

Greater Baltimore Committee

2025 Legislative Priorities



The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is the leading voice for the private sector in the Baltimore Region, comprising more than 400 companies and partner organizations. Our partners work in collaboration to champion the Baltimore Region's economic assets and invest in growth industries and communities throughout our city and six-county region.

In 2023, GBC released our Multi-Year Agenda, which included 12 initiatives to support economic opportunity, transportation and infrastructure, and collective impact. We are committed to ensuring that the Baltimore Region continues to be one of America's top regional economies. We support this goal by championing effective state and federal policies, public investments that strengthen our global competitiveness, and civic initiatives that position our communities and workforce to thrive.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Last year, GBC released All In I 2035, our 10-year economic opportunity plan, launched a unified regional economic brand initiative, and secured a federal Tech Hub designation. In 2025, we will build on this foundation, supporting policies and investments that drive economic growth and opportunity in the Baltimore Region.

Maryland Priorities

- Implementation of recommendations from the Baltimore Convention and Tourism Redevelopment and Operating Authority Task Force, including the establishment of a new governance structure and long-term redevelopment financing plan for the **Baltimore Convention Center**.
- Policies and investments that support the transformative development of **Tradepoint Atlantic and the Sparrows Point container terminal**.
- Expansion of the eligible activities and authorities of local or state chartered **Industrial Development Authorities** to enhance economic development and affordable housing in counties throughout the region.

We also support the provisions outlined in **Governor Moore's Executive Order to Bolster Maryland's Economic Competitiveness** and the **DECADE Act of 2025**, which:

- Establishes a new Office of Business Advancement, Government Loaned Executive Program, and an Economic Competitiveness Subcabinet.
- Prioritizes, standardizes, and supports **life sciences, information technology, aerospace and defense** as statewide industry investments.
- Coordinates economic development, marketing, and branding efforts with local government entities.

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- Directs a comprehensive review of **Business Tax Credit, Financial Assistance, and Incentive Programs** for alignment with the state’s economic growth strategy.
- Establishes a **site readiness program** to catalyze industrial and manufacturing growth in Maryland.
- Creates a council to **streamline the state’s cumbersome permitting processes**, a challenge that disproportionately impacts small businesses and new entrepreneurs.

Federal Priorities

- Full funding of the Economic Development Administration’s \$10 billion **Tech Hubs** program, the signature economic transformation program in the bipartisan US CHIPS ACT for post-industrial and heartland communities.
- Policies that nurture innovation, champion entrepreneurship, and reinvigorate downtowns and commercial corridors recovering from post-pandemic work patterns.
- Investments in programs that prepare workers and communities for high quality jobs.
- Policies and executive actions that support the onshoring or nearshoring of manufacturing.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Together with the Greater Washington Partnership, GBC continues to advance the priorities of the Baltimore’s Transit Future coalition, galvanizing major employers and anchor institutions around investment in existing rail and bus services as well transformational system expansion. GBC leadership has been appointed to the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, serving as a key voice around major transportation investments.

Maryland Priorities

- Full **restoration of funding** for MTA State of Good Repair (SOGR) projects for the regional transit system, including upgrades to MARC, the light rail, and the Baltimore Metro.
- Identification of **new revenue mechanisms** to shore up funding for State of Good Repair and transformational expansion projects.
- Policies that promote **transit-oriented development** and multi-modal priority in order to spur economic activity, promote ridership, and improve access to jobs and businesses.

Federal Priorities

- Long-term investment in Amtrak’s **Northeast Corridor improvements**, including the Frederick Douglass tunnel, West Baltimore MARC station, and Baltimore Penn Station.

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Together these projects will decrease travel times, increase safety and reliability, repair disinvested neighborhoods and create thousands of jobs.

- Investments in other major infrastructure projects that support the Baltimore Port and global supply chain infrastructure in the Baltimore Region. These include continued funding to rebuild the **Francis Scott Key Bridge** and build out of the **Howard Street Tunnel**.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

GBC Partners—which include the region’s major companies, foundations, academic institutions, and nonprofits—actively collaborate to support efforts to reduce gun violence in the Baltimore Region, address Baltimore City’s chronic vacant housing issue, and support increased entrepreneurship and local hiring. Our partners also contributed more than \$16 million to support communities and workers impacted by the collapse of the Key Bridge. We will continue to support state and federal policies that help us collectively address regional challenges.

Maryland Priorities

- Funding for **Reinvest Baltimore** and other programs that address housing vacancy at-scale, preserve affordability, and repair distressed neighborhood housing markets.
- Funding for the proposed **Strategic Operations Center** to enhance public safety in Downtown Baltimore.

Federal Priorities

- Programs and incentives that stimulate housing, commercial, and industrial development.
- Programs and incentives that spur investment in underserved markets and communities historically impacted by post-industrial decline.
- Policies and programs that support localized strategies to address gun violence.