

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
Committee Goals 2008

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

Jake Goering, Chair

**Goals for 2008**

***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 2008 Legislative Policy Positions.

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

- 100,000 lbs. road weight limits for finished products;
- exchange of federal forest land for State school trust lands land locked in the BWCA;
- accountability for Federal Forest Plans;
- environmental permit streamlining; and
- increased timber harvest on state and county lands
- support increased transportation funding.
- monitor healthcare.
- monitor Itasca County Government Administrator/Coordinator position.

**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 Chamber lobbyist during the legislative session regarding the issues relevant to the Chamber and its members.

**Participate** in implementing the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

**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.