

THE BLAIR COUNTY

STRONG FUTURES INITIATIVE

Preparing for the Next Generation Blair County

The Blair County Strong Futures Initiative is a common-sense public policy platform and communication strategy advanced by the Blair County Chamber's Public Policy Committee. The Initiative is designed to build upon Blair County's tradition of public/private investment and reinvention. The Initiative seeks to ensure that current and future civic leadership is empowered and informed to help attract people, the businesses and investment they create, and develop and maintain high-demand infrastructure (roads/parks/water/broadband etc.) required for future generations of Blair Countians....

WE ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL BY:

- Identifying, educating and encouraging future civic leaders to engage in the political process
- Conveying competitive best practices in community and economic development programs and policies
- Coordinating strategic planning objectives and activities between regional planning organizations, future and current elected officials
- Hosting debates and informational exchange forums among all political candidates
- Sharing through social media platforms, print and other communication collateral the positions and performance of candidates and current elected officials
- Scoring candidates' platforms and positions against the Future Initiative's agenda

WHAT WE STAND FOR:

- ✓ **P3s** - Public-Private-Partnerships (P3s) that help stimulate new development whenever possible
- ✓ **Infrastructure** - Continual investment and improvement in our public infrastructure to include roads, utilities, broadband, stormwater, civic spaces, and schools
- ✓ **K-12+** - The absolute best K-12 and beyond educational experience through programs, curriculum, technical training and infrastructure that ensures Blair County can attract, retain new residents and prepare our children for future economic opportunities
- ✓ **Healthy Lifestyles** - A healthy Blair County resident and outdoor lifestyle by expanding and promoting the use of our green spaces, trails, bike paths, waterways and four-season recreational venues
- ✓ **Diverse Housing** – Encourage and incentivize the development of new diverse housing stock that meet the demands of the next generation Blair County resident
- ✓ **Economic Development Programs** – Ensure Blair County has modern and relevant economic development tools, programs and incentives in place that can help close market gaps and encourage new investment in all parts of the County
- ✓ **Efficient Government Service Delivery** – Encourage inter-municipal cooperation, resource sharing, pooled purchasing and/or consolidation of municipalities when applicable.