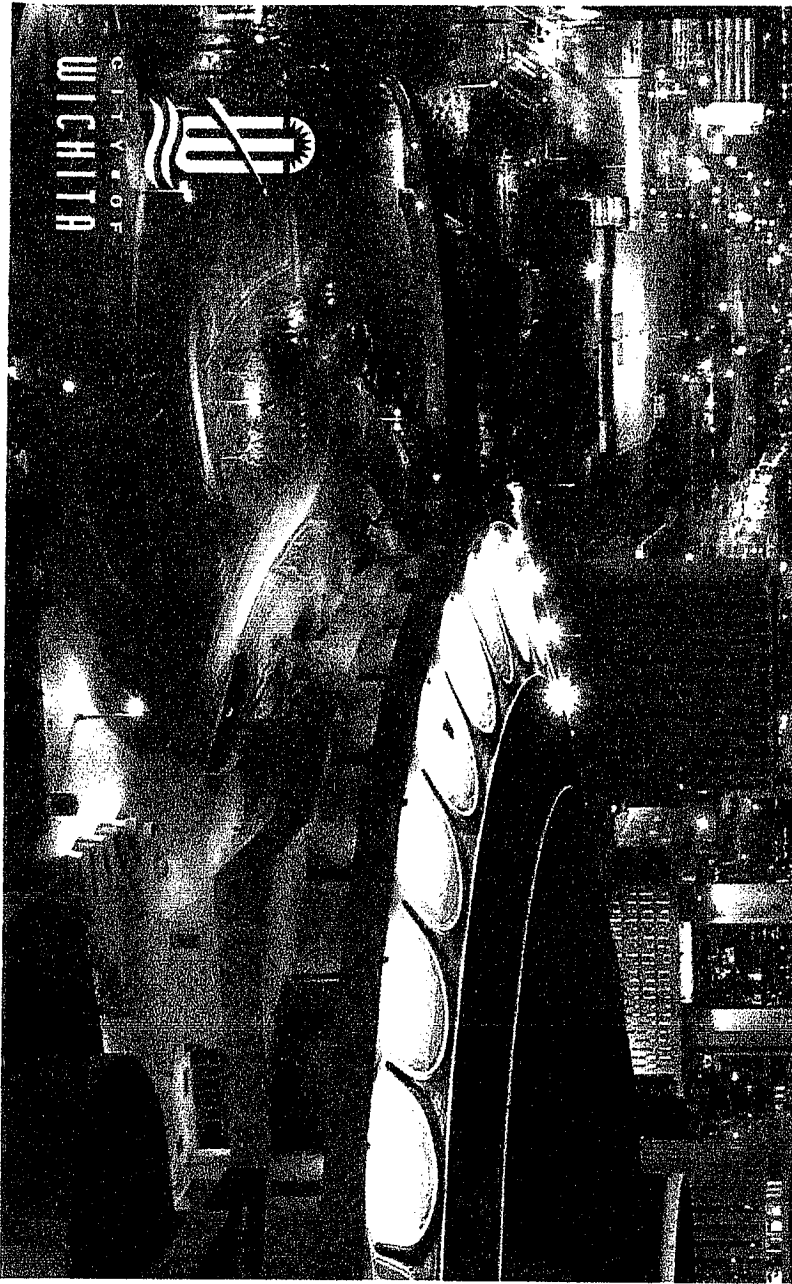


The Business Plan for Passenger Rail in

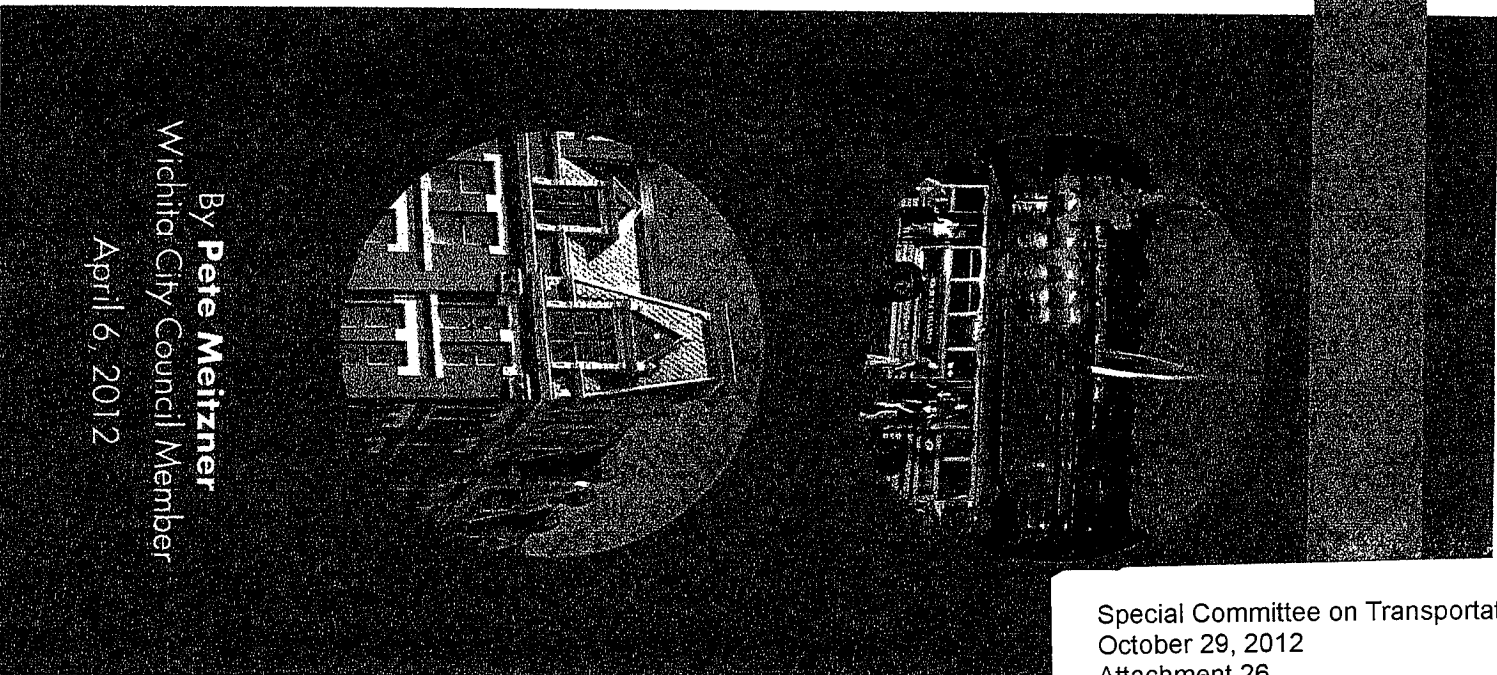
# WICHITA KANSAS



CITY OF  
WICHITA



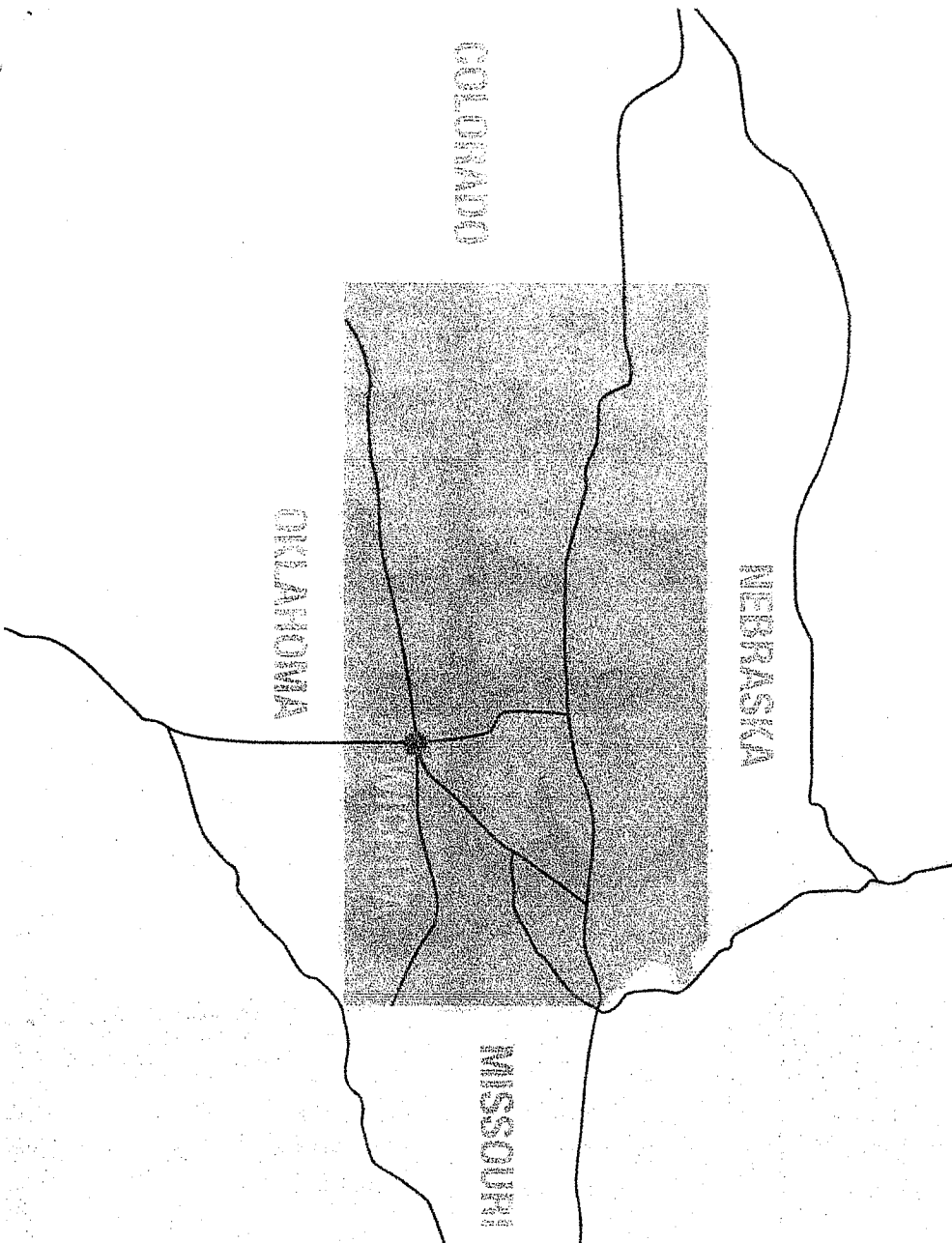
Gary Schmitt



By **Pete Meitzner**  
Wichita City Council Member  
April 6, 2012

Special Committee on Transportation  
October 29, 2012  
Attachment 26

# An Economic Hub for Kansans and the Region



- Destination for shopping/entertainment/travel from Colorado border, Oklahoma and Missouri
- Trade area of 1,000,000+ people
- Wichita MSA 630,000
- Accessibility via I-135/US, 81/ KS-15 and US-54/400



# VISITORS

Annually to Wichita

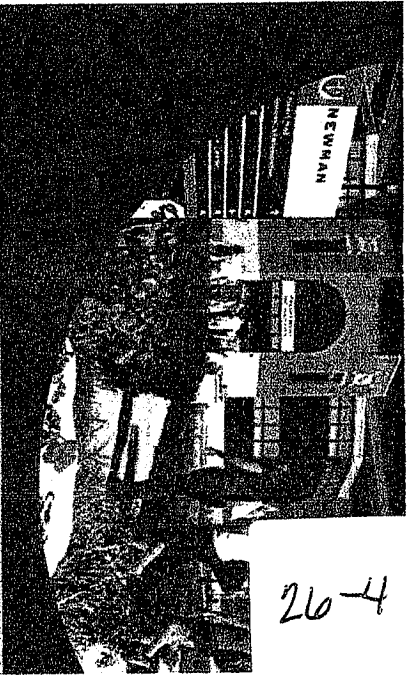
- Over 6 million annual visitors
- Over 2 million to Downtown



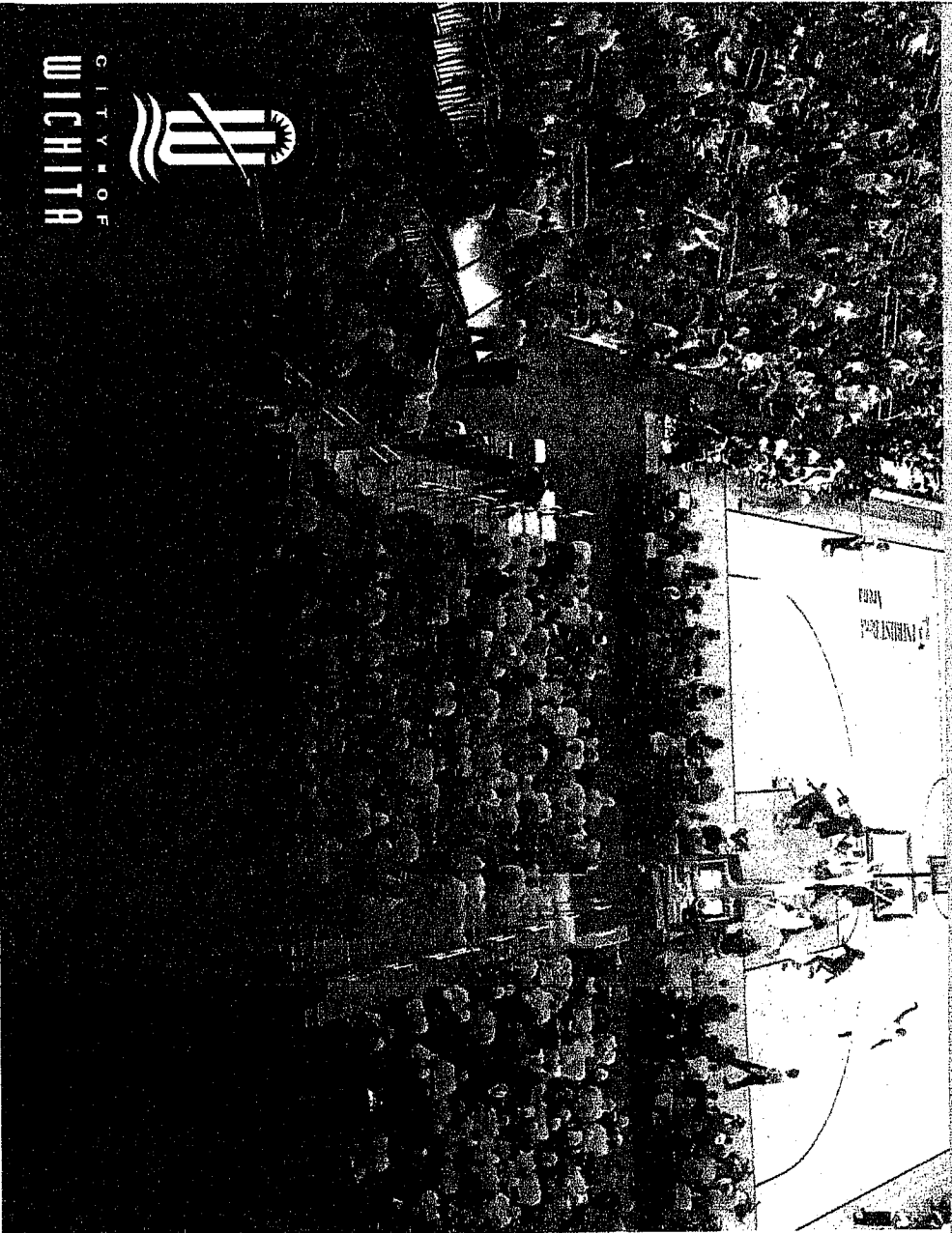
26-3



# COLLEGE STUDENTS



An Underserved Market



- There are three 4-year accredited universities with 21,000+ students within 10 minutes of Downtown Wichita
- Wichita State University, with an enrollment of 15,000, is the state's third largest college.

CITY OF WICHITA



26-4



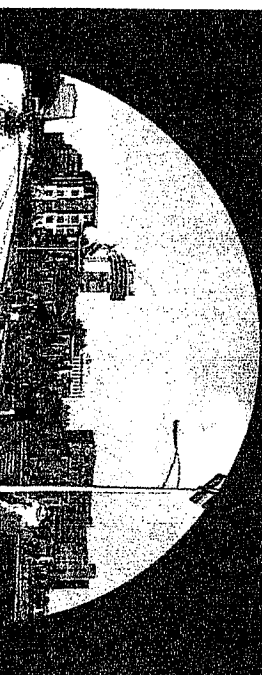
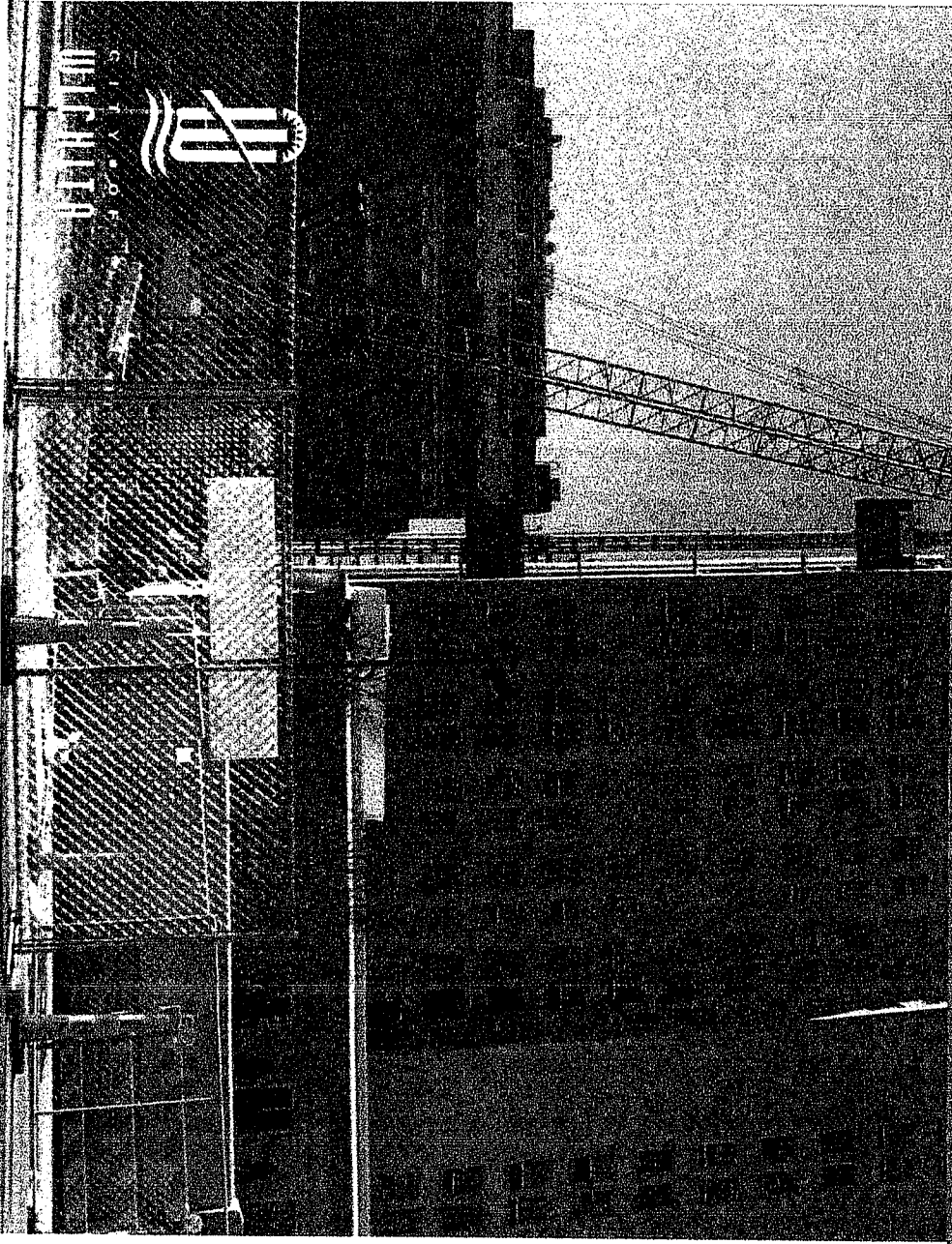
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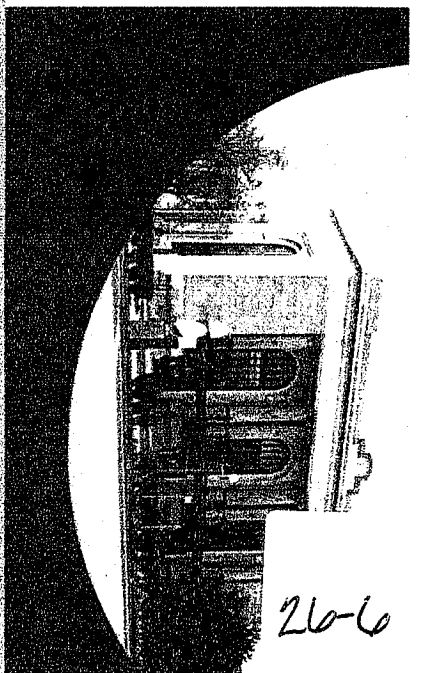
An Economic Hub for Kansas and the Region



PROJECT  
DOWNTOWN

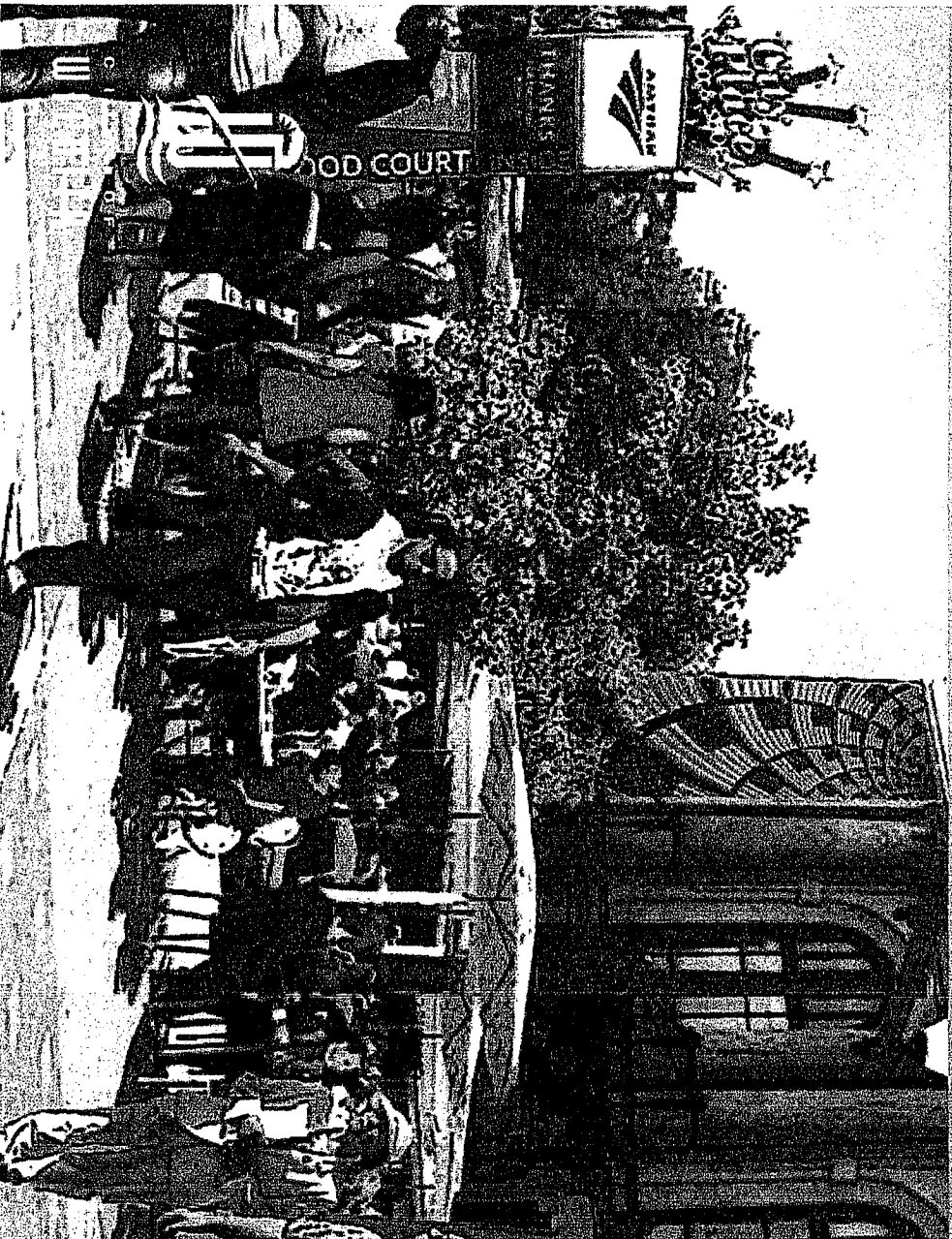
- Project Downtown \$600 Million Revitalization Master Plan for Downtown Wichita adopted in 2010
- \$60 Million in projects since adoption, \$94 Million underway and \$20 Million announced this year
- Plan indicates a public-private partnership to undertake a historic renovation of Union Station. Identifies passenger rail as a key amenity





## Union Station

- Union Station is one of Downtown's most significant landmarks
- Adjacent to rail corridor and directly contains over 600 existing parking spaces
- Project Downtown calls for a mixed use redevelopment that would include lodging, restaurants, retail and offices uses
- Proximity to historic Rock Island Depot and Grand Hotel offer opportunities for complementary adjacent land uses

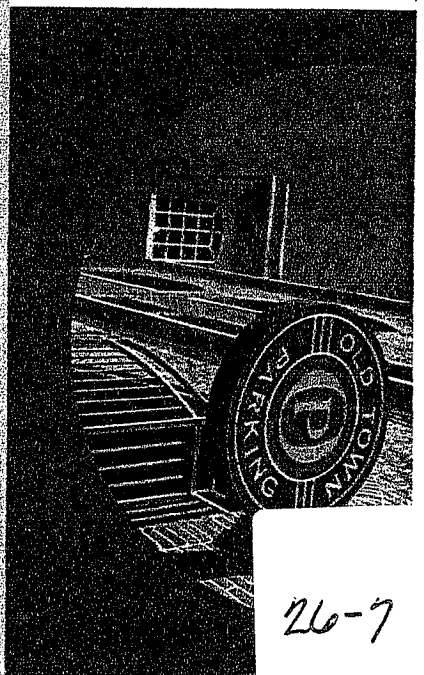
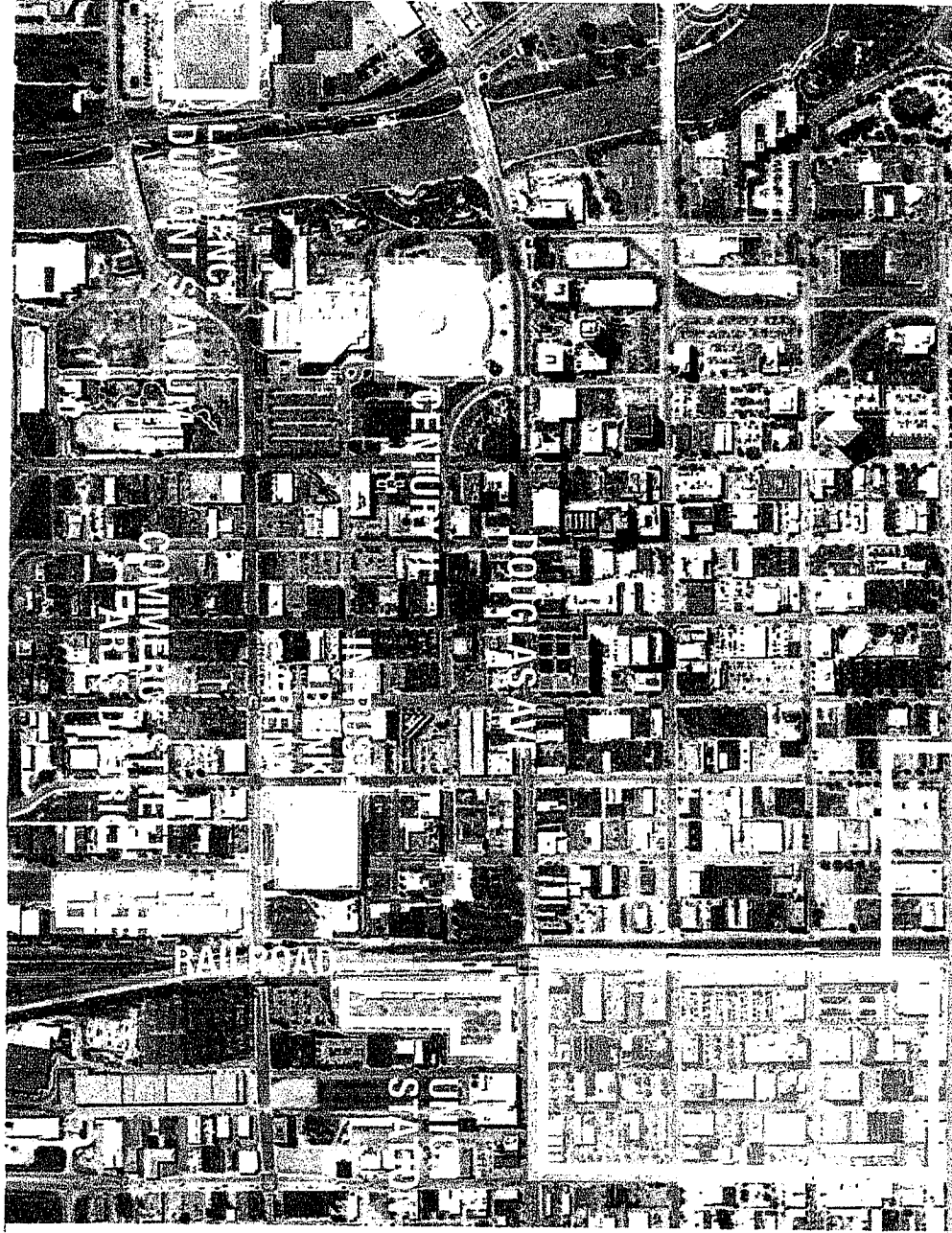


216-6

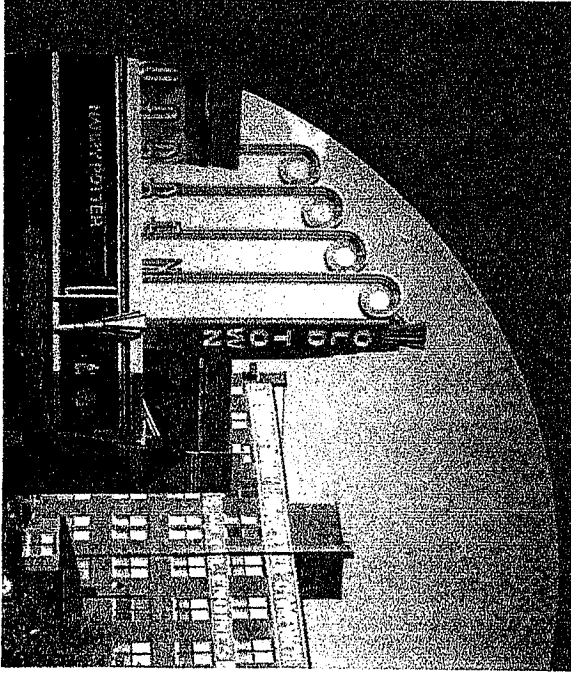


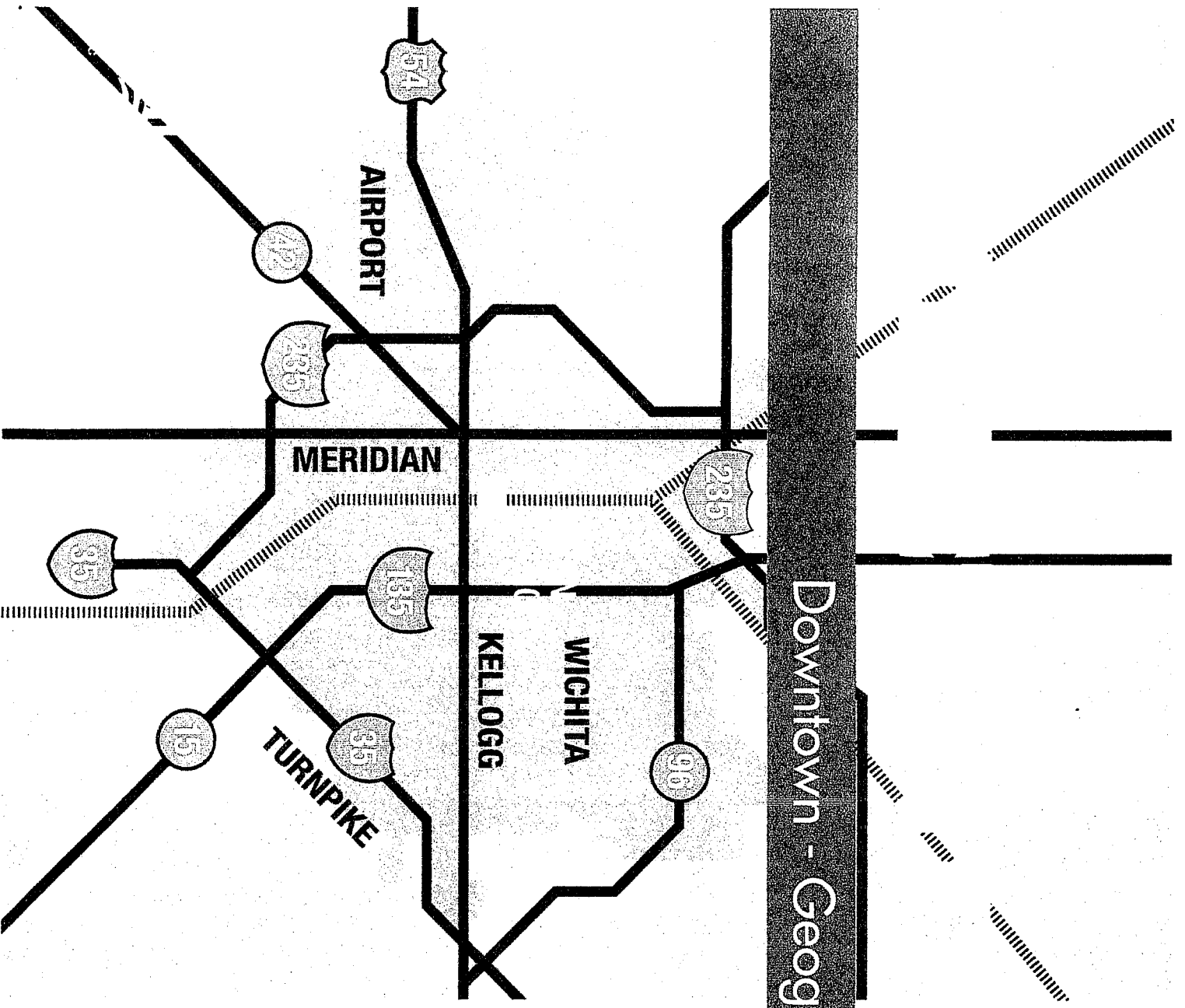
# TO

## Historic Warehouse Neighborhood



- Nine square-block mixed-use American Planning Association award winning neighborhood
- Arena
- Commerce Street Arts District

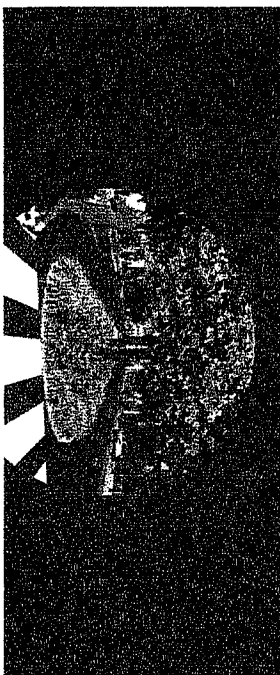




# Downtown - Geographic "Center of City"



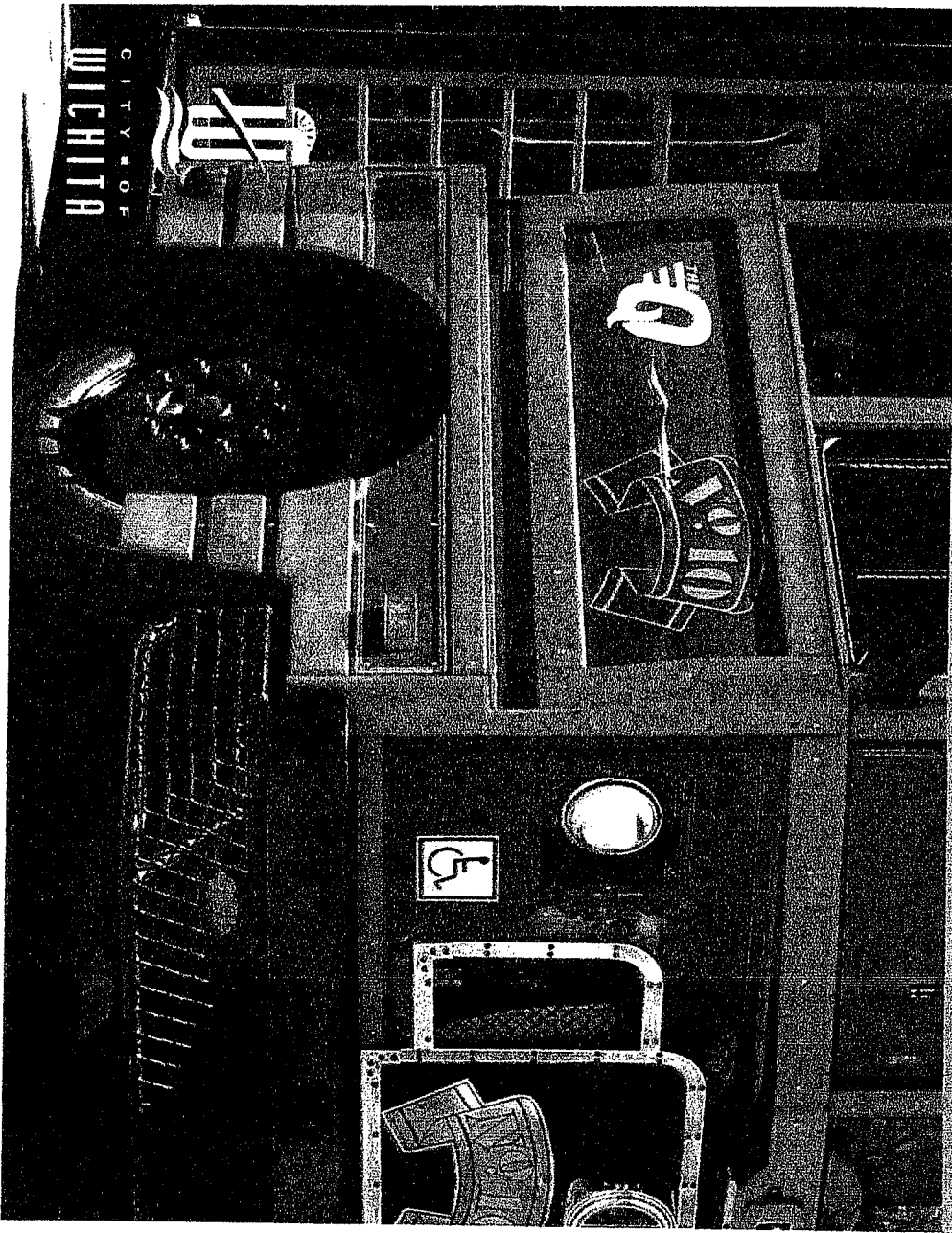
- 2 Blocks from Transit's central hub - serves city-wide network of 18 routes
- Union Station fronts Douglas Ave - Wichita's postcard avenue connecting East and West Wichita
- City Council recently adopted new Master Plan for Douglas which recommends new transit stops and streetscape amenities along corridor, including improvements along Douglas at Union Station



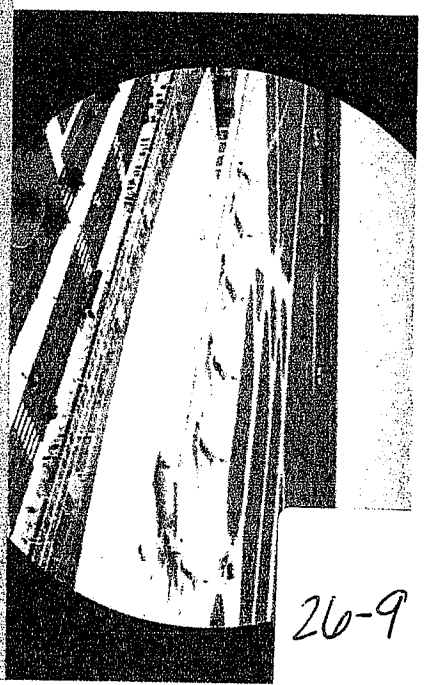


# CONNECTIVITY

Downtown - Geographic "Center of City"



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26-9

- Wichita Transit provides the Q-Line, an existing Downtown Circulator route that connects various destinations in Downtown, such as Old Town, Intrust Bank Arena, Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center, WaterWalk, Lawrence Dumont Stadium and Museums on the River
- Wichita Transit intends to provide connector services between passenger rail and Mid-Continent Airport
- Wichita is currently constructing a new \$1.60 Billion airport terminal

The Business Plan for Passenger Rail in

# WICHITA KANSAS



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Jeff Fluhr**  
President  
Wichita Downtown Development  
Corporation

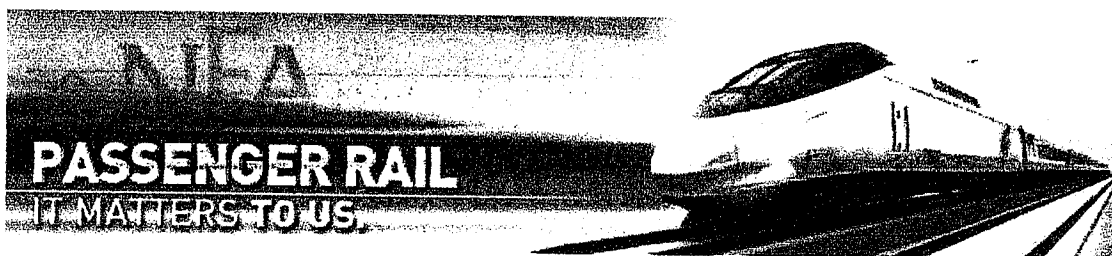
P: 316-264-6005  
F: 316-264-0869  
jeff@downtownwichita.org

**April 06, 2012**

**Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas look to seize the day  
with Passenger Rail Symposium**

The Northern Flyer Alliance is a group of 49 cities, 6 counties, and 19 Chambers of Commerce from Kansas City to Fort Worth that have joined together to promote passenger rail in their communities and in the tri-state region that includes Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Today, the Alliance is holding a Passenger Rail Symposium, and Federal Railroad Administrator Joseph Szabo was on hand with a message of strong support from this Administration.



President Obama's all-of-the-above energy strategy means investing in more fuel-efficient transportation. That means cars that go farther on every gallon of gas. It means using our nation's waterways for shipping freight. It means electric transit buses that can recharge in less than 10 minutes.

And it means more rail.

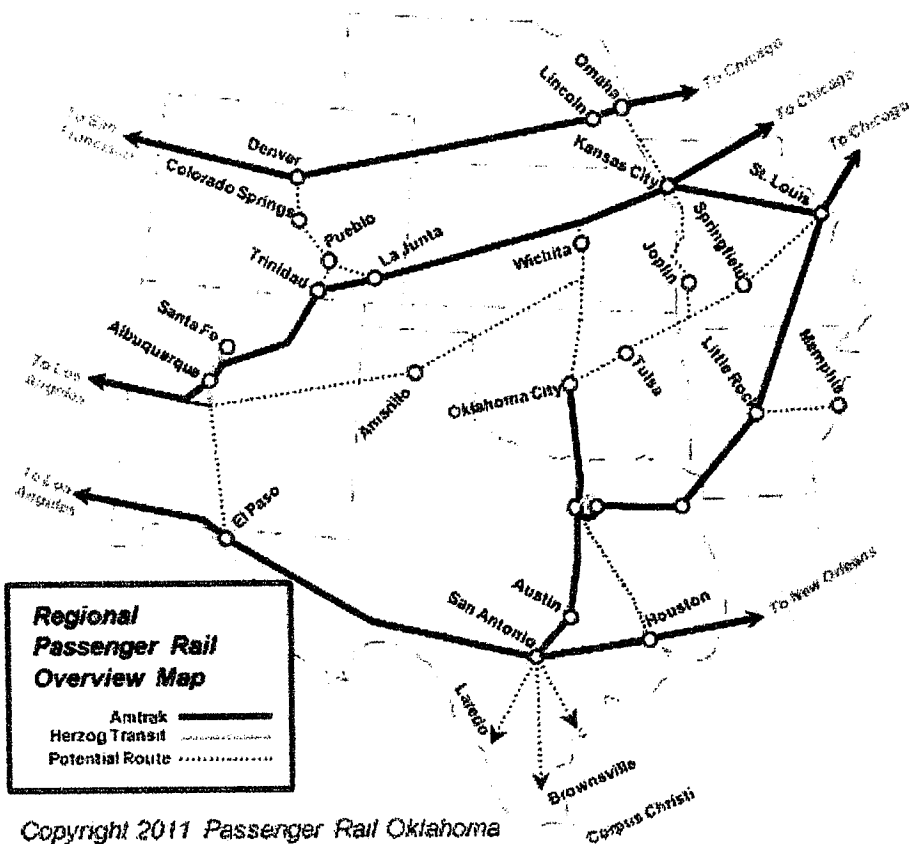
Passenger rail is three times more energy-efficient than car travel and six times more efficient than air travel.

And, at a time when the Texas Transportation Institute has identified 328 seriously congested highway corridors--stretches of roadway around the U.S. that experience hours of traffic jams each day--a single dedicated high-speed passenger rail line can carry more capacity than six lanes of freeway.

Of course, that's just the situation TTI identified right now. In 2050, we'll be home to *100 million more* Americans. Just when our economic competitiveness will require our nation to move more people and more goods than ever, our highways will be choking at maximum capacity and our runways and airport gates will be overcrowded.

So, while our interstate highways unlocked our economy's potential in the second half of the 20th century, our success in the 21st century will require a more diverse toolkit of intercity transportation options. *Including passenger rail.*





Continue reading "Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas look to seize the day with Passenger Rail Symposium" »

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