



# DOWNTOWN WICHITA

## Meet our New Executive Director

Downtown Wichita was thrilled to host a series of lively drop-in events in September and October. Downtown property owners, business owners, employees and residents came together to meet **Executive Director Heather Schroeder** and learn more about Downtown Wichita and its initiatives. It was a fantastic chance to connect, share ideas and discover all that downtown has to offer!

Attendees were asked to fill in the blanks for the following questions:

- One thing I love about downtown Wichita is \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish more people knew about \_\_\_\_\_ in downtown Wichita
- One issue I'd like Downtown Wichita to help tackle is \_\_\_\_\_
- It would be so cool if we had \_\_\_\_\_ in downtown Wichita.

The compiled responses will help shape community engagement for **Project Downtown 2035**.

Downtown Property Owners  
Wednesday, Sept. 25  
1 – 2 p.m.  
Downtown Wichita, 505 E. Douglas Ave.

Downtown Residents  
Wednesday, Sept. 25  
5 – 6:30 p.m.  
Public at the Brickyard, 129 N. Rock Island Ave.

Downtown Business Owners  
Thursday, Oct. 3  
8 – 9 a.m.  
Downtown Wichita, 505 E. Douglas Ave.

Downtown Employees  
Friday, Oct. 4  
9 – 10 a.m.  
Downtown Wichita, 505 E. Douglas Ave.

Themes that emerged from the fill-in-the-blank surveys:

- **Downtown stakeholders would like Downtown Wichita's assistance with** activating the river, improving walkability and transportation connections to and within downtown; growing entertainment options in the district; addressing housing costs and housing availability; and improving access to basic amenity retail (e.g., groceries, household products).

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- **Respondents wish more people knew about** the diversity, uniqueness, and quantity of local businesses and organizations in downtown, as well as arts and cultural experiences and events, Grow Geisen plant shop, and our great restaurants.
- **People love** the district's walkability; sense of community; unique offerings like the Farm and Art Market and specialty retail; activity; architecture and historic buildings; ease of access; cultural offerings; variety of people; and flowers on Douglas.
- **Downtowners think it would be so cool if downtown Wichita** had more open spaces and river access; more food options (including "healthy" fast-casual and vegan options); entertainment options like dueling piano bars, gambling, rooftop bars, a movie theater, and Elsewherefest; large photo opportunities (e.g. like Chicago's Cloud Gate reflective sculpture); and ore positive marketing of what's here.



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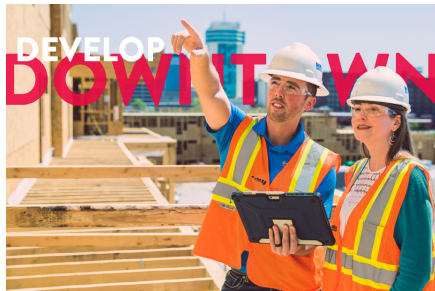
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Learn More About Downtown Wichita



Heather Schroeder



Development



Events