



# KC 2 SA LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE DELEGATE NEWS

9/15/23

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2023 LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE  
PRESENTED BY



LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE CHAIR,  
LISA GINTER, COMMUNITYAMERICA CREDIT UNION

**Get to know a little more about San Antonio before we get there!**

## **Haven for Hope**

San Antonio's 22-acre, 1600-person full-service campus for the city's unsheltered population, Haven for Hope, addresses the homelessness crisis at a scale that's unheard of, even in California. The facility serves 85% of the city's total homeless population. It virtually guarantees that anybody who wants to sleep indoors can, while accessing a plethora of on-site social services. Use this link to learn more about the program that Leadership Exchange delegates will have an opportunity to tour next month.

<https://calmatters.org/housing/2023/06/texas-homeless-shelter/>

## **City Planning for Economic Development**

San Antonio's Economic Development Department last year kickstarted a citywide strategic planning initiative to review the city's role in economic development and update the guidelines used to qualify business investments for economic development incentives and other tax breaks and development grants. The plan has resulted in a new framework for development focusing on 9 key commerce centers in the city and providing special attention to the city's chronically

underinvested neighborhoods. Leadership Exchange delegates will meet with city economic development leaders and learn how the economic development plan and framework are guiding everything from incentives to corridor redevelopment and event construction mitigation grant support for small businesses. The articles below highlight some of the economic development plan and process. The opinion piece accessed with the last link below illustrates how some city thought leaders believe the new economic framework does not go far enough.

<https://sanantonioreport.org/san-antonio-economic-development-incentive-policies/>

<https://sanantonioreport.org/analysis-san-antonio-economic-development-incentives/>

<https://sanantonioreport.org/to-make-real-progress-in-economic-development-san-antonio-needs-a-new-strategic-paradigm/>

### **San Antonio #19 Top City for Hispanic Entrepreneurs**

WalletHub recently released a study of the best and worst cities for Hispanic Entrepreneurs. The study ranked San Antonio #19 based on 24 key metrics of friendliness toward Hispanic businesses including Hispanic entrepreneurship rate, Hispanic income growth, and the share of Hispanic-owned businesses. Please review the study at the link below and check the Top 100 list for Kansas City and our surrounding areas. There is still plenty of work to be done here – data like this inspires and fuels the KC Chamber’s Access to Capital work and small business programming, with several of our partners on this trip, to make sure that when Kansas City grows, we all grow.

<https://wallethub.com/edu/best-and-worst-cities-for-hispanic-entrepreneurs/6491>

### **For our data-loving delegates**

The KC Chamber had an amazing summer intern this year, the son of our LEX delegate Bridget McCandless, who prepared an Economic Comparison of Kansas City and San Antonio that might just make your head spin. Everything you ever wanted to know...and more!

<https://www.kcchamber.com/sites/default/files/2023-09/Economic%20Comparison%20-%20KC2SA.pdf>

### **Airport advice direct from the experts**

We’ll be giving further detailed instructions closer to our departure date, but wanted to let you know we met with Southwest Airlines at the airport this week and they gave us this direct quote: **“Business travel is BACK!”** Wednesdays are very busy at KCI now and the garage can fill up. Please be mindful of this as you make your plans to arrive at the airport for the Leadership Exchange charter flight; be prepared and allow extra time.

### Fun fact

San Antonio will be bustling while we are there, as our study trip comes to town just ahead of the Big Texas Comicon which will bring pop culture enthusiasts to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center from October 6-8! Learn more at [www.bigtexascomicon.com](http://www.bigtexascomicon.com)

**Reminder: Sign up for your breakout session no later than Monday, September 18**

Please rank the sessions at [THIS LINK](#) in order of your preference.

### Get your guests in

If you have a colleague, friend or family member in San Antonio whom you would like to invite to our October 5 Reception, please provide their name, title, company name and email address ASAP to Melanie Mattes, [LEX@kcchamber.com](mailto:LEX@kcchamber.com).

\*\*\* [HERE](#) is a link to the latest delegate list.

\*\*\* [HERE](#) is a link to our most current draft itinerary document.

You have questions? We have answers. Email Melanie at [LEX@kcchamber.com](mailto:LEX@kcchamber.com).

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