OUR PLAN

To lay the foundation for achieving our shared vision for a vital, globally competitive region where all people thrive, the Allegheny Conference will advance a focused agenda across three strategic priorities and mobilize members and partners across the region to:

GROW OUR ECONOMY

GALVANIZE INCLUSIVE REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

UNLOCK OUR REGION’S POTENTIAL

2023 GOALS AND OUTCOMES

GROW THE ECONOMY by securing business investment and job creation

• Secure business investment:
  ▪ Make measurable progress toward year-end 2023 goals of:
    • $1 billion+ in business capital investment
    • 10,000 jobs
    • 150+ business attraction and local expansion projects
  ▪ Focus on high-growth, innovation-driven industries where our region has a competitive advantage, including:
    • Advanced Manufacturing
    • Energy
    • Life Sciences
    • Robotics & AI
    • Space
  ▪ Develop a business retention and expansion program to grow existing regional businesses
  ▪ Design and execute a more aggressive, targeted Foreign Direct Investment strategy in 1-3 international markets
  ▪ Guide the region’s efforts to build and grow a diverse, globally competitive workforce
    • Support workforce ecosystem progress
      • Focus on state policy levers that support a strong ecosystem of workforce development
      • Play a thought leader and convener role across the 10 counties
    • Lead efforts to attract and retain high-demand talent, especially people of color, with an initial focus on talent retention
      • Support employer efforts to attract high-demand talent by elevating a Pittsburgh regional talent brand
**GALVANIZE INCLUSIVE REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT** to enhance vitality for all

- Implement Inclusive Growth principles to assure that diversity, equity and inclusion guide our decision making
  - Connect and amplify demographic and geographic support organizations that are implementing catalytic strategies to advance inclusive growth in employment and business growth
  - Partner with anchor institutions that provide a significant proportion of local employment and purchasing power to increase collaboration around regional inclusive growth outcomes

- Facilitate catalytic investments in real estate and people
  - Provide communities in our Strengthening Communities Partnership program with technical assistance and help in securing private sector investment

**UNLOCK THE REGION’S POTENTIAL** by improving competitiveness, removing policy barriers and securing transformative public sector investment

- Improve business competitiveness by removing barriers and creating a more business-friendly climate
  - Improve business tax structure, including a higher Net Operating Loss Carryforward limit that is more competitive with other states
  - Support public policy efforts at all levels of government to expedite the permitting approval process and enable efficient deployment of business investment
  - Provide strategic input and partnership on an updated design of the state’s economic development system
  - Support and maximize the economic prosperity of our region’s urban center, Downtown Pittsburgh
  - Fill financing gaps for critical economic development projects focused on job growth and investments in industries of the future through a recapitalized third round of the Strategic Investment Fund

- Secure federal infrastructure investment in physical and digital connectivity
  - Identify additional opportunities within the CHIPS and Science Act that align with our priorities, including a designation of and funding for a regional Tech Hub
  - Demonstrate progress securing funding for 6 priority projects, including the following:
    - Access to Hazelwood Green
    - Additional investment in the Upper Ohio Navigation System
    - ALCOSAN Clean Water Plan
    - Region-wide broadband and 5G expansion
    - Pittsburgh Regional Transit Priority Projects
    - Laurel Valley Transportation Improvement Program

- Build out key clusters to grow the economy, create jobs and drive regional competitiveness
  - Energy: Accelerate deployment of diverse decarbonization solutions through coordinated market, policy, workforce, communications and funding interventions
  - Robotics/Autonomy: Implement $63 million of Build Back Better Regional Challenge investment and strengthen autonomy ecosystem
  - Advanced Manufacturing: Define and pursue transformational investments and attraction of high-value R&D and production opportunities
  - Life Sciences: Define and pursue specific transformational investments