

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of Commerce Lexington Inc. and its Board of Directors, I want to personally thank you for participating in the 2012 Leadership Visit to San Antonio presented by CHASE / J.P. Morgan. It says a lot that you would take three days away from your work and family to travel to another city in search of best practices and ideas, as well as solutions to Lexington's challenges.

For those of you who are new to this endeavor, the Commerce Lexington Inc. Leadership Visit is believed to be the longest-running and largest inter-city visit of its kind among chambers of commerce and economic development groups. While Lexington fares well against many of the cities our group has visited over the years, these trips have enabled us to not only see first-hand what we do well, but also find ways to reach our untapped potential.

Many people are familiar with San Antonio's famed River Walk and of course the historic Alamo, but the city and its region offer so much more. San Antonio has been a city of innovation and steady growth for decades, while its cultural blend of people has created a truly unique and authentic city.

We'll not only experience much of what gives San Antonio its vibrancy, but we'll also hear from a variety of speakers who are among the most influential, connected, and most responsible for the city's transformation. They will tell their stories of planning, processes, funding obstacles, failed initiatives, and successes, while many of their Lexington counterparts will add a Bluegrass perspective to the discussions.

On Wednesday morning, we'll be doing something a little different during the takeaway session. In the past, we have asked working group members to come up with a list of new ideas for enhancements in Lexington. This year, through conversations prior to the trip with a few of our key community leaders, including Mayor Jim Gray, we'll identify several key ongoing initiatives that with the energetic efforts of our group can be completed more quickly.

So, from start to finish during the trip, I would encourage you to think about what you're seeing and hearing in San Antonio and how it can be applied to these ongoing initiatives. We need you to help us tell our own story of success that will span generations of Lexingtonians.



JERI ISBELL
2012 CHAIRMAN
COMMERCE LEXINGTON INC.

VICE PRESIDENT, HUMAN
RESOURCES
LEXMARK INTERNATIONAL