow for companies to continue to competitively purchase energy in order to achieve cost savings and reinvest those dollars into their companies.

## **EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PREPARATION**

- **K-12 Education.** We must continue to invest in capital infrastructure for our public schools in order to continue to have a world class system. School construction must be a capital priority in order to maintain the vibrancy of the system we have today.
- **Access to higher education** is critical to ensuring Montgomery County has the highly educated well trained workforce it needs to be competitive in today's global economy. The legislature should continue efforts to keep costs affordable in order to expand access at our Montgomery College and the Universities at Shady Grove.