

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
Committee Goals 2010

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

Jake Goering, Chair

**Goals for 2010**

*With a goal of serving as the lead organization in public affairs and keeping Chamber members informed and represented on local, state and national governmental issues of importance, the Government Affairs Committee recommends the following strategies:*

**Review** and make recommendations concerning the Minnesota Chamber's 2010 Legislative Policy Positions.

**Establish** the legislative platform for the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; including but not limited to:

- exchange of federal forest land for State school trust lands land locked in the BWCA;
- accountability for Federal Forest Plans;
- environmental permit streamlining;
- increased timber harvest;
- support ESSAR Steel Minnesota LLC and Polymet;
- monitor healthcare reform;
- monitor US Chamber efforts especially in regard to Cardcheck and Climate Change Legislation.

**Participate** in conference calls with the Minnesota Chamber and other local Chambers during the legislative session to discuss current issues and keep updated.

**Host** forums / seminars and informational meetings as needed to keep Chamber members informed of local, state and national issues.

**Represent** the Chamber business community on public policy and community issues that will have an impact on our area and on Chamber members.

**Maintain** regular contact with and provide direction to the legislature regarding the issues relevant to the Chamber and its members.

**Participate** in implementing the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and participate in the City of Grand Rapids Comprehensive Land Use Planning process during 2010.

**Work** with the Chamber's Transportation Committee to identify major highway corridors for future investment and upgrade between Grand Rapids and the Twin Cities metropolitan area and the cross range expressway.

**Advocate** for infrastructure improvements that will enhance major economic development initiatives while protecting the environmental integrity of the Grand Rapids Area.

**Support** City's efforts to reduce city assessments.