THE GREATER NEW BRAUNFELS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROMOTES THE COMMUNITY AND ITS ECONOMY BY ATTRACTING AND SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES, AND PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF ITS MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY.

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2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA STATE PRIORITIES

CALL AND

Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce



THE GREATER NEW BRAUNFELS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE URGES THE LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION THIS SESSION THAT ACHIEVES THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES:

# PRIORITY ISSUES

## SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

- Support legislation to ensure local and state hotel occupancy tax stays dedicated to intended uses and that local shared economy rentals to remit local hotel occupancy taxes.
- Continue support for state and local tools used to compete for corporate expansions and job growth.
- Protect the city from legislation that would impose a stricter revenue cap, which would limit the city's ability to meet the needs of its growing population.
- Support legislation that would allow commercial property owners to pay the ad valorem tax on their property based on prior year's valuations without penalty or interest being assessed on the difference owed if the property owner protests a valuation and the Appraisal District has not held a protest hearing rendering a final valuation on or before December 31st.

#### MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

- Support new and sustainable sources of revenue in order to meaningfully reduce congestion and meet the needs of our growing population.
- Support legislation that improves highways, regional airports and other infrastructure that facilities trades, increases the effective flow of goods and services and promotes tourism and increases public safety.

## PRO-BUSINESS CLIMATE

- Support legislation that provides tax relief for businesses so they can recover faster, keep and hire employees, and bolster their communities.
- Support legislation that protects small businesses from additional regulatory requirements or expanding existing mandates and provides liability protections when reopening safely and smartly without the fear of lawsuits.
- Support continued funding to Communities in Schools and other non-profits to ensure that students across Texas and in our area have access to services to assist them and their families with mental health, social emotional learning and meeting their basic and academic needs.
- Support education at the secondary education and community college level as an important contributor to training students for jobs in the workforce and providing a path for certification.
- Support origin-based internet sourcing rules for sales transactions involving firms with job-creation and capital investment minimums.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

 Support legislation that requires state environmental agencies to estimate the cost and net benefits to regulated entities and streamline the permitting process to ensure that businesses can maintain environmental compliance.