



## Visioneering Wichita Unified Legislative Agenda Strategic Alliance Summary of Accomplishments to Date September 2007

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The Unified Legislative Alliance (ULA) benchmark is to ***“have a unified agenda that advances Visioneering Wichita.”*** To accomplish this benchmark, the ULA provides a process by which Wichita MSA groups, organizations, coalitions, and other Visioneering alliances can develop and submit proposals for the unified agenda.

The ULA initiated the 2007-2008 process in August. Since that time much has been accomplished, including:

- Revisiting and committing to a set of “guiding principles” that stress consensus building and a regional approach
- Reviewed successful proposals from previous two years and surveyed those involved to gain a greater understanding of the components needed for success
- Created a timeline for the 2007-2008 process that is open to anyone interested and utilizes a set of criteria through which proposals that advance Visioneering Wichita are supported
- Agreed to focus the legislative agenda on “education” and “job growth” and “per capita income”
- Developed a new pre-submission template form that allows groups, organizations, and individuals to clarify their potential proposals for consideration
- Revised a proposal template form that is distributed to those who submitted pre-submission template
- Revised a “recommendation matrix” that will be used to determine the extent to which proposals help in addressing: job growth, education, per capita income, regionalism, additional benchmarks, regional economic impact, social impact, and how realistic it is for possible passage
- Gained a greater understanding of the economic impact of south central Kansas on the entire state’s economy

### **Next step for the Visioneering Unified Legislative Alliance:**

- October 26<sup>th</sup> – host Visioneering ULA meeting in Hutchinson, including a panel of local legislators
- November 1<sup>st</sup> – Full 2008 *ULA Submissions* due to the Center for Community Support & Research at Wichita State University
- November 8<sup>th</sup> – Provide opportunity for ULA alliance, steering committee, and REAP to review 2008 *ULA Submissions*
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup> - Presentation of 2008 Visioneering ULA Proposal Submissions to the south central Kansas legislative delegation

### **Strategic Alliance Strategy**

Develop a South Central Kansas unified legislative agenda driven by community will and issues and promote its implementation by our legislative delegation. The unified agenda will represent what a broad cross section of South Central Kansas organizations support and expect of legislative action. (Issues that divide us will not be included in the unified agenda.)

- a) Present the unified agenda prior to the legislative session and issue a report card after the session.
- b) Have Wichita MSA and South Central Kansas Day in Topeka where representatives of all organizations visit with their legislators and provide support for the annual unified agenda.
- c) Ensure there is communication through the media and other communication mediums of Kansas legislative activities to the Wichita MSA citizens.
- d) Recognize the importance of working together and continuous communication with our legislative delegation.
- e) Encourage the South Central Kansas legislative delegation to form coalition within the state to achieve the unified agenda. (The South Central Kansas delegation has 44 of the 165 representatives in the Kansas legislature or 27%.)

### **Strategic Alliance Benchmark**

The Unified Legislative Agenda Strategic Alliance will have a unified agenda that advances Visioneering Wichita.

### **Government Foundation Vision Supported**

Before 2024, the Wichita MSA will be a national model for effective, efficient, inclusive and accountable governments that are representative of the community's needs and desires.

### **Key Benchmarks Targeted**

**Job Growth:** By 2008, exceed the highest of the annual percentage job growth rate of the U.S., Omaha, Tulsa, Kansas City and Oklahoma City.

**Skills Training & Life-long Education:** Provide technical education to ensure a skilled workforce and competitive skills training for companies adding or relocating jobs. The measurement will be meeting Key Benchmarks for job growth and per capita income.

**Post-secondary Education:** Increase the number of post-secondary students 3% per year. Increase percentage of post-secondary education research dollars. The measurement of annual change will be determined during implementation.

**Pre K-12 Education:** All schools and districts meet the Kansas Adequate Yearly Progress Plan (AYP) each year.

***“We decided it was time to plan together – as a region – for our future. We’ve implemented a process and we’re united with our area legislators to carry forward a regional legislative agenda that supports our south central Kansas vision. This foundation is built upon our collective vision, south central Kansas legislative issues and openness in our process.”***

**John Waltner, Unified Legislative Agenda Resource Team Co-Chair and Mayor, City of Hesston**

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