



Legislative Platform Development Community Wide Entities & Issues

**December 7, 2012
South Central College, Mankato, MN – Heritage Hall
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

Background: For the past three years, GMG and SMA (Southern Minnesota Advocates) have convened a broad base of community stakeholders to determine the collective and most pressing issues that ought to form our community legislative priorities.

The GMG public affairs team and the Board of Directors are currently in the process of establishing a long-term approach to develop legislative priorities. This forum will be the first in a series of steps GMG will take to engage the full continuum of business and community stakeholders. We know from past “information gathering” sessions this will be a worthwhile initial step in developing our 2013 legislative priorities.

Process for this Initial Meeting: The purpose of this session will be to garner initial thoughts on key community public policy priorities. Invited stakeholders have been “institutionally organized” into panel discussions. Panelists will be asked to share their thoughts on the top public policy priorities of the institutions / organizations they represent. Specifically, they will discuss legislation they are watching or tracking and local / state / federal policies that may be of greatest consequence or opportunity.



AGENDA

- 8:30 a.m. **Gathering & Refreshments**
- 8:45 a.m. **Welcome & Introductory Remarks**
- Facilitator: Jonathan Zierdt – President & CEO, Greater Mankato Growth
- 8:55 a.m. **City & County Governing Entities:**
- Bob Meyer – Administrator, Blue Earth County
 - Pat Hentges – City Manager, City of Mankato
 - Mike Fischer – Interim City Administrator, City of North Mankato
- 9:25 a.m. **Regional Transportation Infrastructure:**
- State & Local Transportation Funding: Karen Foreman – City Council Member, City of Mankato
 - Highway 14 Partnership: Mark Dehen – Mayor, City of North Mankato
 - Municipal Planning Organization (including multi-modal): Pat Hentges – City Manager, City of Mankato
- 10:05 a.m. **Health Care & Senior Services:**
- Greg Kutcher – President & CEO, Mayo Clinic Health System
 - Steve Hatkin – Chief Financial Officer, Mankato Clinic
 - Chris Thro – President, The Thro Company
- 10:35 a.m. **BREAK**
- 10:45 a.m. **Higher Education:**
- Minnesota State Colleges and Universities:
 - Keith Stover – President, South Central College
 - Rick Straka – Vice President of Finance and Administration, Minnesota State University, Mankato
 - Private Colleges: Dan Bruss – President, Bethany Lutheran College
- 11:20 a.m. **Population Demographics (regionally):**
Legislative opportunities related to socio-economic and cultural population considerations.
- Sheri Allen – Superintendent, Mankato Area Public Schools
 - Julie Hawker – Community Development & Marketing Manager, Lloyd Management
 - Patti Ziegler – Housing Coordinator, City of Mankato
 - Jessica O'Brien – Associate Director for Mankato Area Refugee Services, Minnesota Council of Churches
- 11:55 a.m. **Conclusions / Next Steps / Thank You**