

January 8, 1897

Founding of the Brockton Board of Trade; precursor to the Chamber of Commerce.

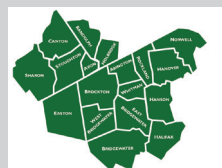
February 14, 1913

Business leaders, recognizing the changing times and the need for greater diversity in the local economy, create the Brockton Chamber of Commerce.

"The purpose of this chamber of commerce shall be to promote the commerce, trade, industry and public interests of the city of Brockton and surrounding region; to promote and regulate a commercial exchange; to acquire and disseminate business information; to establish and maintain uniformity in commercial usages; and to promote just and equitable principles of trade."

1960's

Chamber supports master planning and urban renewal. Sponsors a survey producing Brockton Area Multi-Services Center (BAMSI) and other benefits.



Becomes a regional entity called the Brockton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

1970's

Chamber undergoes reorganization adding 4 new divisions: Government Affairs, Membership Services, Business Development and Community Advancement.

1990's

Business Assistance Center Opens.



Establishes Chamber Education Foundation.

Supports EITC Program and English as a Second Language Classes.

Focuses on restoring commuter rail and regional water supply including construction of desalination plant.



2000's

Edison Business Incubator is established, providing below-market rental space for start-up and expanding micro-enterprises.



Supports construction of regional conference center & baseball stadium. Brockton ETA leads state in # of TIF's.



2005

Chamber achieves 5-star accreditation by U.S. Chamber. This designation is awarded to the top 1% of Chambers annually.



2008

Receives Workforce Training grant and establishes Competitive Workforce initiative adding Connecting Activities staff position and CHOICES Program.



2012

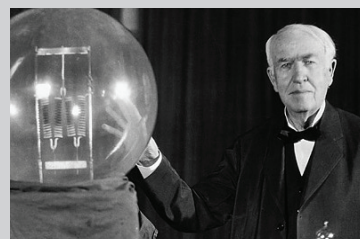
Receives Regional Economic Development (REDO) grant, further focusing on regionalization, attracting and retaining businesses.



Receives Safety Grant and a Workforce Training Fund Grant, establishing Careers in Health Partnership (CHP). CHP moves more than 100 employees up the healthcare career ladder.

1883

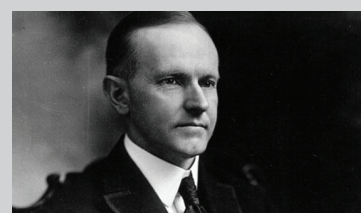
The Brockton Edison Electric Illuminating Company Power Station opens at 70 School Street in Brockton. The following year, Thomas Edison perfects the three-wire electricity system at the Brockton Power Station.



April 11, 1916

President Calvin Coolidge addresses the Brockton Chamber.

"It may be of little importance to determine at any time just where we are, but it is of the utmost importance to determine wither we are going. (So,) set the course aright...I have intended to indicate not only that commerce is an instrument of great power, but that commercial development is necessary to all human progress... We ought to demand economic justice, but most of all because it is justice...Let us look at the service rather than the reward."



1988

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce purchases 50 & 60 School Street, Brockton, transforming the Edison power station into office space.



1980's

The Chamber initiates a 5 Year Metro South Economic Development Program generating pledges of \$760,000, concentrating on establishing the region's Spirit of Growth." The Chamber is named the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

2000

2003

Creates Brockton Promotions Fund with the City of Brockton creating welcome signs, print, tv and radio campaigns, 1620 AM Radio Station, and more.



2010

Establishes first MA Supplier Diversity Office satellite office in Chamber building.



Forms affiliations with business groups to address regional concerns such as water supply, sewer treatment, meals tax, transportation and regionalization of public services.

