

Greater Cleveland Partnership

**PAC**

POWER FOR NORTHEAST OHIO

GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP  
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends:

As a non-partisan, member-driven organization the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) works to advance the policy priorities that are important to Northeast Ohio's business community. There are many ways our members can ensure the voice of the business community is heard throughout the political process, but no tool may be more useful than having the ability to collectively pool our resources together to provide our members and the region with the means for concerted political action. The dollars contributed through the Greater Cleveland Partnership's Political Action Committee (GCP PAC) are specifically used to provide support for state and local governmental leaders campaigning for election who share your interests.

GCP Advocacy has supported the business community in many ways recently:

- After months of development with the GCP board and staff leaders, GCP unveiled its 2019-2020 Public Policy Agenda, presenting a comprehensive set of policy priorities on behalf of small, mid-market and large companies in Northeast Ohio.
- A more bi-partisan, public process for drawing U.S. Congressional districts was created.
- County legislation passed providing funding for the creation of industry sector partnerships.
- An operational improvement taskforce was established to develop a new vision for public transit in Greater Cleveland.
- GCP's recommended projects to improve access to Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River, downtown development, and transformational neighborhood projects were approved.
- Our organization played a leading role in convening partners, gaining consensus, and recommending Opportunity Zones in Cuyahoga County.
- GCP helped craft legislation – the Data Protection Act – that became law providing a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program.
- A roundtable discussion was convened for GCP members to discuss the future of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and growing tariffs.
- Our members supported a bill, signed by the Governor, that requires the legislature to review occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset.
- GCP joined metro chambers across the state to commission a report, providing an assessment of Ohio's innovation economy and recommendations for growth.
- GCP conducted a comprehensive tax analysis – a study to examine the region's tax competitiveness and investments compared to similar markets in the Great Lakes.
- Signature advocacy event member opportunities were offered, including COSE Day at the Capitol, D.C. Fly-In, and GCP Public Officials Reception.

We have enjoyed many gratifying success stories of late and GCP is more energized than ever to support your work through government advocacy. Please stand with your colleagues, join us, and consider making your donation to the GCP PAC to help protect the gains we've made and to create additional opportunities for the future of our region.

Thank you for your dedication to protecting the interests of Northeast Ohio.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe Roman".

**Joe Roman**  
President & CEO  
Greater Cleveland Partnership



# POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES

A political action committee, or PAC, is a combination of two or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or to influence the result of any election through express advocacy.

## GCP PAC Mission

The GCP PAC is a non-partisan effort committed to advancing the business community's interests by building and reinforcing relationships and supporting candidates and current elected officials at the state and local levels of government. By contributing to the campaign efforts of those that will further advance the Greater Cleveland Partnership's public policy agenda priorities, we provide our members with a unique opportunity to advocate for an environment that encourages economic growth and prosperity. The GCP PAC represents a strong, unified voice for businesses of all sizes and industries in our region and aids businesses in educating key decision makers on the issues that are important to them.

## GCP PAC Contributions

**Contributions are made to city, county, and state candidates and elected officials.** PAC resources are used to fund candidate campaigns, but do not serve as an official endorsement.

Contributions to candidates or elected officials at the state or local level are based on:

- Officials in key leadership positions
- Officials that have key committee assignments
- Officials or candidates in competitive races
- Officials or candidates that champion issues important to our membership
- Officials or candidates willing to work with and assist GCP membership



## GCP PAC STATISTICS

In 2018, the GCP PAC exceeded its annual fundraising goal for the third year in a row thanks to GCP staff leadership and members from various industries and sizes. The amount raised was nearly identical to the amount that was contributed to elected officials in 2018. The GCP PAC historically focused efforts on building capacity for the PAC in odd number years and making contributions to candidates and elected officials in even number years, based on the election cycle. In recognition of the desire to build upon the GCP PAC's influence and to increase our ability to compliment the GCP advocacy team's daily work, building capacity and making contributions to candidates and elected officials were both strong priorities in 2018.

**2015**

Total Donations to GCP PAC..... **\$11,410.52**  
Total Contributions to Candidates  
& Elected Officials.....**\$9,850.00**

**2016**

Total Donations to GCP PAC.....**\$24,885.31**  
Total Contributions to Candidates  
& Elected Officials.....**\$20,532.60**

**2017**

Total Donations to GCP PAC..... **\$22,049.20**  
Total Contributions to Candidates  
& Elected Officials.....**\$17,333.12**

**2018**

Total Donations to GCP PAC.....**\$21,997.29**  
Total Contributions to Candidates  
& Elected Officials.....**\$21,662.60**

Average total donations to GCP PAC annually since 2015:

**\$20,085.58**

Average total contributed to candidates and elected officials annually since 2015:

**\$17,344.58**



## ABOUT GCP

Leveraging private and public-sector dollars, the Greater Cleveland Partnership supports collaborative and linchpin efforts to boost the economic vitality of the Cleveland region. We are Northeast Ohio's premier economic development organization as well as the leading business advocacy organization in our community.

By mobilizing leadership, expertise and resources, we are actively involved in conversations and support legislation that generate attractive and sustainable business conditions.

We represent the collective voice of more than 11,000 members, serving as a catalyst for progress and focusing our resources to support priorities that include Advocacy, Business Growth and Development, Physical Development and Economic Inclusion.



## HOW HAS THE GCP PAC SUPPORTED THE ADVOCACY AGENDA YOU HELPED TO CREATE?

- ✓ The 2019-2020 Public Policy Agenda was unveiled, presenting a comprehensive set of policy priorities on behalf of small, mid-market and large companies in Northeast Ohio.
- ✓ A more bi-partisan, public process for drawing U.S. Congressional districts was created.
- ✓ County legislation passed providing funding for the creation of industry sector partnerships.
- ✓ An operational improvement taskforce was established to develop a new vision for public transit in Greater Cleveland.
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## HOW DO I CONTRIBUTE?

### Online

Use your non-corporate credit card to make a secure online donation today at:

**[www.gcpartnership.com/GCPPACcontribute](http://www.gcpartnership.com/GCPPACcontribute)**

### Mail

Mail your personal check (payable to GCP PAC) to:

**Greater Cleveland Partnership  
Advocacy Department  
1240 Huron Road E  
Cleveland, OH 44115-1722**

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Yes, I want to contribute to the Greater Cleveland Partnership Political Action Committee (GCP PAC) to help elect state and local candidates who support the work of the business community.

I wish to pledge the following contribution: \_\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ Other

*Please note individuals, limited liability companies (LLCs), partnerships and sole proprietorships can legally make contributions to a PAC. Contributions must include itemized allocations by partners in partnerships or members of a LLC. Ohio law prohibits other corporate political contributions.*

*Your participation in the GCP PAC is completely voluntary. Donations are not tax-deductible and will be used for political purposes. An individual may contribute up to \$13,292.35 annually to an Ohio Political Action Committee. You may choose not to participate without fear of reprisal and can discontinue or modify your contribution at any time. You will not be favored or disadvantaged by reason of the amount of your contribution or decision not to contribute.*