



GREATER MADISON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Small Business Advisory Council

Charter

The Small Business Advisory Council will be an advisory committee to the leadership of the Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) and to the Mayor of the City of Madison. It will serve as a credible voice for the needs and concerns of small businesses throughout the Greater Madison community. The Small Business Advisory Council will advise GMCC leaders on the types of membership services that will be helpful for small business owners, and will provide a small business perspective to GMCC leaders to guide them in their decisions about public policy and economic development. The council will also advise the Mayor of the City of Madison on how the city can effectively serve the needs of the small business community in terms of policies, procedures, and services offered. Appointments to the council will be done in cooperation by the Mayor of Madison and the President of the GMCC.

Goals and Objectives

- To gather input about the needs and concerns of the community's small businesses so that the GMCC and the City of Madison can make informed decisions about policies, regulations, and membership services.
- To create a vehicle through which the issues and concerns of small businesses can be expressed to the GMCC leadership and the Mayor of the City of Madison.
- To better represent the needs and concerns of the GMCC membership, 80% of which is comprised of businesses with 50 or fewer employees.
- To identify issues related to small business that might directly affect development of the community and provide guidance.
- To obtain a two-way line of communication between the council and the GMCC Board of Directors, and a two-way line of communication between the council and the Mayor of Madison.
- To provide information and recommend alternatives in terms of policies, procedures, and services that could better serve the small business community.

Composition

The council will be made up of approximately 20 small businesses, and members of the council will be appointed by the GMCC president and the Mayor. Member selection will reflect the diversity of the Greater Madison community and geographic location. The GMCC will consider inclusion from the following sectors:

- Self-employment
- Service
- Professional Support Services
- Health Care
- Education Related Business
- Government Related Business
- Financial Services
- Trades
- Construction and Property
- Bio-Technology
- Bio-Medical Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Hospitality
- Retail
- Food
- Telecommunications
- Non Profit

Logistics

The Small Business Advisory Council will meet on a regular basis. Members will have three year terms which will be staggered throughout the council, and an attendance requirement. There will be a chairman, selected by the committee, who will be responsible for setting the agenda for each meeting. The GMCC will staff each meeting, and will provide the technical support requested by the council members. Further details about the structure and framework of this council will be determined by appointed council members.