



## Business Updates

Posted on Thu, Oct. 15, 2009

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### Visioneering trip to focus on nuts, bolts

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BY BILL WILSON  
The Wichita Eagle

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. -- The second day of Visioneering Wichita's fact-finding mission will focus on the nuts and bolts of Chattanooga's downtown revival.

Highlights include a presentation from Tom Cupo, general manager of the Chattanooga Hotel, on the city's convention center story. Downtown parking management will be the focus of a presentation by Jeff Pfitzer of the RiverCity Co., Chattanooga's equivalent of the Wichita Downtown Development Corp.


There also will be detailed looks at development efforts like CreateHere and Greenspaces. The group also will tour several downtown attractions, including Miller Plaza, the Walnut Street Pedestrian Tour and Renaissance Park. A boat tour of the Tennessee River Gorge will follow.

The three-day mission ends Friday.

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**Laverne** wrote on 10/15/2009 11:41:30 AM:  
It is my understanding that these trips are not "junkets" since the individuals going on the trip paid their own way.

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**wecandobetter** wrote on 10/15/2009 10:40:28 AM:  
"These kinds of fact-finding missions have yielded big dividends for other communities." Really? Which communities? What were the "big" dividends they received? Remember the Mayor tried to justify the recent trip to France by Councilwoman Janet Miller as important because of the "social and economic exchange" they provide. I don't see why we can't just call

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them what they are: perks, junkets, freebies for convincing enough people to vote for them. And speaking of Janet Miller, when do we get to hear her report of all the valuable business contact she made in France?

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**bowhowdy2** wrote on 10/15/2009 10:24:06 AM:  
These kinds of fact-finding missions have yielded big dividends for other communities. Why wouldn't Wichita do the same? Wichita is doing the right thing here.

Yes, but Wichita has a long track record of these missions and doing nothing. That's the other poster's point. The mission is only useful if it produces something. Otherwise it's pointless.

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**countyshmounty** wrote on 10/15/2009 9:51:40 AM:  
These kinds of fact-finding missions have yielded big dividends for other communities. Why wouldn't Wichita do the same? Wichita is doing the right thing here.

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**wecandobetter** wrote on 10/15/2009 8:10:08 AM:  
It's obvious where the "nuts" are from. I assume the "bolts" is a local Chattanooga bar. Someone please explain what "a boat tour of the Tennessee River Gorge" could possibly have to do with Wichita. The trip would be complete if the boat was named "Junket."

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