



Your Chamber family is waiting for you!
GET INVOLVED today!



Boards • Advisory Councils • Task Forces • Leadership • Events • Advocacy



OLATHE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ONE VISION. ONE VOICE.

Olathe Chamber of Commerce • 18001 W. 106th St., Suite 160 • Olathe, KS 66061
www.olathe.org • (913) 764-1050

You're invited to GET INVOLVED!

Hundreds of business people like you commit thousands of hours each year to help the Chamber fulfill its vision *to be the voice that advances the economic well-being and quality of life in the Olathe Community.*

If you already serve on a Chamber committee, task force, or advisory council, please continue! **If you are not yet involved, please accept this invitation to participate and invite your company and co-workers to do the same.** Please review these volunteer opportunities, indicate your area(s) of interest, and return the participation form to the Chamber. You can sign up online at www.olathe.org or e-mail us, chamber@olathe.org. If you have questions, please contact us at 913-764-1050.

You'll note that a few Chamber groups are by invitation. They are usually composed of members who have been volunteering with the Chamber for some time or by people who have applied for and been accepted into a special program. If you are interested in these opportunities, please indicate your interest. Meanwhile, we encourage you to look at the many other opportunities available!

Play a leadership role!

Board of Directors

This policy-setting group determines the overall direction of the Chamber, ensuring funding and establishing priorities for programs and projects. Representing the concerns of all members, the Board ensures that the Chamber's mission, its Business Plan, and its Strategic Plan are implemented. *The membership elects some members of the Board; others are ex-officio.*

Executive Committee

An interim policy-making body, the Executive Committee counsels the Chamber president and recommends policies and positions to the Board of Directors. *Committee members are elected by the Board.*

Advisory Councils

Economic Development Advisory Council (EDC)

The council determines the goals for the Chamber's economic development activities, assisting in the preparation and oversight of the Economic Development Department's budget and helping attract and retain business and industry. *The EDC appoints its members, who are approved by the Board of Directors and the Olathe City Council.*

Convention & Visitors Bureau Advisory Council (CVB)

With the mission of attracting visitors through effective community marketing efforts, this advisory council determines the goals and strategies of the CVB and works with staff to implement those goals. The CVB partners with community attractions, hotels, restaurants, and shopping centers to create destinations for visitors. *Membership by appointment.*

Special Groups

Business to Government Advisory Council (B2G)

This B2G committee oversees the Chamber's legislative platform and fosters relationships with government officials. Members provide input into a variety of legislative issues and are updated on legislative activities on the local, state, and federal levels. A B2G Steering Committee (by appointment) coordinates the efforts of the larger B2G group (open to all).

VoteOlathe and V.O.T.E. Employers

To increase voting in Olathe, the Chamber undertakes the nonpartisan VoteOlathe initiative to alert citizens about the dates of elections, to encourage advance voting by mail, and to familiarize citizens with issues and with candidates and their positions—although the Chamber, by policy, does not make candidate endorsements. As a component of VoteOlathe, your company can sign up to encourage employees to vote!

Ambassadors

This dynamic group is involved in nearly every Chamber-sponsored event, and members donate significant time and effort to support the Chamber's programs and activities. You'll see them in green blazers, representing the Chamber and assisting at functions such as coffees, ribbon cuttings, ground breakings, and membership recruiting activities, to name a few. They serve as mentors to new Chamber members and help engage other members in the life of the Chamber. *By invitation.*

Membership Council

Serving as the Chamber's primary membership development and renewal arm, this council helps plan and implement the annual membership campaigns and contacts new businesses, rolling out the red



carpet and extending invitations to become Chamber member investors. The Membership Council provides friendly reminders to members who are delayed in renewing and makes sure they stay connected with the Chamber and eligible for benefits. *By appointment.*

Chairman's Liaison Committee

This public relations committee works to engage members in activities and volunteer opportunities. Members serve as greeters at Chamber events, help update member information, explain benefits, invite members to upcoming events, and express appreciation for member investment. They make personal visits to members each month, delivering certificates of appreciation and small gifts. A great opportunity for a new member to get immediately involved and meet other members!

Membership Campaign Teams

Join a team in the Chamber's annual award-winning membership campaigns. By helping recruit members, you'll interact with a variety of members and non-members and have great fun while competing to win prizes. Themed campaign events often include light-hearted games and friendly competition and provide a great opportunity to network. Prize donations to reward volunteers are also welcome! The membership campaign yields revenue to support the Chamber's mission and helps attract new members with fresh vision and talent.

Finance Committee

A committee of the Board of Directors, the Finance Committee monitors the finances of the Chamber. Members offer insight and guidance in the development of annual budgets for all Chamber departments. *By appointment.*

Task Forces

Take part in special one-time committees that meet for a limited period of time to address issues related to Chamber activities and programs. Examples of topics: visioning, affinity programs, membership services, reaccreditation, and more.

Invest your time in economic development activities.

Economic Development Council

Dozens of private sector companies support quality growth and development in Olathe by investing in the Economic Development Council. Funded by private and public (City transient guest tax dollars) sources, the EDC depends on member investments to supplement its development and marketing initiatives. Join other partners on the EDC who have access to economic development updates and are among the first to know about projects coming to Olathe. EDC members also enjoy networking opportunities and are invited to numerous events. *Annual investments start at \$750. See additional information under "Advisory Councils."*

Supplement the efforts of the Economic Development and Convention & Visitors staff, gain visibility, and network with other business leaders by participating in the following:

- Executive Roundtable
- Human Resource Roundtable
- EDC funding and investor recruitment
- Economic Development Council investor-level membership
- Quarterly business luncheons

Special EDC Groups

Olathe Downtown Council

This group of community leaders monitor and help initiate efforts to revitalize the Downtown Core and Santa Fe corridor leading into downtown. *By appointment.*

EDC Marketing Committee

The marketing committee helps the EDC market Olathe regionally and nationally by reviewing marketing activities, studying the need for special promotional pieces, and providing input on businesses that might relocate to Olathe. *Limited to members of the Economic Development Council.*

Retail Committee

This group helps encourage community support of local merchants by refining, branding, and promoting the Chamber's *Shop Local. Book Local.* program. The committee's goal is to educate the community about the importance of frequenting local businesses, retailers, hotels, and restaurants. *By appointment.*

Sustainability Task Force

The purpose of this task force is to help the Chamber demonstrate the connection between sustainable business practices and our community's future as a leader in economic vitality, quality of life, and environmental responsibility. The group works to provide members with information about sustainable business practices that foster the well-being of the economy, the community, and the environment. *By appointment.*

Bioscience Committee

The efforts of this committee are focused on helping the Chamber attract bioscience business and industry to Olathe. *Limited to members of the Economic Development Council.*



Help attract visitors to Olathe.

Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Council

See information under "Advisory Councils." Opportunities for members to participate in committees that support the goals of the CVB are available. Help the CVB market Olathe in the following ways:

- Help bring to Olathe the conferences or events held by your company or professional organizations and contact the CVB so that staff can help you recruit and provide services during the event.
- Join the CVB staff in providing services at conferences and events that attract out-of-town guests. Help deliver welcome baskets, serve as a greeter, run concessions, and provide other assistance to event organizers.
- Contact the CVB for help recruiting sports events in which you or your children participate. The CVB can provide special services during the event.
- Volunteer to help during one of Olathe's largest events, the Olathe Marathon. Provide water and Gatorade to over 2,500 runners by manning a water station or help organize the events of the day.
- Volunteer to serve on any one of the following CVB committees: Sports, Marketing and PR, Marathon, Meeting & Conventions.

Special CVB groups

CVB Marketing Committee

The marketing committee meets monthly to review the CVB marketing budget, advertising placements, ad design, brand identity cultivation, and promotional items as well as to develop new marketing strategies and themes.

Olathe Sports Committee

The Olathe Sports Committee is comprised of CVB Advisory Council members and community representatives who have an interest in bringing more sporting events to Olathe. During meetings, the following topics are typical: upcoming events, venue development, future ideas, strategies, and support.

Olathe Oz Marathon Committee

The Marathon Organizing Committee—composed of the race director and key individuals with experience participating in or organizing running events—plans and executes the Oz Marathon. Committee meetings are held monthly from April to December, during the early planning stages, and become more frequent from January through marathon day, which is held in April.

Help plan Chamber events.

Be among the volunteers who plan, organize, sponsor, and help implement Chamber events, such as:

- Chamber Golf Classic
- Annual Meeting
- Receptions, luncheons, and new member breakfasts
- Chamber Business *After Hours*
- Legislative forums and coffees
- Special Membership campaigns
- The *Blazing New Trails* Auction
- Business Lunch Series

Let us know how you'd like to be involved.
Visit www.olathe.org and download a Get Involved form.

Take advantage of other unique opportunities

Leadership Olathe Program

The Chamber offers the Leadership Olathe program to improve and strengthen individuals and the community by identifying, inspiring, and involving individuals who have displayed a capacity for leadership. Ask for information about Leadership Olathe and fill out an application for acceptance. *Applications are generally accepted in the fall prior to the five-month program, which runs January through May.*

Leadership Olathe Steering Committee

Alumni volunteers guide and help implement the Chamber's popular leadership program, Leadership Olathe. Leadership Olathe is *by application*.

Leadership Olathe Alumni Association

Join other alumni of Leadership Olathe who plan or participate in activities that range from symposiums to networking events and special ways to benefit the community. *Limited to Leadership Olathe alumni.*

Small/Home Business Connection

The Chamber partners with the Small/Home Business Connection to support and provide business assistance to small and home-based businesses. Monthly luncheons provide educational and networking opportunities.

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City (HCKKC)

The Olathe Chamber of Commerce has an affiliate membership with the HCKKC, and our members are invited to attend their events, paying the same entrance fees as HCKKC members. More great networking and fun.



Photos courtesy of Bob Compton Photography • www.bobcomptonphotography@olathe.com