



Burien • Des Moines • Normandy Park • SeaTac • Tukwila

## Dear Chamber Members,

It's hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the year. I wanted to share with you a few updates on our progress as we continue to move our organization and our region forward.

We have **3 main priorities and areas of service** where we direct our focus here at the Chamber. The first is **Government Advocacy**. Our Government Affairs Committee is hard at work, meeting monthly now, keeping our finger on the pulse of what's happening in our cities, our county, state and federal government. We are tackling the issues that matter most in our region and the communities we serve and will notify the Chamber Board *and you* when a specific position or action needs to be taken. The Seattle Southside Chamber is also part of the South Sound Chamber of Commerce Legislative Coalition (SSCCLC), whose collaborative advocacy efforts work to improve the business climate. The work of the Governmental Affairs committee allows the Chamber to serve as the voice of business at all levels of government to help advance the mission of the organization to build business success, advance our region and help build and maintain a strong economic environment in Southwest King County. We hope you will save the date for our next Candidates Night where you will have an opportunity to meet, greet and hear directly from those running for public office in our community. This year the event will be hosted at the Red Lion in SeaTac from 5-8pm on September 27<sup>th</sup>. We are still actively soliciting sponsors for this event as well. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, more information is available here <http://www.seattlesouthsidechamber.com/marketing-opportunities>. For more information on registering to attend the event please visit our website <http://www.seattlesouthsidechamber.com/events/details/candidate-s-night-775>.

Another chief objective for our Chamber is providing **Networking** opportunities so that our members can build their personal and professional networks to grow their business and further their careers. We have 3 events available every month. Please check out our calendar <http://www.seattlesouthsidechamber.com/events/calendar> to view all our events. Attendance is up over 40% at all our events. Thank you to all who are able and have been attending. Remember, even if you can't make the event yourself, you can always invite an employee or colleague to attend in your place. All our events also offer a whole array of sponsorship opportunities for you to reach out and communicate your commitment to our community directly. Sponsorship is an excellent way to leverage those marketing dollars to boost your social sales strategy, and simply help support the operations, events and programs the Chamber is committed to.

Last, but certainly not least, is the **Marketing and Promotion** we do. We market and promote your business, as well as our region. Our alliance with Seattle Southside RTA has enabled those efforts to reach even a broader audience. Our media partnership with South King Media has also been phenomenal as we expand our efforts. We've also been busy putting together marketing materials and meeting with business owners that are moving into our region and recruiting them to do so. Business recruitment is a large part of our marketing effort, but we also focus on business retention. We want healthy, vibrant businesses to call SW King County home today, and 20 years from now. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if we can provide any help or assistance. No problem is too big. If we can't solve it ourselves, we probably can refer you to someone who can. We are stronger when we work together. Thank you for your membership, your investment in our community and your dedication to your Chamber of Commerce.

Seattle Southside Chamber is proud to be a voice for business and a leader in our community.

Andrea H Reay  
President/CEO