



Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce 2021 Advocacy Priorities

Federal

- Strongly advocate for full funding of state transportation initiatives
- Continually push for future development of federal prison complex
- Continue to lead community health initiatives, specifically related to recovery
- Push for broadband expansion opportunities
- Support for long-term defense development projects
- Continually advocate for COVID-19 assistance for businesses

State

- Continually advocate for COVID-19 recovery assistance for businesses
- Seek funding for long-term transportation projects, including expansion of I-70 corridor
- Advocate for funding of regional development initiatives
- Push to expand opportunities for broadband development in rural areas
- Work with IEDC to support defense development opportunities

Local

- Seek funding for See You In Terre Haute priorities
- Provide support to local military for defense development opportunities
- Continue to spur rural development throughout the six-county region

2020 Advocacy Accomplishments

Advocating For Opportunities For Our Community

- Successfully spearheaded effort, including lobbying of state officials, to bring casino to Terre Haute and Vigo County
- Created and promoted "Terre Haute is All In" marketing campaign to generate community support
- Chamber President Kristin Craig testified at Indiana Gaming Commission hearing to express business community support

Mobilized Defense Assets Through West Central Indiana Defense Network

- Hosted "Doing Business with the Federal Government" seminar
- Responded to request from Indiana Economic Development Corporation for dynamic list of assets related to autonomous technology
- Stood alongside 181st Intelligence Wing as they pursued potential F-35 Project, which could potentially bring millions of dollars in economic investment to the community
 - Created defense-specific asset inventory brochure
 - Created video showcasing quality of life opportunities in our region

Connected Local Businesses Directly With Local, State And Federal Legislators Through Covid-19 Pandemic, Including:

- U.S. Senator Todd Young
- U.S. Senator Mike Braun
- U.S. Representative Larry Bucshon
- Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb
- Indiana Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch
- Indiana Director of Tourism, Misty Weisensteiner
- Indiana Director of Procurement Technical Center (PTAC), Chris Jeffers
- Indiana Destination Development Corporation Director, Elaine Bedel
- Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Josh Richardson
- Terre Haute Mayor Duke Bennett

Driving Change Through See You In Terre Haute Community Plan

- Pursuing all funding opportunities to make our priorities a reality
- Secured 21st Century Talent Region designation for West Central Indiana

Standing Up For Our Business Community During Covid-19

- Strongly voiced opposition to extension of additional unemployment benefits
- Provided real-time updates on federal funding legislation and opportunities, including:
 - Payroll Protection Program
 - Unemployment Extension
 - Economic Injury Disaster Loan
 - Employee Retention Credit

Providing Critical Educational Opportunities Through The Business Lens

- Hosted forum for candidates in two Vigo County Commissioners races
- Hosted State of Public Education
 - Welcome from Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Jennifer McCormick
 - Program by Vigo County School Corporation Superintendent Rob Haworth
- Hosted State of Higher Education
 - Welcome from Indiana Commission of Higher Education Representative Josh Garrison
 - Leaders from all local higher education institutions:
 - Indiana State University President Deborah Curtis
 - Ivy Tech Community College Chancellor LeaAnne Crooks
 - Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology President Rob Coons
 - Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College President Dottie King

Engaging With Key State Leaders

- Held Third House sessions to allow direct access to state legislators during the legislative session
- Hosted annual HobNob Reception, including the following:
 - Representative Beau Baird, District 44
 - Representative Bob Heaton, District 46
 - Representative Todd Huston, District 37
 - Representative Mike Karickhoff, District 30
 - Representative Alan Morrison, District 42
 - Representative Tonya Pfaff, District 43
 - Representative Greg Steuerwald, District 40
- Early engagement with key decision makers for 2021 budget session

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