What is the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce?

- The voice of business on behalf of our members to help shape the Austin region and strengthen and improve our economy
- A private, member-driven advocacy and economic development organization
- We take on the biggest challenges that our members care about: economy, talent, education, workforce development, mobility, energy, etc.

Why Members Invest

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<th>TALENT</th>
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<td>Startups</td>
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<td>• Energy</td>
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<td>Talent</td>
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QUICK FACTS

CHAIRMAN
Tony Budet, President, UFCU

CHAIR ELECT
Ellen Wood, CEO, Co-Founder, vcfo

2016 OA CHAIR
Phil Wilson, GM, LCRA

1877
Founded as Austin Board of Trade

298,300 NEW JOBS
Via OA since 2004. 423 company relocations. $16.3 billion in payroll. (Jan. 2016)

2,900+ MEMBERS
Most credible organization on issues (Austin Voter Survey, Baselice, 12/2015)
Vision, Mission & Core Values

VISION
For Austin to have the country’s most prosperous business community.

MISSION
Impact and improve the business climate that allows businesses to thrive.

CORE VALUES
Results oriented, Empowered, Open, Transparent, Driven, Opportunity-filled, Flexible and Collaborative.

Chamber’s Long-Term Objectives

• Increase net number of companies in the region, including venture investment, to create more jobs and maintain a healthy economy
• Reduce regional unemployment so more of our citizens can get a good paying job, raise their standard of living, buy a first home, or send kids to college.
• Reduce travel times so we all can spend more time with our families
• Maintain a competitive cost advantage so more people can have opportunities to prosper and grow
• Increase opportunities for member and partner engagement, to strengthen our collective voice on the issues that matter most

Austin Chamber in 1932
803 Congress Ave.
How is the Chamber organized?

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Promotes economic development in the greater Austin region. Serves as primary generator for prospect leads.
- Recruit and retain companies in key market sectors.
- Lead out-of-market business recruitment trips and business retention surveys.
- Researches trends of Austin economy.

**INNOVATE AUSTIN**
Focuses on making Austin the #1 region to start and grow a technology and innovation based business.
- Provides thought-leadership and strategy for the innovation community.
- Focus areas: Attracting and retaining talent, increasing capital, growing and diversifying the innovation ecosystem, and leveraging local universities for increased commercialization.
- Develop A-List of Austin’s Hottest Startups.

**TALENT AND EDUCATION**
Collaborates with regional leaders to attract talent to the area and help people gain more skills and credentials for a good paying job.
- Support school leaders to increase college/career readiness rates, applying for college, financial aid, and direct college enrollment.
- Develop training and design programs to attract talent.
- Produce State of Talent and Education events to keep community focused on priorities.

**ADVOCACY**
Advocates to community, city, region, state, and federal officials and administrators on behalf of business:
- Issues include mobility, affordability, energy rates, business permitting, incentives to attract companies, funding for education, etc.
- Hosts key meetings: State of Transportation, annual lobbying trip with members to Washington, D.C. and Day at the Capitol.
COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
Crafts and delivers the message of the Chamber to the world. Amplifies Chamber influence and credibility in all areas.
• Pitch local and national media to promote stories about Austin.
• Manage the Chamber’s leading online presence including social media channels and websites.
• Produce content through online newsletters and publications to inform stakeholders.

MEMBERSHIP
Attracts and retains members, offers educational programming benefits, and produces key meetings and events to help members connect, learn and grow.
• Annual Meeting, Procurement Fair, Small Business Showcase, Greater Austin Business Awards.
• Manages Austin Gives, a unique community program that recognizes and encourages business philanthropy in Austin. Voluntary program includes more than 360 companies; honors businesses who donate 1% or more of their profits to the local community.

OPERATIONS
Includes HR, finances, technology and the day-to-day operations of the Chamber.
• Manages all Chamber and OA board meetings.
• Leads development of the Chamber’s yearly InterCity Visit, offering members the opportunity for exposure to best practices and lessons learned in other communities on issues also impacting Central Texas.
What is Opportunity Austin 3.0?

• A five-year, five-county economic development program aimed at fostering job-creating investment in Central Texas.

• Started as of 2004 to help the community out of the dot com bust. Investors provide funding for strategic initiatives of Economy, Talent and Place.

• OA 3.0 priorities include:
  ° Boosting economic diversification to proactively strengthen the economy
  ° Deepening the talent pool through development and attraction
  ° Keeping the Greater Austin region attractive to entrepreneurs, business leaders and site selectors through expanded advocacy on issues such as a regional transportation system and regional collaboration

KEY INDUSTRIES
Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Tech, Data Management, Creative & Digital Media Technology, Finance, Life Sciences, and Space Economy

OA 3.0 METRICS
Work towards measurable and impactful goals through a set of metrics which include:

TOTAL PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT
AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGES
PER CAPITA INCOME
POVERTY RATE
CHILD POVERTY RATE
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (BA/higher)
COMMUTERS WHO DRIVE ALONE
CONGESTION INDEX