

The GCP is working to boost the global competitiveness of Northeast Ohio and its businesses.



**STRENGTHEN GLOBAL
CONNECTIONS**

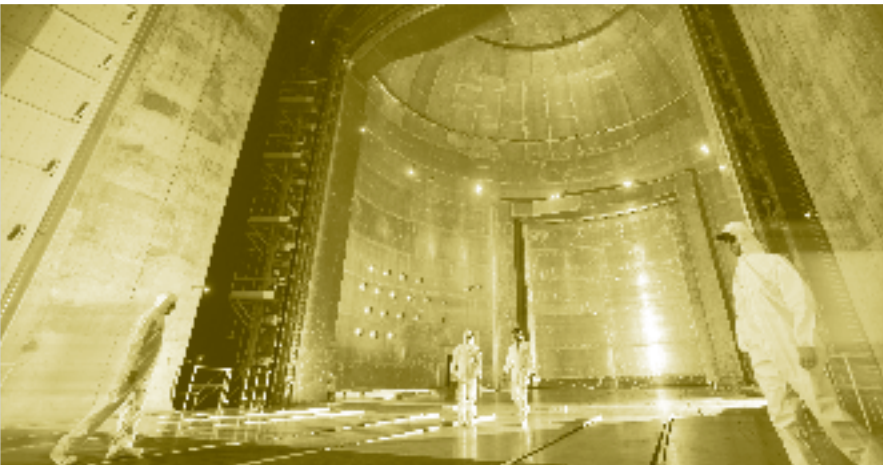
The global competitiveness of the region and its companies is tied to having world-class physical and human capital assets along with organizational capacities that support and increase research, innovation and commerce with the rest of the world. Two of our region's most valuable physical assets are the NASA Glenn Research Center and the Port of Cleveland.

NASA Glenn Research Center is one of Ohio's premier research institutions and acts as one of our region's most important economic engines. Not only does NASA employ hundreds of highly skilled scientists and engineers who work to advance the nation's space and aeronautics mission, the Center is also the incubator for many of the region's most promising and commercially viable technologies. The GCP and its partner, NorTech, work closely with the region's universities and research institutions to ensure that this partnership can flourish. After decades of being regarded primarily as an aeronautics research center, NASA Glenn is now directly engaged in the nation's space exploration mission. With key assignments within the Constellation mission, which will return America to the moon and send manned spacecraft to Mars, NASA Glenn has secured important contracts that will secure our region's role in this mission. The business and higher education communities must continue to support NASA Glenn in its efforts to remain at the forefront of the space exploration initiative.

GOAL: Ensure that federal funding for the NASA program includes sufficient resources for the NASA Glenn Research Center

The facilities at Plum Brook Station have positioned Ohio to be a leader in the aerospace industry. The NASA Glenn Research Center has secured a leadership role in developing the Orion spacecraft—the next-generation vehicle to replace the space shuttle. Much of the testing for the Orion and other NASA space systems will be conducted at Plum Brook Station. This, and other work taking place at NASA Glenn, will have a significant impact on the region's economy in the years ahead. Building a runway at Plum Brook Station will accelerate this economic impact by creating a landing strip capable of servicing Plum Brook Station, the Air National Guard and industry groups associated with the aerospace industry. A runway will allow for sensitive testing equipment to be delivered directly to Plum Brook and enable researchers, engineers, astronauts and contractors to visit the area from around the globe. Air transportation access to Plum Brook Station will attract high-technology companies that will bring resources and jobs to Northeast Ohio.

GOAL: Secure funding to build a 9,000-foot runway at the NASA Glenn Plum Brook Station facility



Capable of producing the extreme environmental conditions of deep space, planetary surfaces, and low earth orbit, NASA Glenn's Plum Brook station in Sandusky is the site of the most comprehensive space simulation testing facilities in the world in a single location.

Image courtesy of NASA Glenn Research Center

As a community advocate for NASA Glenn Research Center, the GCP is acutely aware of the essential role the Center continues to play in our nation's aeronautic and aerospace missions. The GCP understands the importance of continually educating the public about NASA Glenn's world-class expertise and the important role the Center plays in regional economic development. In order to increase public visibility, the GCP supports moving the NASA Glenn Visitor Center to the Great Lakes Science Center. NASA receives about 25,000 visitors each year, while the Great Lakes Science Center receives almost 400,000 yearly. This move will dramatically increase the visibility of NASA in the community and help improve visitor attendance to the Science Center.

GOAL: Support moving the NASA Glenn Visitor Center to the Great Lakes Science Center

Air Service. Northeast Ohio is fortunate to be home to Hopkins International Airport and our downtown facility, Burke Lakefront Airport. Together, these facilities comprise the Cleveland Airport System (CAS), which creates 5,000 jobs and generates approximately \$4 billion annually for the Northeast Ohio region. Cleveland Hopkins is also home to the state's only commercial airline hub, Continental Airlines. Additionally, the Cuyahoga County Airport provides capacity and is an important element in the region's air service network. All of this enables Northeast Ohio businesses to operate and expand on a national and global basis. It is also an asset we must continually support. The GCP will continue to monitor public policies that impact air service and related economies and work to ensure that the health of our region's air service is sound and well-positioned for the global environment in which we operate.

GOAL: Support implementation of policies and initiatives that ensure the long-term vitality of the region's air service

Port of Cleveland Relocation and Redevelopment.

The bi-national Great Lakes region is the most important economic region in North America. Holding 20 percent of the world's fresh water, it is also home to the second largest economy in the world, combining all or part of 12 U.S. states and Canada's two largest provinces. The region is a cradle of innovation, ingenuity and productivity and accounts for the largest regional share of the nation's exports. Although self-reliant in the past, we must now look to an interdependent future that will allow us to flourish in a rapidly globalizing economy. The combination of many new economic competitors, domestic and international demographic shifts, and pressures related to natural resources and climate change, coupled with inadequate policy response, has left the region with many unresolved challenges that mask its enormous potential to contribute to the nation and the world.

The Port of Cleveland sits at the epicenter of Ohio's international trade presence. Yet, its current downtown location restricts our ability to leverage its full potential. It also serves as a deterrent to important downtown development that could enhance Cleveland's economy. Relocation and redevelopment of the Port of Cleveland from its current location to the designated site at East 55th Street (just east of the downtown district) will accomplish multiple goals. First and most importantly, it would allow the Port of Cleveland to expand and improve its infrastructure and services, boosting its presence in the region, the state, the nation and the world. It would also allow for the use of the most advanced technologies and position Cleveland to become a leader in efficient and environmentally sound transportation practices.

The East 55th Street location would also enable development of an International Trade District bordering the Port, which will attract new businesses that will benefit from close proximity to the Port. Finally, movement from the current site would immediately create opportunities to redevelop this prime property in the heart of Cleveland. Such development could include residential, commercial and entertainment projects that will contribute to the rebirth of downtown Cleveland.

GOAL: Secure federal funding to relocate the Port of Cleveland



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