



**Durham, North Carolina and The Research Triangle
Community Leadership Visit
September 10-12, 2024
Final Program Agenda**

Tuesday, September 10

- 5:15 a.m.** Arrive at Springfield-Branson National Airport
Premier Flight Center
5000 W. Kearney
Springfield, MO 65803
[\(click here or see app for parking and arrival information\)](#)
- 6:45 a.m.** Depart for Raleigh-Durham International Airport
- 10:05 a.m.** Arrive at Raleigh-Durham International Airport
- 10:45 a.m.** Depart for PNC Triangle Club at Durham Bulls Athletic Park
409 Blackwell St.
Durham, NC 27701
- 11:15 a.m.** Arrive at PNC Triangle Club at Durham Bulls Athletic Park
- 11:45 a.m.** [Session 1: Welcome to Durham & The Research Triangle](#) *(working lunch)*
Introduced by: Ken McClure – Mayor, City of Springfield
- Bryan Fox** – Vice President of Public Policy, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce *(moderator)*
Mary-Ann Baldwin – Mayor, City of Raleigh *(invited)*
Andrew Blackburn – Vice President of Government Affairs, Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Leonardo Williams – Mayor, City of Durham
- Objective: Introduce Durham and the Research Triangle by providing an overview of the key industries, the distinct cities that make up the Triangle, and what it means to be part of this vibrant and innovative region.
- 12:45 p.m.** Depart for Research Triangle Park
RTP Headquarters, Bowman Boardroom

700 Park Offices Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

1:15 p.m. Arrive at Research Triangle Park Headquarters, Bowman Boardroom

1:30 p.m. [**Session 2: Welcome to The Research Triangle Park**](#)

Introduced by: Kristen Haseltine – President and CEO, Show Me Christian County -

Kelly Propst – Vice President of Marketing and Communications, Research Triangle Park

Objective: Learn about the Research Triangle Park’s history, strengths, and the pivotal role it plays in driving innovation and economic growth in the region.

1:45 p.m. Break

2:00 p.m. [**Session 3: Why and How Regionalism Works**](#)

Introduced by: Christina Angle – CFO, Erlen Group | President, Springfield Business Development Corporation Board of Directors

Adrienne Cole – President and CEO, Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
(moderator)

Ryan Combs – Executive Director, Research Triangle Regional Partnership

Geoff Durham – President and CEO, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce

Aaron Nelson – President and CEO, The Chamber for a Greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro

Objective: Learn how intentional leadership and strategic collaboration in the Research Triangle drive regional success, innovation, and competitiveness through clearly defined lanes of partnership.

3:00 p.m. Depart for 21c Museum Hotel Durham
111 North Corcoran St.
Durham, NC 27701

3:45 p.m. Arrive at 21c Museum Hotel

4:40 p.m. Meet in 1st floor hotel ballroom (*The Main Gallery*)

4:50 p.m. Depart for Reception at The Roof at the Durham Hotel
315 E. Chapel Hill St.
Durham, NC 27701

5:00 p.m. Reception with North Carolina Community Leaders

6:15 p.m. Depart for Small Group Dinners

6:30 p.m. Small Group Dinners:

Counting House – **Bus 1, Stop 1**
(2 minute walk)
111 Corcoran St.
Durham, NC 27701

Bar Virgile – **Bus 1, Stop 2**
(5 minute walk)
105 S. Mangum St. Unit 1
Durham, NC 27701

NanaSteak – **Bus 1, Stop 3**
(8 minute walk)
345 Blackwell St.
Durham, NC 27701

Seraphine – **Bus 1, Stop 4**
324 Blackwell St. Suite 4
Durham, NC 27701

Parizade – **Bus 2, Stop 1**
2200 W. Main St.
Durham, NC 27705

Juju Durham – **Bus 2, Stop 2**
737 9th St. #210
Durham, NC 27705

Vin Rouge – **Bus 2, Stop 2**
2010 Hillsborough Rd.
Durham, NC 27705

9:00 p.m. Bus pick up/walk from Small Group Dinners

Overnight 21c Museum Hotel

Wednesday, September 11

6:00 a.m. A breakfast buffet will be available on the 1st floor ballroom in the 21c Museum Hotel (*The Main Gallery*)

7:45 a.m. **Session 4: Cultivating Talent – Partnerships for Workforce Growth**
Introduced by: Brian Hammons – President, Hammons Black Walnuts | Chair, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Sam Rauf – Senior Economic Development Manager, Wake County Economic Development (*moderator*)

J.B. Buxton – President, Durham Technical Community College

Kate Goodwin – Owner, Kate’s Korner Educational Services LLC

Dr. Scott Ralls – President, Wake Technical Community College

Objective: Discover how the Research Triangle is cultivating talent through successful partnerships that emphasize skill enhancement, talent retention, and pathways for workforce growth and development.

9:00 a.m. Depart for Carolina Theatre of Durham
(4 minute walk)
309 W. Morgan St.
Durham, NC 27701

9:15 a.m. Arrive at Carolina Theatre of Durham

9:30 a.m. [Session 5: Tipping Points – American Tobacco Campus and Downtown Revitalization](#)

Introduced by: Bob Helm, Partner – Elliott, Robinson & Company, LLP CPAs | Chair-Elect, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Casey Steinbacher – Executive Director, Made in Durham (*moderator*)

Bill Bell – Former Mayor, City of Durham | President and CEO, UDI Community Development Corporation

Matt Gladdek – Vice President of Economic Development, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce

Michael Goodman – Executive Vice President, Capitol Broadcasting Company

Adam Klein – Associate Vice President for Economic Development, Duke University

Objective: Explore the critical decisions, partnerships, and initiatives that have shaped the revitalization of the American Tobacco Campus and Downtown Durham, highlighting its success as a catalyst for future growth and transformation in Durham and the region.

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. [Session 6: Collaborative Solutions – Bridging Higher Education and Employment](#)

Introduced by: Robert Randolph – Executive Director, Center for Advanced Manufacturing, Ozarks Technical Community College

Michael Haley – Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development | Senior Vice President, Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce (*moderator*)

Don Hobart – Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jerry Jones – Executive Director, Center for Workforce Engagement, Durham Technical Community College

Thomas White – Director, Economic Development Partnership, North Carolina State University

Objective: Explore collaborative solutions for bridging higher education and employment, focusing on how partnerships between academic institutions and the business community can create pathways that prepare a skilled workforce for the future.

12:00 p.m. Depart for Duke Athletics Cameron Indoor Stadium
Champions Club
115 Whitford Drive
Durham, NC 27708

12:15 p.m. Arrive at Duke Athletics Cameron Indoor Stadium, Champions Club

12:30 p.m. [Session 7: Adaptive Reuse and Creative Placemaking – Transforming Spaces Through Redevelopment](#) *(working lunch)*

Introduced by: Steve Prange – Senior VP-Director of Strategy & Business Development, Crawford Murphy & Tilly (CMT)

Jeff Merritt – Executive Director, The Centennial Authority & PNC Arena
(moderator)

Stephen Bentley – Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Raleigh

Scott Selig – Associate Vice President for Capital Assets, Duke University

Nicole Stewart – Director of Engagement, A.J. Fletcher Foundation | Former Mayor Pro Team, City of Raleigh

Sara Young – Director, Durham City-County Planning Department, City of Durham

Objective: Discover how adaptive reuse and creative placemaking, driven by public-private partnerships, can revitalize spaces and communities, turning underutilized areas into vibrant, inclusive environments.

1:30 p.m. Break

1:45 p.m. [Session 8: Identifying and Addressing Growth Barriers – Enhancing Pathways to Success](#)

Introduced by: Logan Aguirre – Publisher, 417

Angelique Stallings – Vice President of Community Investment, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce *(moderator)*

Patrice Andrews – Chief of Police, Durham Police Department

Joe Milazzo – Executive Director, Regional Transportation Alliance

Matt Sears – Chief of Partnerships, Durham Public Schools Foundation

Dr. Kimberly Sowell – County Manager, Durham County

Objective: Explore strategies to overcome obstacles in areas such as housing, transportation, and development, and discuss how addressing these barriers can create stronger pathways to regional success.

- 2:45 p.m.** Break for Community Immersion Activities
([click here](#) or see app for logistical information)
- 4:45 p.m.** All groups return to the 21c Museum Hotel
- 5:40 p.m.** Meet in 1st floor hotel ballroom (*The Main Gallery*)
- 5:50 p.m.** Depart for The Rickhouse
609 Foster St.
Durham, NC 27701
- 6:00 p.m.** Cocktail hour at The Rickhouse
- 7:00 p.m.** Group dinner at The Rickhouse
- 9:00 p.m.** Bus pick up/walk back to hotel from group dinner
- Overnight** 21C Museum Hotel

Thursday, September 12

- 7:00 a.m.** A breakfast buffet will be available on the 1st floor of the hotel in the 21c Museum Hotel (*The Main Gallery*)
- 7:00 a.m.** Bring your luggage to load on the bus
- 8:30 a.m.** Group Debrief in the 1st floor ballroom in the 21c Museum Hotel (*The Main Gallery*)
- 10:30 a.m.** Depart for Raleigh-Durham International Airport
2400 John Brantley Blvd.
Morrisville, NC 27560
- 11:00 a.m.** Arrive at Raleigh-Durham International Airport
- 12:00 p.m.** Depart for Springfield
- 1:10 p.m.** Arrive in Springfield