



Photo Credit: Laurie Goossens

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

OSHKOSH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Building Business.
Building Community.



A Five Star Accredited Chamber of Commerce



Phil Janes
2023 Chairman of the Board

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

IT HAS BEEN A TRUE HONOR TO HAVE SERVED AS YOUR OSHKOSH CHAMBER CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD THIS PAST YEAR. As your Chairman, I was supported by an exceptional group of leaders in the business community that make up our Board of Directors. I am proud of the many accomplishments the Oshkosh Chamber made this past year and look forward to continuing to generate an atmosphere of growth for businesses here in Oshkosh.

The Oshkosh Chamber is one of the most prestigious Chambers in the country – one of only 3% of all Chambers in the country to have achieved a 5-Star Accredited Chamber designation. Since 1907, the Oshkosh Chamber has played a vital role in the growth and development of our local economy. Our Chamber operates at its maximum potential and provides many benefits to its members and employees. We achieve operational excellence through the implementation of best business practices, enhanced financial stability, and accountability to ensure future viability and an environment that promotes member engagement. Our community thrives on the success of business.

We are an independent organization that's exclusively fueled by its membership. The Oshkosh Chamber is one of the area's leading private-sector economic development organizations and business advocates. The Oshkosh Chamber actively works to promote and cultivate a thriving business climate while protecting and advancing the interest of its members and the community as a whole. Our mission is – "To provide leadership and to serve and represent our members so their businesses and our community will prosper."

In 2023, the Chamber Board invested time and resources to update our Strategic plan. I am happy to report that we will continue to be focused on many initiatives that will aim to improve our local economy. We will be focused on four strategic pillars that include: Economic Development; Education and Talent Development; Advocacy for Local Businesses; and Programs and Services for our members.

In 2023, the Chamber transitioned its leadership after the retirement of long-time President & CEO John Casper to our new CEO Rob Kleman, who had been with the Oshkosh Chamber for over three decades in an economic development role. John had a very successful tenure as the Chamber's CEO and we look forward to continued success under Rob's leadership.

The Oshkosh Chamber has emerged from the Covid pandemic and has been able to move forward with a renewed sense of optimism. It is now fully restaffed with a dedicated team of professionals. We have seen record attendance at many of our Chamber events and activities in 2023. This is very positive news and I encourage our members to continue to stay involved, attend our networking and educational events, and participate as much as possible. You will not be disappointed.

Some other examples of our progress in 2023 includes the graduation of over 40 Leadership Oshkosh students and the re-establishment of our educational programming. This also includes collaborating with the OASD on the School 2 Work program and the restart of the Youth Leadership Oshkosh program for 22 high school students in the Oshkosh area. We have developed a new pilot Chamber Concierge program to assist local companies in talent recruitment efforts. Our economic development department is back on the road promoting our development opportunities at national trade shows and events. We are also beginning plans for another Washington D.C. Fly-In trip in 2024.

I can report that the Oshkosh Chamber remains in a very strong financial position and strategically, we are committed and focused on serving our membership. As the voice and guardian of the Oshkosh business community, we represent, advocate and promote our members. It is our goal to strengthen the economic base. We strive to advocate on issues that support the overall business community that lead to overall job growth. Our commitment to business development and business advocacy has been and will continue to be central to our mission. It is through the support of our nearly 900 members that we can continue to move our community forward.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I am pleased to share with you the successes of 2023 in this annual report. Working alongside our members, the Oshkosh Chamber has many great accomplishments in support of our businesses and our community. As we launch 2024, we look forward to another year of making Oshkosh truly a great place to live, work and play!

Phil Janes
Chairman of the Board

OSHKOSH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is responsible for setting policy and public positions, approving the annual budget, reviewing the annual programs of work, reviewing and accepting the annual audit report, approving new board members. Additionally, through its committees, it also manages the President/CEO, manages and develops board membership, and develops and approves the strategic plan.

2022 - 23 Chairman – Phil Janes* – Oshkosh Marine Supply Co.

Javad Ahmad – Smart IS International

Aaron Armstrong – The Venture Project

Jeffrey Bard – Advocate Health

Nick Behnke – Behnke Financial, LLC

Tom Belter** – Belter Financial Designs – *Economic Development Advisory Council*

Steve Brandes – Wisconsin Herd

John Davids – Senior Stride Home Care

Steve Davis – Ardy & Ed's Drive-In, Inc.

Hallie Dicks – Covetrus

Shawn Dockry – State Farm Insurance Agent - *West Side Association*

Chad Durkee – Elevate Accounting - *Leadership Oshkosh Adjunct*

Steve Ford, Sr. – Lapham-Hickey Steel

Dana Gilman* – J.J. Keller & Associates

Robyn Gruner – AT&T

Rachel Hansen** – Oshkosh Corporation – *Propel*

Rob Kleman* – Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce

John Kriz – Muza Metal Products

Andrew Leavitt – University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Dennis Lewandowski – A. P. Nonweiler

Jim Macy – von Briesen & Roper, s.c.

Tamara Mugerauer – Tamara's the Cake Guru

Michael Pack* – Oshkosh Corporation

Kevin Ralofsky – Verve, a Credit Union - *Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation*

Amy Albright – Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau

Grant Schwab – First Weber Group

Regina Sobojinski – Fox Valley Physical Therapy & Wellness

Fred Stephan – Amcor Flexibles North America

John Supple – Supple Restaurant Group

Gerry Thiele – Leadership Oshkosh Adjunct

Allison Vaccaro – Oshkosh Safety Council

Chet Wesenberg – Chet Wesenberg Architect, LLC

Brian Wierzbinski* – Experimental Aircraft Association Inc.

Joan Woldt* – Bank First

Robert Wolf – The Roxy Supper Club

Bill Wyman – Oshkosh Area Community Foundation

Wayne Youngwirth* – Youngwirth & Associates, LLC

* Officers & Executive Committee
** Executive Committee only



- Colan Trembl named Economic Development Director
- Newsworthy Segment with Bob Burnell trending
- Pitch Event held
- Dallas Site Selector Event
- Loan Closed with PARM
- Announced new This is Oshkosh community profile

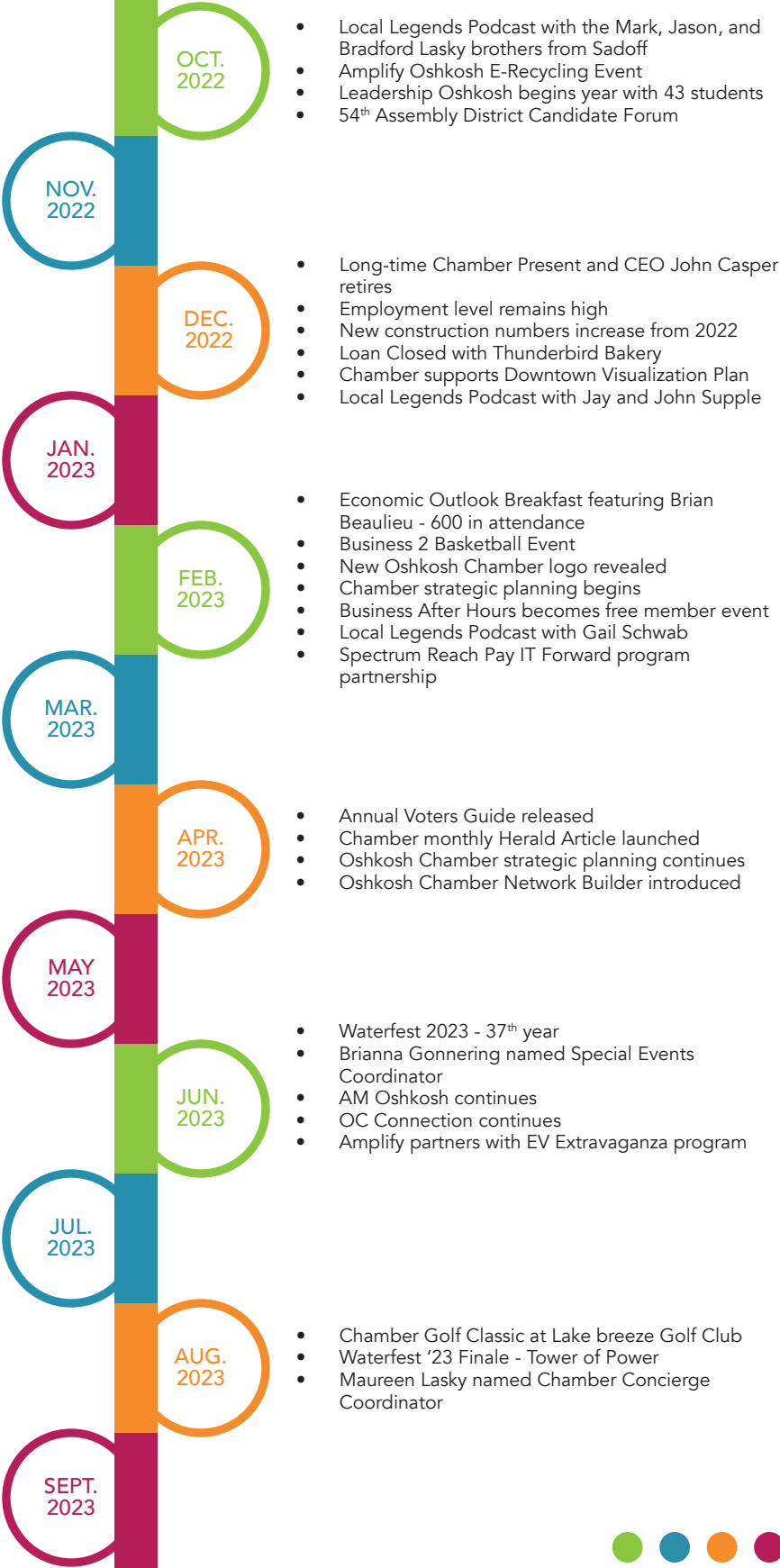
- Rob Kleman assumes role as President and CEO
- Val Scully and Patti Schaeve named Chamber Receptionists
- 115th Annual Meeting - Over 500 in attendance
- Chamber urges Council to provide Stormwater Utility Relief
- Economic Impact Study results released - Chamber has \$1.5 billion economic impact
- Local Legends Podcast with Jim Vandihei of Axios
- 2023 'This is Oshkosh' released
- Amplify Oshkosh Cybersecurity Event

- Annual State of the Community address
- Business Expo features 100 exhibitors
- 2023-24 "Plan for Prosperity" adopted by Board
- Amplify IT 2023 Modernize Change event
- Business Outlook Survey results released
- Oshkosh Mayoral Candidate Forum
- Marketing Workshop Series with Viral Solutions
- Local Legends Podcast with Rob Zerjav of Timber Rattlers
- Celebrate Education event

- Chamber Strategic Plan approved
- DAV Chapter 17 begins office hours
- Chamber Golf Invitational at Oshkosh Country Club
- Local Legends Podcast with Steve Brandes of The Wisconsin Herd
- Leadership Oshkosh (LO) Class of 2023 graduation
- LO Trivia Night raises \$24,000 for Literacy Council

- EAA AirVenture 70th Anniversary
- Chamber partners with GEODC, City, Discover Oshkosh on EAA Booth
- Chamber supports Housing NOW Coalition
- Legends and Leaders Podcast with Jim Macy and Ed Williams - Leadership Oshkosh

- Chamber of Commerce Month - Membership Campaign ends the year
- Shannon Seaman named Education and Talent Coordinator
- Leadership Oshkosh announces new class with 42 students
- Leaders and Legends Podcast with Bill Wyman - OACF
- Chamber sponsors InDevelopment Conference



A LETTER FROM TOM BELTER, CHAIRMAN — OSHKOSH CHAMBER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (EDAC)

Oshkosh witnessed remarkable economic growth and progress in 2023. The Oshkosh Chamber Economic Development Advisory Council (EDAC) takes pride in its significant contributions to securing and aiding numerous new projects throughout our community. One of the primary missions of the Oshkosh Chamber is to advance economic development initiatives on behalf of its members.

Our in-house prospect activity continues to be at a high level – we have seen major growth in entrepreneurial activity and startups as evidenced by the increased interest in the Oshkosh Chamber’s Revolving Loan Fund and business consulting services. Our business case consulting numbers and prospect development activities remain very strong. We have a thriving central city as well as several new developments along the I-41 and Oshkosh Avenue corridors. We are experiencing a boom in new multi-family housing growth. In 2023 alone, there were over 350 multi-family housing units completed with another 700+ approved and ready for development.

The Oshkosh Chamber also welcomes several new staff to the Chamber team who will support our economic development efforts as we move into 2024. Compared to our neighboring regions, the Oshkosh area has excelled in

2023 as illustrated by our impressive new construction figures. We will continue our success by collaborating with our community economic development partners and delivering the results that Oshkosh deserves.

As always, thank you for your continued support!



Tom Belter
Oshkosh Chamber Economic Development
Development Advisory Council Chairman

ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

YOUR OSHKOSH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP PAYS DIVIDENDS

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Center for Customized Research and Services at University of Wisconsin—Oshkosh on a study that looked at the Chamber's economic impact on the Oshkosh regional economy from 2001-2021. It found that the Chamber’s activities have generated and supported \$1.5 billion in combined economic impact and helped create and support 13,500 jobs.

In addition to the robust economic impact and job success, the report found the Chamber’s economic development activities generated and supported \$656.6 million in wages and benefits, \$156 million in federal, state and local tax revenue and an estimated return on investment of 140:1 each year.

\$1.5 BILLION

IN COMBINED ECONOMIC IMPACT

HELPED CREATE AND SUPPORT

13,500 JOBS

140:1

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY VITALS

97.5%

Employment Rate
(November 2023)

41,735

People employed by
Oshkosh companies
(March 2023)

34,180

Oshkosh residents employed
(November 2023)

NEW REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT

\$57.4 Million

New Commercial and Industrial Construction
(Up from \$44 Million in 2022)

3rd in NE Wisconsin, 2nd in Fox Valley for totals from 2019-23

*According to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

LOCAL SUPPORT

OSHKOSH CHAMBER (OAEDC) REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Oshkosh Chamber RLF has closed 38 loans, leveraged over \$7.6 million in private investment and created over 300 new jobs since 2004.

2

Loans
Approved

\$45k

In Loan Funds
Deployed

Leveraged Over
\$260,000
In Private
Investment

13

New Jobs

ECONOMIC RECOVERY CONSISTENCY

14.3%

Unemployment Rate in April 2020

2.2%

Unemployment Rate in November 2021

2.4%

Unemployment Rate in November 2022

2.5%

Unemployment Rate in November 2023

OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO

72

Business
Cases

170

Calls Relating To
Business and
Market
Inquiries

35

Startups

16

Site Tours
Provided

15

Project Wins

Attended Dallas Site
Selector Event With
Regional Partners

Host Sponsor Of The
2023 InDevelopment
Conference

Organization Of The
2023 'Fast Pitch'
Entrepreneur
Contest

Partnership In EAA
AirVenture Oshkosh
Community Booth

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

SUPPORTED AND HELPED
DISTRIBUTE \$75K "DREAM UP!"
CHILDCARE GRANT TO LOCAL
PROVIDERS

FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED
UPDATE TO IMAGINE
OSHKOSH DOWNTOWN PLAN

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob Albright, Jr. | R.J. Albright, Inc.
Javad Ahmad | Smart-IS International
Tom Belter | EDAC Chair
John Davids | Senior Stride Home Care
Mike Dempsey
Will Deppiesse | Nicolet National Bank
Andy Dumke | Alliance Development
Carol Karls | Immel Construction
David Kruck | Horicon Bank
Dennis Lewandowski | A.P. Nonweiler Company
Jim Macy | Von Briesen & Roper, S.C.

SUPPORTED THE WEDI
STATEWIDE CHILDCARE STUDY
AND REPORT



Jason Monnett | Wisconsin Business Development
Taylor Reetz | Nicolet National Bank
Dr. Frank Braun | UW-Oshkosh
Taylor Reetz | Nicolet National Bank
Randy Schmiedel | Discovery Properties
Grant Schwab | First Weber Real Estate
Dan Shea | Shea Electric and Communications
Archie Stam
Wayne Youngworth | Youngworth Associates, LLC
Sam Winterfeldt | Keller Inc.
Jeff Peterson | CR Structures

MERGE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Mackson Corners and Brio Building
- Oshkosh Chamber Identified Client
- Referred to City of Oshkosh
- Currently Planning Third and Final Phase

MR. BREWS TAPHOUSE

- Market Support
- Project Under Construction

TRU HOTEL BY HILTON

- Developer Support
- 90 Room, Four Story Hotel
- Project Under Construction

THE HOMIE HUB - INTERGENERATIONAL ENRICHMENT CENTER

- Site Selection Assistance
- Market Support

SUPPORT FOR FORMER OSHKOSH NORTHWESTERN BUILDING

- Developer Support

THUNDERBIRD BAKERY EXPANSION

- Market / Business Plan Support
- Financing Provided through the Oshkosh Chamber RLF

PARM

- Market Support
- Financing provided through the Oshkosh Chamber RLF
- Open for business on Oshkosh Ave

RHYME

- Site Selection Assistance
- Open for business on Jackson Street

TAKIZA MEXICAN CUISINE

- Finance and Business Plan Support
- Site Selection Assistance
- Open for business on S. Koeller Street

FOODIES MEDITERRANEAN GRILL

- Site Selection Assistance
- Site Identified and Relocated



OSHKOSH AVE AND I-41 DEVELOPMENT



TRU HOTEL BY HILTON (UNDER CONSTRUCTION) — OSHKOSH AVE

- 90 Room, 4-Story Hotel to be completed in late Fall of 2024



MR. BREWS TAPHOUSE (UNDER CONSTRUCTION) — OSHKOSH AVE

- Open for business on January 11th, 2024



CHILI'S (OPEN FOR BUSINESS) 1290 S. KOELLER STREET, OSHKOSH

- Opened for business on November 6th, 2023 in the former Shopko's parking lot



PANDA EXPRESS (OPEN FOR BUSINESS) 580 S. KOELLER STREET, OSHKOSH

- Open for business on December 16th 2023 at the former Golden Corral location



OLD NATIONAL BANK AND CHIPOTLE (UNDER CONSTRUCTION) 420 S. KOELLER STREET, OSHKOSH

- Demolition of the former Old National Bank building occurred during the fall of 2023. The new development will involve two separate buildings, one being the new Old National bank facility and a Chipotle Mexican Grill



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS



SOMETIMES AT PIONEER ISLAND TIKI BAR OPENED FOR BUSINESS ON PIONEER ISLAND

SCOOTER'S COFFEE OPENED FOR BUSINESS AT 2101 W. 9th AVE

PARM RESTAURANT OPENED FOR BUSINESS AT 1652 OSHKOSH AVE

WITTMAN REGIONAL AIRPORT ANNOUNCED DEVELOPMENT OF 20 NEW T-HANGER UNITS

WATER CITY PUB OPENED FOR BUSINESS IN FORMER SCREWBALLS LOCATION AT 216 N. MAIN STREET

FOODIES MEDITERRANEAN GRILL ANNOUNCED TWO LOCATIONS IN OSHKOSH TO BE DEVELOPED

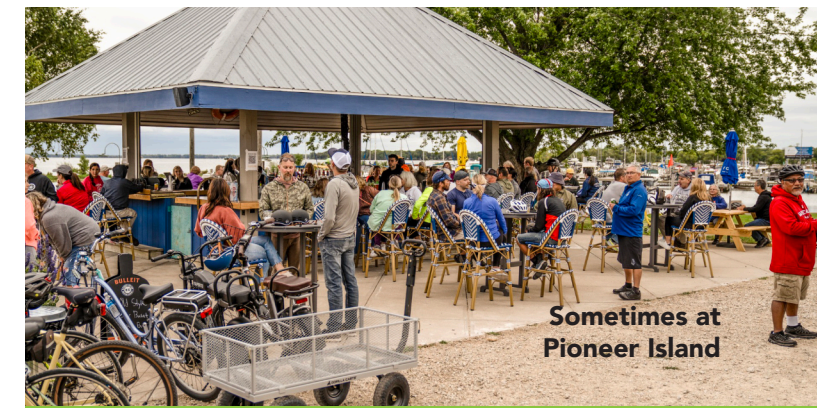
BEST WESTERN PREMIER WATERFRONT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER ANNOUNCED THEIR \$10 MILLION MARRIOTT CONVERSION AND RENOVATION PLAN UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP GROUP

NEW DAY BY DAY WARMING SHELTER OPENED AT 420 CEAPE AVE

PICKLE AND BAGS OPENED FOR BUSINESS AT 2211 OREGON STREET

NEW VEL PHILLIPS MIDDLE SCHOOL FINISHED DEVELOPMENT — PROJECT RESULTED IN CONSOLIDATING WEBSTER STANLEY AND MERRILL MIDDLE SCHOOLS

MACS MACARONI AND CHEESE SHOP ANNOUNCED THEY WILL BE OPENING A LOCATION AT 1654 OSHKOSH AVE



Sometimes at
Pioneer Island



Wittman Regional
Airport T-Hangers



Vel Phillips
Middle School

COMPLETED IN 2023



Mackson Corners



Smith School Lofts



Cabrini School Lofts



SCS Oshkosh

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



MK Lofts



The WIT

ON THE HORIZON + NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

MILL ON MAIN

- This riverfront development project will involve 295 market rate apartments and a 20,000 square foot commercial space with a total investment up to \$75 million

BOATWORKS DEVELOPMENT

- Phase I of the project is to include 26 riverfront workforce housing units

OREGON PLACE — PHASE II

- An 8 building, 96 unit apartment development to be located on the east side of Oregon Street and just south of W. Ripple Ave

CHAMBER OF INFLUENCE

PLAN FOR PROSPERITY: 2023-24 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce supports a wide variety of initiatives that build a stronger local and regional marketplace and economy.

A strong economy provides the tax base necessary to support education and local services, along with building a sustaining community infrastructure. Consequently, we support a public policy agenda that fosters business growth and creates jobs. Additionally, cutting taxes, reducing the regulatory burden, investing in a skilled workforce, and supporting pro-growth policies have enabled Wisconsin businesses to realize the tremendous gains we have seen in recent years.

As an Organization:

- We support a tax system that incentivizes business growth and workforce investment.
- We support efforts to streamline and reduce regulation that impact the cost of doing business.
- We support empowering local government to use economic development tools in ways that will help them grow their employment and tax base.
- We support honesty in taxation that ensures revenues collected are expended for the reason stated.
- We support initiatives that ensure workers have the skills to compete in a global economy.

Project:

Commissioned the Whitburn Center for Governance and Policy Research to conduct an analysis of the City of Oshkosh Budget. The Analysis was a 30-year look back of the City's revenue and spending trends. The Analysis also included an in-depth review of the City's Stormwater Utility.

Policy Initiative:

Supported and recommended the restructuring of the Stormwater Utility's rate structure and recommended the return of the Utility's \$17 million fund balance to the Utility's rate payers.

Represented Oshkosh Chamber membership at the Oshkosh Common Council meetings to communicate and advocate for the importance of minimizing utility fee increases for local businesses in order to remain competitive statewide from an economic development perspective.

Government Affairs Activities

Conducted Mayoral Candidate Forum

- Matt Mugerauer and Aaron Wojciechowski
- Moderated by Jonathan Krause, WHBY Radio

Conducted 54th Assembly District Candidate Forum

- Lori Palmeri and Donnie Herman
- Moderated by Jonathan Krause, WHBY Radio

2023 State of the Community Address

- Mark Rohloff, City Manager, City of Oshkosh
- Dr. Bryan Davis, Superintendent
- Dr. Frank Braun, UW Oshkosh College of Business Dean
- Dr. Chris Matheney, President, Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC)
- Jon Doemel, County Executive, Winnebago County

Produced 2023 Annual Voter's Guide

- Candidate Questionnaires that are tailored for the business community.
- Mayor of Oshkosh, Oshkosh Common Council and OASD Board of Education

Public Policy Committee Meetings

- Support for Proposed State Policy Initiatives including Housing, Child Care, and Business Development Tax Credits

Conducted Annual Business Outlook Survey



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

DRIVE MEMBER VALUE

CONNECTING COMMUNITY

- **It's Newsworthy with Bob Burnell**
- **This Is Oshkosh**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Annual Economic Outlook Breakfast

- 608 attendees

Business Expo

- 92 exhibitors

Amplify Oshkosh

Lunch & Learns and Seminars

- 17 Viral Solutions Marketing Workshop Series
- 4 AEGIS Financial Lunch & Learn Series Quill Creative
- Seminar - Understand and Uncover the Power of Branding
- KGREENCARD Lunch & Learn — Unlock Global Talent Without Staff Agency Costs
- OSMS Lunch & Learn – Finding a Better Way: Empowering Employees, Improving Health, Saving Money
- DAV Webinar — Empowering Veterans: DAV Programs, Benefits, and Transition Success
- Stellar Blue Technologies Lunch & Learn — Exploring Artificial Intelligence: A Beginner's Guide to Conversational AI

HR Breakfast Briefings with VonBriesen & Roper

Local Legends Podcast

- Jim VandeHei
- Gail, Kelly & Grant Schwab
- Rob Zerjav
- Steve Brandes
- Jim Macy & Ed Williams
- Bill Wyman
- Mark, Jason & Bradford Lasky

CONNECTING MEMBERS

12 Business After Hours

- Free attendance for members compliments of Fox Communities Credit Union

12 OC Connection Breakfast Events

7 AM Oshkosh Events

Golf Outings

- Oshkosh Corporation — Bank First Chamber Invitational at the Oshkosh Country Club
- Oshkosh Corporation — Bank First Chamber Golf Classic at Lake Breeze Golf Club

Annual Meeting

- 2022 Award Winners
- Outstanding Chamber Volunteer: Brian Foote
- Propel Young Professional of the Year: Dan Brosman
- Ambassador of the Year: Dianna Stiefvater
- Distinguished Service Award: Mike Floyd & Scott Sitter
- Lynne Webster Leadership Award: Dale Feinauer
- Alberta S. Kimball Community Service Award: Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh
- Horizon Award: TJ Rodgers
- Enterprise of the Year Award: Lapham-Hickey Steel
- Small Business of the Year Award: First Weber Realtors

Over
100
Events

36
Ribbon Cuttings
& Grand Openings



9Round Ribbon Cutting



Your Boat Club Ribbon Cutting



Teriyaki Madness Ribbon Cutting



Park View Health Center Ribbon Cutting



Member FDIC

Better Banking For Business

See How We're Different



Shannon Seaman
Education & Talent Development Coordinator

Shannon Seaman joined the Oshkosh Chamber in September of 2023 as the Education & Talent Coordinator. She enjoys working with the Oshkosh Area School District, Lourdes Academy, Fox Valley Technical College, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and the Oshkosh business community to form and nurture symbiotic working relationships. These relationships build and strengthen workforce development programs to create, inspire, and prepare the next generation of talent for career readiness, as well as give businesses the chance to connect with the schools and students on a more personal level. Some of the results of past years’ business and education programming include:

EDUCATION & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

The Education and Talent Department of the Oshkosh Chamber is the linchpin in creating partnerships and collaborative programming between Oshkosh education communities, workforce development training, and area businesses.

YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE

Programming like youth apprenticeships(YA) and School2Work(S2W) allow students to earn their diploma, gain paid work experience, and create relationships and skillsets within the business community. In 2023 the youth apprenticeship partnerships within the OASD and local businesses grew to 29 placed students, 5 of which were secured with assistance through the Chamber. The growing S2W program, a capstone manufacturing experience, saw 11 of its max 15 available spaces filled this year within 8 local manufacturers.

8th GRADE CAREER EXPO

Just over 40 businesses and organizations were represented at the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce 8th grade career expo on October 30th. Held at the UWO Culver Family Welcome Center, the event allowed over 750 students from both public and private Oshkosh schools to imagine the possibilities that their futures could hold. The goal of the event was to inspire young minds with information in career fields they may already be thinking about and open their eyes to the world of opportunities available to them right here in Oshkosh. This event is held at the 8th grade level to allow for early planning in their high school courses and give them a head start on achieving their goals.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL

In 2023 the Oshkosh Chamber, in collaboration with the OASD launched Adopt-A-School, the re-brand and evolution of the PALS program. Adopt-A-School’s objective is to fulfill needs with the OASD system and its schools by matching them with community organizations. The program, with nine current partnerships, is building and evolving as it integrates with the current set of needs and is actively looking for community participation on all levels.

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Another collaborative effort with the Oshkosh Area School District in 2023 was facilitating business tours for staff development. These visits allowed the Career and Technical Education staff to gain inside info and knowledge of the following organizations: Becketts, Blue Door Consulting, Oshkosh Food Co-Op, Sturgeon Spirits, The Wisconsin HERD, The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, The Venture Project, Verve, Whimsical Celebrations.

To learn more about the Chamber’s business and education programming, call (920) 303-2265 ext. 15.



The Oshkosh Area School District is proud to be a platinum sponsor of Amplify Oshkosh. The mission of the Oshkosh Area School District is to enrich our community by supporting our students to lead creative and empowered lives. In order to do this, we must ensure that school mirrors the future world that our students will help to create. Our sponsorship of Amplify Oshkosh helps us develop valuable partnerships with our high-tech business community to ensure we are meeting their needs, and at the same time, help us envision a brighter future for our community.

— Dr. David Gundlach
Former Deputy Superintendent | Oshkosh Area School District & Founding Member of Amplify Oshkosh



The technology changes of today require us all to constantly change and adapt our skills. Kudos to Amplify Oshkosh for being a leader in providing relevant and timely programming to our community; both to help us work smarter today and help us prepare for the future. If you have not yet participated in Amplify programming, now is the time to start! Whether you are an IT professional, company owner, or just wanting to learn more about how to improve your skills and lead your company forward, Amplify Oshkosh is a great resource.

— Bobbi Miller
Business Solutions Manager | Fox Valley Workforce Development Board & Amplify Oshkosh Consortium Member



The partnership between Amplify Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College has significantly enhanced opportunities for students pursuing careers in Information Technology. By collaborating closely, they have developed seamless pathways that guide high school students towards a smooth transition into the college's IT programs. This collaboration not only streamlines the educational journey but also ensures that the curriculum aligns with industry needs. The practical experiences and internships facilitated by Amplify Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College create a holistic learning environment, allowing students to gain hands-on skills and connections with industry professionals. Ultimately, this partnership has become a cornerstone for fostering a skilled IT workforce in the region.

— Brian Foote, Software Development Instructor | Fox Valley Technical College & Founding Member of Amplify Oshkosh



Amplify IT: Modernize Change Conference



EV Extravaganza Event



Trina Woldt
Director of Leadership Oshkosh

Trina Woldt, Director of Leadership Oshkosh, continues to enjoy connecting participants to various areas of our community. Through the Leadership Oshkosh program, she shares the challenges we face and inspires compassionate leaders to get actively involved in improving the quality of life for everyone in Oshkosh.

The Leadership Oshkosh program kicks off with a retreat in September. Following the retreat, the class meets for one day per month through May. The program covers:

- History and Future of Oshkosh
- Local Government
- Arts and Culture
- Business
- Criminal Justice
- Education
- Health and Human Services

A CORNERSTONE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Leadership Oshkosh (LO) has been a cornerstone leadership program for the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce since the program began in September of 1989. Including the class of 2023, the program now boasts 1,187 graduates.

The program is a backstage pass to the city of Oshkosh and is designed to bring together a diverse group of individuals who share a genuine interest in and commitment to the Oshkosh community. Additionally, the participants serve as adjunct board members for up to 35 non-profits providing a pipeline of future board members.

Each year, the class selects a non-profit organization and runs a fundraiser. Understanding how to plan and execute a fundraiser is an important part of community leadership. The last six classes have successfully operated a trivia contest that has benefited Oshkosh community organizations. The Class of 2023 successfully raised \$24,447 for the Winnebago County Literacy Council.

- \$24,447 raised in 2023
- \$102,847 raised for non-profits since 2017
- 1,187 graduates
- 2023 was the program’s 34th year

43 GRADUATES IN THE CLASS OF 2023



YOUTH LEADERSHIP OSHKOSH

In September, the Oshkosh Chamber relaunched the Youth Leadership Oshkosh program. This program helps build and strengthen the next generation of community leaders by introducing them to leaderships traits, experiences and knowledge that prepares them to be champions of Oshkosh. There are 23 students participating who represent Oshkosh West, Oshkosh North, Lourdes Academy and Valley Christian High Schools. The class experiences various areas of the community and are exposed to career opportunities in workplaces that exist across sectors. Through the leadership program the speakers share the challenges we face and inspire our future community leaders to get actively involved.

The Youth Leadership Oshkosh program kicks off with a team building day in September. Each month following the retreat, the class meets for one day per month through May. The session days consists of tours, speakers, team building activities, and thought-provoking discussions. The sessions cover:

- Health and Human Services
- Public Safety
- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Government Day
- Education Day
- Business Etiquette

23 STUDENTS ARE ANTICIPATED TO GRADUATE IN MAY

AFFINITY PROGRAMS

- Group Health Insurance — Network Health
- Voice & Data — US Cellular
- Natural Gas Program — Constellation
- Chamber Gift Certificate Program
- Discount Prescription Drug Card — RxCard
- Local & Long Distance Phone Program — NTD
- Office Supply Program — Rhyme
- International Worker Program — KGreenCard
- Employee Assistance Program — Advocate Aurora Health

MEMBERSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS BREAKDOWN

91

NEW MEMBERS IN FY 2022-23

32,481

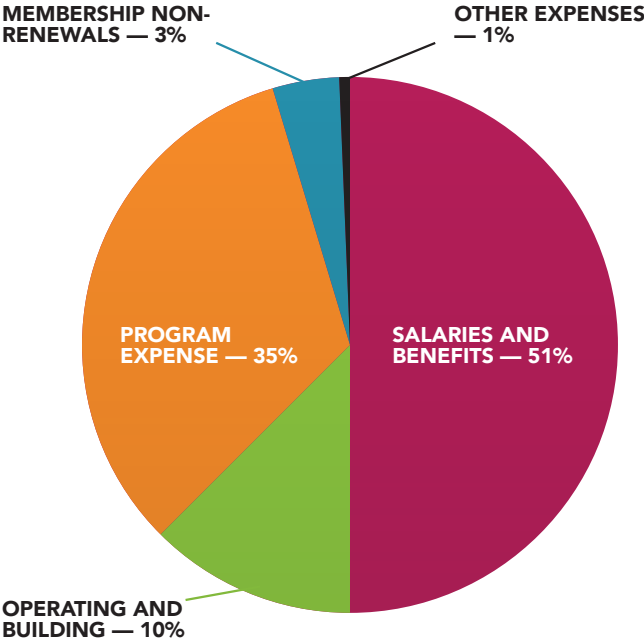
#OSHKOSH EMPLOYEES FOR ALL MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

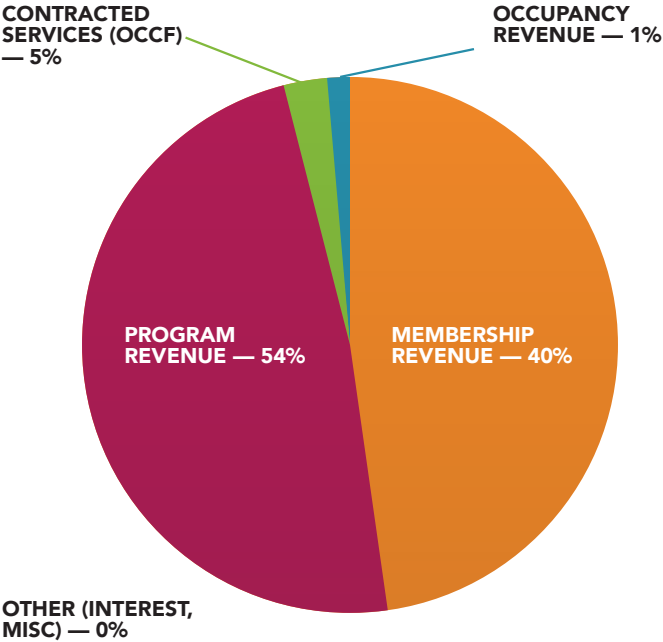
BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR

INDUSTRY — 149
RETAIL — 214
SERVICE — 527

EXPENSES



REVENUES



CONCIERGE PROGRAM

The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce announces the launch of its Concierge Program after piloting the program for a year. This is a new resource

being offered providing several services to employers to enhance their recruitment and retention efforts for onboarding new talent. The program is designed to help new hires discover the many aspects of the area and jumpstart their engagement in the community by way of customized experiences and relevant information based on the candidate's needs. Our goal is to offer thoughtful integration to newcomers helping them feel at home in Oshkosh, showcasing quality of life and community amenities. Programs are customizable aimed to help new talent feel at home in Oshkosh.

MENU OF SERVICES

- Welcome Basket
- Customized Community Tours
- New Employee Retention Package

TIMELINE



Maureen Lasky
Concierge Coordinator

OCT.
2023

- January 2023 Piloted Concierge Program

NOV.
2023

- September 2023 Hired Concierge Coordinator

DEC.
2022

- Delivered over 30 Welcome Baskets



Concierge Program Welcome Basket



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