2026 TACOMA LATINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PUBLIC POLICY PLATFORM

The Seattle Latino Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce was founded on the notion that the success of the American economy is directly linked to the success of the Latino business community. In this context, since 2017, the SLMCC has been supporting the voice of Latino business owners in Greater Seattle, including King County. Now, continuing with the goal of still supporting and be the voice of the Latino community in USA, we create the Tacoma Latino Chamber of Commerce, where Latino entrepreneurs can be part of this great project that seeks to support and boost their businesses by granting them exclusive benefits.

The purpose of the 2026 TLCC Public Policy Platform is to summarize the positions of the Chamber on the most relevant public policy issues that impact Latino Businesses and the Latino community. In the United States, there are five million Hispanic-Latino owned business that, together, contribute over $800 billion dollars to the US economy each year. Latino-Hispanics are starting businesses at three times the rate of the general population, and Hispanic-Latino women start businesses at six times the national rate. Overall, Hispanic-Latino power the economy with a $2.8 trillion gross domestic product and comprise almost 19% of the American workforce.

Despite the economic contributions of the Hispanic-Latino community, their businesses face disproportionate barriers that create challenges to starting, running, capitalizing and scaling a business. If Hispanic-Latino businesses were given the opportunity to scale at the same level as non Latino owned businesses, there would be an additional $1.47 trillion contributed to the American economy, larger than the GDP of countries like Australia, Mexico, Spain and Saudi Arabia.

In this context, the Tacoma Latino Chamber of Commerce is committed to advance the interests of Latino-owned businesses in Washington State through our labor of advocacy that covers a wide range of policy issues that affect the economic prosperity of Latino businesses.

The mission of the Tacoma Latino Chamber of Commerce is to foster the economic growth that creates and sustains prosperity for the benefit of the Latin community. We know that when policy makers in Washington prioritize the rise of America's small and Latino business communities, our country's wider economic outlook improves.

The vision of the Tacoma Latino Chamber of Commerce is to be the leading the voice to advance Latino businesses potential to drive our American economy.

The Tacoma Latino Chamber of Commerce seeks to promote the economic growth, development, and interests of its membership and all Latino-owned businesses. It advocates on behalf of its network of more than 1,700 business owners and professionals which conform the Chamber's online Latin business community, and partners with major corporations represented in Washington State.

Our advocacy is driven by three main goals:

1. Grow business opportunities for Latino-owned Businesses.
2. Support the broader US Latino Community
3. Integrate Latino businesses into the global economy.

To achieve these goals, the TLCC researches and develops policy positions to support Latino businesses in the areas of:

Access, management and control of capital	COVID-19 Economic Relief and Recovery	Economic Development
Education and Workforce Development	Energy and Sustainability	Privacy and Cybersecurity
Healthcare	Housing	Immigration
Infrastructure	Technology and Data	

First, we advocate at the city level to improve the conditions for Latin businesses to thrive within the area and then throughout the State. We support policies on:

Ensure equitable access to capital	Renovate physical infrastructure in the United States	Recognize the vital importance of high-skilled immigration to America's economic recovery post-covid19
Investments aimed at economic recovery of Latino businesses impacted by COVID-19	Help Latino businesses owners leverage economic resources	Improve affordability of healthcare for small and Latino-owned businesses

Second, we advocate for policies that generate prosperity and opportunity for the US Latin community, which strongly correlate with improved economic outcomes of Latino businesses. We support policies on:

Emphasize STEM education	Promote career and technical education for Latinos/as	Investing in the next generation of Latino leaders by ensuring access to excellent education at every level
Build a representative and accessible workforce	Increase access to affordable and quality healthcare	Build a compassionate and economical approach to immigration reform and border security
Protection and a permanent solution for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Recipients	Access to affordable housing	

We advocate for policies that help Latin businesses integrate and contribute to a prosperous and sustainable global economy. We support policies on:

Help Latino businesses access international markets	Develop secure technological infrastructure	Clean energy and sustainability
Innovation and privacy in the data economy		

We strongly believe that our work at the TLCC has never been more important. As our nation undergoes one of the most difficult economic times in recent history, our work to assist Latino-owned businesses in Tacoma is vital to the strengthening of our local and national economy.

We are committed to effectively responding to the economic strains brought on by the COVID-19 global pandemic and helping Latino Businesses throughout this recovery period.

We will also continue to advocate for Latino/a representation in government appointments. Without qualified Latinos at all levels of government service, our community will continue to be left out and not fully incorporated into US government priorities.

We firmly believe that having a strong Latino presence at every level of the US Government will allow us to fully reflect the richness of Hispanic Communities, including gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and ethnicity. Our country will benefit from the wealth of talent and commitment that exists in the thousands of Latino public service professionals ready and qualified to serve our country.

Finally, the TLCC stands in solidarity with people of all ethnicities, genders, disabilities, and orientations, to oppose all forms of discrimination. We advocate for justice and reform through policy and action to meaningfully address social and racial injustice in America in every community. The TLCC does not tolerate any forms of racism or injustice.