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Cato Institute Fellow to discuss urban development



Randal O'Toole

Randal O'Toole, a Cato Institute fellow who has criticized government's role in urban planning, will speak Thursday at the Bank of America Auditorium at 100 N. Broadway.

The event is free and runs from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It's being put on by the Americans for Prosperity Foundation, a nonprofit group that has organized tea parties and advocates for limited government.

O'Toole probably won't address specific issues in Wichita, such as the incentives approved to help finance a new hotel at WaterWalk. But he will talk about what types of urban development plans are successful and unsuccessful in other cities, said Susan Estes, a field director for the Americans for Prosperity Foundation.

"We would really like to talk about the effect of eminent domain on development, the effect of zoning changes and the effect of creating uneven playing fields when you try to stimulate development," said Estes, who has criticized some tax incentives recently awarded by the Wichita City Council. "Our goal is to help people understand what these decisions are and what their impact is."

O'Toole will also speak at the Wichita Pachyderm Club's meeting Friday at 11:45 a.m. on the 9th floor of the Bank of America Center building at 100 N. Broadway. The cost for the speech and lunch is \$10.

By Brent Wistrom

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