

# **Advocacy Policy**

*Approved 7/9/08*

In order to work toward making systematic change necessary to achieving our mission, the Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA) engages in advocacy activity, or active support for a cause, idea, or policy. It is the policy of the GFDA to advocate on public policy issues that support the mission of the organization which is to grow, strengthen and diversify the economy of the Great Falls trade area.

## **Criteria for Public Policy Positions**

GFDA may take positions on public policy issues that fulfill three basic criteria:

- The issues affect GFDA's ability to work toward its mission
- The issues affects GFDA's partners or clients
- The issues affects GFDA's status or its operations

## **Process for Determining Positions**

Advocacy positions on specific issues will be determined on a case-by-case basis by consensus of the Board of Directors.

## **Participation in Coalitions**

In GFDA's work with coalitions and associations, GFDA may take part in the advocacy work of a group provided the work is not in conflict with GFDA's mission.

## **Nonpartisanship**

Clients and investor members of GFDA represent a broad cross-section of the political spectrum. GFDA does not support one candidate over another candidate; and does not support any political parties. GFDA works with all political parties in legislative efforts. If it asks one candidate for office to speak at events or conferences, an invitation is extended to any opposing candidates as well.