




How We're Working for You

TRANSPORTATION

SECURING SMART INVESTMENTS TO KEEP
NORTH CAROLINA MOVING FORWARD



Securing Smart Investments to Keep NC Moving Forward

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

The importance of North Carolina's transportation infrastructure cannot be overstated. Our roads, bridges, ports, railways, and airports provide the pathways that keep commerce moving in our state and connect North Carolina's businesses and its people to the rest of the global economy.

In recent years, however, as storm costs have surged and as a modernized, diversified stream of revenue sources continues to elude our grasp, North Carolina's leaders have fallen short of finding the solutions we need to fund our transportation future. The COVID-19 pandemic has only worsened our problems. Our state continues to face a transportation funding crisis – but the investments we have made have come with the help of the business community.

The NC Chamber and NC Chamber Foundation are at the head of the charge. In 2015, the NC Can't Afford to Wait Coalition – a broad alliance of businesses and business-minded organizations led by the NC Chamber – fought to help secure \$1.2 billion in transportation revenue for the state. Then in 2019, a successor initiative, the NC Can't Afford to Stop Coalition, helped pass legislation that infused nearly \$300 million into the Department of Transportation. Now in 2020, the NC Chamber is reactivating the NC Can't Afford to Stop Coalition in concert with a new initiative – Destination 2030: The Road to a Stronger Transportation Future – to fight for solutions to our immediate, medium-range, and long-term transportation funding needs.

Recent Legislation

2019

Led by the NC Chamber, the NC Can't Afford to Stop Coalition helped pass Senate Bill 356: DOT Cash and Accountability, making a much-needed investment of \$290 million available to DOT through loans from the Highway Trust Fund and Build NC bonds.

2019

After Hurricanes Florence and Matthew and Winter Storm Diego decimated critical infrastructure in our state, the NC Chamber helped secure passage of the Highway Storm Recovery Act, moving money from the Savings Reserve to ease our funding burden and aid in speedier recovery for storm-damaged parts of the state.

2020

The Education & Transportation Bond Act of 2020, if passed, will enable voters to approve the borrowing of \$3.1 billion to invest in NC's schools and transportation network in 2021.

“As a business community, it’s in our purpose to tackle tough economic issues while making positive, far-reaching impacts on critical aspects of our state’s infrastructure. In the case of transportation, solutions will require a sustainable, diversified investment strategy.

JERRY COOK, VP OF GOVERNMENT AND TRADE RELATIONS, HANSEBRANDS INC.

By the Numbers

\$1.49 Billion

In transportation revenue secured. \$1.2 Billion with help of the NC Can’t Afford to Wait Coalition in 2015 and \$290 Million with help of the NC Can’t Afford to Stop Coalition in 2019.

\$35 Million

In recurring revenue for port modernizations secured with NC Chamber advocacy in 2015.

1.9 Million

Full-time jobs are completely dependent on NC’s transportation network.

33%

Of NC roads are in poor or mediocre condition, costing each motorist \$460 annually.

Join the Conversation

Hear from the Experts

North Carolina’s growing population and current transportation challenges raise serious questions about what our transportation funding picture will look like in the years ahead. The NC Chamber’s Transportation & Infrastructure Summit aims to answer these questions, bringing transportation experts together with state leaders to discuss what’s changing, where we’re headed, and how we’ll get there.

Visit ncchamber.com/events for event information.

Meet Mark Coggins

Director of Government Affairs

As director of government affairs at the NC Chamber, Mark fights for the transportation investments your business needs to thrive at the General Assembly. Joining the Chamber team in 2020, Mark helps the reactivated NC Can’t Afford to Stop Coalition and the newly launched Destination 2030 initiative, setting the course for the business community’s immediate, medium-range, and long-term transportation funding strategies. Prior to joining the Chamber, Mark served in various roles connected to the North Carolina General Assembly. He brings years of proven experience building relationships in state-level politics.



Mark Coggins

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ABOUT US

The NC Chamber is the leading business advocacy organization in North Carolina. We work in the legislative, regulatory and political arenas to proactively drive positive change, ensuring that North Carolina is one of the best places in the world to do business.

We believe every business is important and matters to North Carolina's future. That's why the NC Chamber will continue to be a voice for the commonsense middle and work tirelessly to advocate for solutions to make North Carolina a place where each business and its workforce can thrive. Our members are the businesses—large and small, across every industry and region—that fuel our state's success.

Our approach is three-pronged. The NC Chamber Foundation researches and develops policy recommendations to solve the state's greatest challenges, the NC Chamber's government affairs team advocates for those policies to help businesses compete and succeed, and the NC Chamber's Voter Education Program puts the action behind the ideas by supporting elected officials who stand up for the business community—or recruiting and electing pro-growth leaders who will.

An aligned business community matters and the NC Chamber is the voice of business.

If you join, we can speak for yours too.



ncchamber.com