Downtown Wichita History Trail

The Downtown Wichita History Trail will bring Wichita's rich cultural history to life through a walkable experience in the heart of downtown. From Indigenous heritage and the Chisholm Trail to the Dockum Sit-in and the factories that shaped Old Town, history happened here. Guided by community input, the trail will connect these significant sites into a unified, immersive journey that tells Wichita's story, celebrates its heritage, fosters civic pride and highlights the city's continued growth.

Marked by uniform signage, the trail will be anchored by physical locations and supplemented by an online platform. Each sign will feature a description and photos of a historical event. A QR code on the sign will link to a web-based application where trail tourists can learn more and even compete with friends to complete stops in a scavenger hunt. The web-based platform will also enable the Downtown Wichita History Trail to add more stops as history happens, making it a living part of Wichita's story.

Just as The Freedom Trail in Boston connects a journey through Revolutionary War history, the Downtown Wichita History Trail will link sites of historic significance and share how Wichita today was shaped by the pioneers of our past.

Help Shape Wichita's Story
Launching in 2028, the trail will feature physical markers and a digital experience highlighting the stories that shaped our city. Help shape the trail's first chapter by reviewing and prioritizing potential historic sites for Phase I. Please provide input through Sept. 10.

Take the Public Survey: Phase I Site Selection

Preview the idea behind the trail below.
Note that the images and mockups used are not final and are for idea-presenting purposes only.

Timeline
Over the next two years, with support and input from Downtown Rotary Club of Wichita, Downtown Wichita will plan and implement the historic trail connecting community to sites throughout downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.

- Summer 2026: Site Nomination Survey; Selection Committee finalizes site selection
- Fall/Winter 2026: Design signage and digital platform
- Spring 2027: Finalize sign locations
- Fall/Winter 2027: Fabrication
- Spring 2028: Installation
- June 2028: Unveiling the History Trail

This project is made possible through a grant from the Downtown Rotary Club of Wichita.

Rotary Club of Wichita | Rotary | Wichita Rotary Charitable Fund | DOWNTOWN WICHITA