Business First.

ABOUT THE

GREATER OAK BROOK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

What We Do

The Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership connects companies to the pulse of business in the Chicago region and serves as an influential and effective advocate and marketer for businesses. We always put the needs of businesses first by:

- 1. Attracting new companies to our community and building new business opportunities for those companies and existing companies.
- 2. Working with key local, state and federal government decision makers to address the financial, operational and other needs of local businesses and businesses seeking to locate here.
- 3. **Identifying transportation, infrastructure and other community solutions** that will attract and retain a talented local workforce.
- 4. **Developing new area attractions and marketing initiatives** that will expand tourism and grow our local economy.

Governance and Management

A 29-member board of directors that reflects a cross-section of the Greater Oak Brook business community governs the Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce, a 501c6 business association, and the Economic Development Partnership, a 501c3 charitable organization. Directors include senior professionals from businesses such as Advocate Healthcare, BCS Financial, CenterPoint Properties, Elkay Manufacturing, Hub Group, Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Jones Lang LaSalle, NAI Hiffman, General Growth Properties and others representing the community's growing segments: commercial real estate, banking and investment, hospitality and retail, healthcare, and technology. Six paid staff and consultants experienced in business, nonprofit association and economic development program management assist the board in planning the organization's strategic direction, and manage and execute its operations, programs and activities.

Membership

Over 360 key area companies employing nearly 10,000 people are members of the Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership. Member companies represent commercial real estate (20%), hospitality and retail (25%), technology and other professional services (30%), banking and financial services (15%) and healthcare (10%) sectors. More than 1,600 professionals from these companies regularly participate in the organization's programs and activities, with 250 of them serving in council and committee leadership roles.

Organizational Culture

The organization's leaders and members work together in a geographically small community that is bustling with business. More than 60,000 people work or visit here each day, which keeps our local companies and economy thriving! Fortunately, the community's small geographical size allows us to stay connected and aware of the issues affecting each other. Working together like this has helped create a supportive and respectful organizational culture in which members may build positive professional relationships over time.



One Voice for Business through Councils and Committees

The organization has established a collaborative communication structure that allows local businesses to work together through councils and committees to develop a vision and strategy that serve the broader business community's needs. These joint efforts have helped create one business voice to address critical issues ranging from local signage codes and community marketing and transportation initiatives to broader state business policy concerns. Members may serve on the following councils and committees:

- Business Roundtable
- Economic Development Partnership Council
- Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
- Talented Workforce Committee
- Young Business Leaders Group
- Banking and Financial Services Committee

Best Value Membership

Member companies often comment on the amazing range of benefits they receive for the small cost to join. They also tell us how much they love this organization, its leadership, vision, culture, committees, programs and professionalism. Members additionally enjoy other benefits, including access to the chamber's social media, which promotes businesses through Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, as well as access to the marketing database for members. One of the best cost benefits noted is that one annual membership fee covers a company's employees' participation in all events and activities for the entire year. In addition to participation on councils and committees, employees of member companies may attend these events throughout the year:

- Annual Meeting & Awards Breakfast
- Business First Forum
- Winter, Spring & Fall Networking Breakfasts
- · Summer Building Fair

- Annual Councils & Committees Mixer
- Annual Legislative Issues Breakfast
- Annual Holiday Event

Please Contact Us!

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The Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership are private apolitical nonprofit corporations that do not endorse candidates. The organizations are financially supported by business membership fees, event sponsorships, corporate contributions and private project grants.



