



## **KC Chamber Leadership Exchange Update**

**August 22**

*The 2019 Leadership Exchange is presented by HCA Health Midwest and JE Dunn Construction*

This is the third Leadership Exchange electronic update of the year. In this email newsletter, you will find important information on the Leadership Exchange Kick-Off Reception September 12, brief articles on Nashville's explosive growth and struggle for economic inclusivity, and an updated itinerary to help with your (and our) planning for the Exchange on September 22-24. Please review this newsletter and let us know if you will be attending the September 12 Leadership Exchange Kickoff Reception.

### **Please RSVP Today for Leadership Exchange Kickoff Reception, 9/12**

If you have not RSVP'd for the Leadership Exchange Kick-Off reception and orientation Thursday, September 12, 4:30-6 p.m. in the Chamber Boardroom, please do so today. This will be a great opportunity for our 2019 Exchange delegates to get to know each other, catch a glimpse of this year's trip and how to prepare for the excursion. **Please RSVP to Shelby Ostrom, [sostrom@kcchamber.com](mailto:sostrom@kcchamber.com) no later than August 26.**

### **Nashville Economic Growth Continues Explosion with Amazon, EY & Mitsubishi**

The past year yielded dramatic business recruitment for Nashville. Amazon, AllianceBernstein, EY and SmileDirectClub each chose Nashville for major hubs or expansions, in addition to several smaller companies moving to the region from the coasts. Amazon was the biggest jobs announcement in Tennessee's history, with 5,000 employees expected from the operations center.

In June Mitsubishi Motors announced it was moving its North America headquarters to the Nashville suburb of Franklin, with about 200 jobs as part of its \$18.25 million investment — spanning all corporate departments, from legal and finance to IT, sales and dealer operations. The arrival of Mitsubishi expands the region's presence in the automotive industry including automotive brand names such as Nissan, Bridgestone, General Motors, Hankook and a web of suppliers.

In January and February, Nashville had the lowest unemployment rate in the nation. The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce says the momentum will continue and has been consistent with the past seven years. Read more about the city's economic growth using these

links. <https://www.tennessean.com/story/money/2019/05/05/amazon-alliance-bernstein-impact-nashville-economy/3422910002/>

<https://www.bizjournals.com/nashville/news/2019/06/25/mitsubishi-bringing-north-american-headquarters-to.html>

### **Incentives for Amazon, Community Backlash**

The Nashville Metro Council approved a \$17.5 million incentive package for Amazon in exchange for the 5,000 jobs the company says it will bring downtown for its new operations hub. The company plans to invest \$230 million with 1 million square feet of energy-efficient office space and deliver \$1 billion in new tax revenue in the coming decade. [Community activists and labor union leaders have called for greater scrutiny of Nashville's deal with Amazon](#) in the months since the company announced its move to the city. The council already approved \$15.2 million in February for infrastructure work around Nashville Yards, the downtown mega-development that is the planned home for the Amazon Hub. Read More using this link: <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/2019/03/19/nashville-metro-council-approves-17-5-m-amazon-incentive/3212031002/>

### **Costs of Nashville's Explosive Growth and Change**

According to Tennessean Columnist David Plazas, "Nashville is growing and changing fast, and the nation has taken notice. There are more and trendier restaurants, an abundance of things to do and a vibrant jobs market that allows people to move up or to reinvent themselves. But for people who can no longer afford to live in Nashville because of the hot real estate market, the "it city" dream is elusive. The displacement of people is a consequence of progress, but it is especially troubling in historically African-American neighborhoods near downtown where more affluent buyers and renters who can afford newer, more expensive and denser housing are moving in." David will be a speaker at two Leadership Exchange sessions. To learn more about David's perspectives on poverty, housing and concerns about inclusive growth in Nashville, use the link below.

<https://www.tennessean.com/story/opinion/columnists/david-plazas/2017/01/29/costs-growth-and-change-nashville/97064252/>

### **Please let us Know if You Have Alternative Nashville Travel Plans**

If you are planning to travel to Nashville on a flight (or a car, bus or train) other than the KC Chamber charter flight (SWA 8031), or if you will not be on the KCI return flight charter flight (SWA 8231), please let us know your transportation plans no later than August 26, if you have not already done so. **Send your alternative travel arrangements to Shelby Ostrom, [sostrom@kcchamber.com](mailto:sostrom@kcchamber.com).**

**Special Thanks to These Generous Leadership Exchange Sponsors**

***Presenting Sponsors:*** HCA Health Midwest and JE Dunn Construction

***Sponsorship Support From:***

**Arvest Bank**

**Bardavon**

**Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP**

**Civic Council of Greater Kansas City**

**HNTB**

**Lathrop Gage**

**McCownGordon Construction**

**PNC Bank**

**UMB**