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Voice For Liberty in Wichita

Individual liberty, limited government, and free markets in Wichita and Kansas

Urban planning to be explored in Wichita

by Bob Weeks on [January 28, 2010](#)

in [Wichita city government](#)

As [Wichita](#) is presently engaged in a [downtown planning process](#) that holds the promise of more centralized planning, more government spending, and [tax increases](#), Wichitans need to be aware of alternatives.

Noted author and Cato Institute Senior Fellow [Randal O'Toole](#) will be in Wichita next week for several events. O'Toole is author of [The Best-Laid Plans: How Government Planning Harms Your Quality of Life, Your Pocketbook, and Your Future](#) and more recently [Gridlock: Why We're Stuck in Traffic and What to Do About It](#).

O'Toole's biography at the Cato Institute states:

Randal O'Toole is a Cato Institute Senior Fellow working on urban growth, public land, and transportation issues. O'Toole's research on national forest management, culminating in his 1988 book, *Reforming the Forest Service*, has had a major influence on Forest Service policy and on-the-ground management. His analysis of urban land-use and transportation issues, brought together in his 2001 book, *The Vanishing Automobile and Other Urban Myths*, has influenced decisions in cities across the country. In his most recent book, *The Best-Laid Plans*, O'Toole calls for repealing federal, state, and local planning laws and proposes reforms that can help solve social and environmental problems without heavy-handed government regulation. O'Toole is the author of numerous Cato papers. He has also written for *Regulation* magazine as well as op-eds and articles for numerous other national journals and newspapers. O'Toole travels extensively and has spoken about free-market environmental issues dozens of cities. An Oregon native, O'Toole was educated in forestry at Oregon State University and in economics at the University of Oregon.

O'Toole will deliver a free public lecture titled "Is There a Better Alternative to Urban Planning?" on Thursday February 4. The location is the Bank of America auditorium at Douglas and Broadway, starting at 7:00 pm.

The [Kansas chapter of Americans for Prosperity](#) is the sponsor for this event. While there is no charge for admission to the lecture, it is helpful if those planning to attend would register by clicking on [Is There a Better Alternative to Urban Planning?](#)

Tagged as: [Downtown Wichita revitalization](#), [Wichita city government](#)