

Public Policy Committee
Bill McKibbin, Chairman

Mission: To represent the Chamber membership and business community regarding legislative issues, at all levels, and to act as “The Voice of Business.”

Goals:

- To become informed on legislative issues affecting the business community and educate the membership and Board of Directors regarding the legislation’s impact.
- Increase communications and opportunities to network with elected officials and key staff members.
- Present Chamber transportation priorities to the appropriate officials and advocate their completion.
- Build consensus among elected officials and community groups regarding transportation and other major projects.

Actions:

- Track local legislative issues and identify those that may impact the business community.
- Use resources provided by business advocacy groups to identify, track and become informed about state and federal issues.
- Hold Candidates Forums to educate members about candidate’s positions on business/economic issues.
- Coordinate luncheon meetings with local elected officials.
- Encourage business community members to serve on governmental boards and committees.
- Participate in the WNC Chambers leadership trip to Raleigh to advocate Henderson County needs.
- Use Chamber ENews to communicate legislative issues to the membership for education and advocacy.
- Regularly attend French Broad River MPO and Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee meetings.
- Email highlights of the meetings to committee members and other interested parties/members.
- Coordinate and host the Henderson/Transylvania County State Legislative Delegation Breakfast.

- Develop a priority list of transportation projects that should be accomplished in Henderson County.
- Continue developing relationships with NCDOT staff through face-to-face meetings, both locally and in Raleigh.
- Continue efforts to advance the progress of local major roads projects.
- Develop and promote a Legislative Agenda.
- Review the 2023 Washington DC Fly In and plan for regular “DC Fly-In” advocacy trips to Washington. D.C.