

090597
11/19/09
Citizen Comment

**Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce
Advocacy Agenda**

1. TALENT & EDUCATION: Cultivate a dynamic workforce

The Chamber advocates a well-rounded, quality education that provides individuals the chance to reach their own life goals. We strongly support efforts to adequately fund a seamless, effective, efficient system of K-12 education, including vocational and technical curriculum.

2. INNOVATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Establish Gainesville as an innovation hub

The Chamber believes that the Gainesville Area should continue to seek out opportunities to diversify our economy and attract more competitive wage jobs to increase the average wage in our area. Furthermore, the Chamber supports efforts to establish Gainesville as a high tech innovative economy with high wage innovative jobs.

3. INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP: Develop infrastructure for a 21st century economy

The Chamber believes that we should maintain a high quality infrastructure network that meets the current and future needs of individual, business and corporate citizens. Emphasis must be placed on adequately designing, constructing and maintaining an infrastructure network (roads, air, rail, information technology, utilities, public transit and public facilities) that is cost effective, yet provides the highest possible level of service to our community, anticipates future growth and the needs that will accompany that growth.

- **Vote "No" on Amendment 4** – Amendment 4 poses a grave threat to Florida's unique quality of life, the stability of its communities and the prosperity of its economy. If passed Amendment 4 will paralyze local governments and cripple local businesses.

4. BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS: Create a favorable environment to attract businesses to the area and to help local businesses succeed.

The Chamber recognizes that there are rules and regulations that are necessary and proper for a viable, free market, but we believe government regulation of business operations should be minimal, fair and reasonable.

5. CIVIC & GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS: Support and promote a government that is responsive, efficient and accessible

The Chamber believes that we should be open to cooperative efforts between local governments to promote efficiency in the delivery of services and to avoid duplication of efforts. The Chamber also believes that the citizens governed by an elected body should have the opportunity to vote for the individuals that represent them at all levels.

6. QUALITY OF LIFE: Foster a high quality of life

*citizen comment
4/14/09*

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Business Community Coalition Agenda

The mission of the Business Community Coalition is to promote public policy that addresses the needs of the community by respecting the environment and encouraging economic growth and development.

1. **Support** smart growth plans that place equal priority on the environment, community and home affordability.
 - The BCC will assist the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization in pursuing federal and state funding to implement road projects identified by City and County transportation improvement plans.
2. **Support** economic development and readiness through an efficient regulatory environment at both the County and City levels to support healthy economic development.
 - None at this time
3. **Support** city, county and state legislative actions and public initiatives that promote a healthy economic climate.
 - **Vote "NO" on Amendment 4**, which will stall economic development and place an undue burden on voters and taxpayer dollars.