

Save Century II Newsletter

This is our first newsletter and we have a lot to report! We held our first meeting in the Mary Jane Teall theater on September 17, 2019. Our panel consisted of Greg Kite, President of Historic Preservation Alliance, Dean Bradley, Pratt & Bradley Architects, Dee Starkey, local historian, and Celeste Racette, community arts supporter. The talking points were as follows:

1. Wichita would lose significant economic opportunities if Century II were destroyed
2. The loss of this iconic building would be a waste of resources
3. Community arts groups use Century II - it cannot be left dark
4. The process to alter 70 acres of east river bank should be open and transparent

The City of Wichita has contracted with Opportunity Wichita (Todd Voth, Senior Principal) and Populous ("Consultants") to put a public relations firm, Bothner and Bradley, in between the citizens and public information. Their budget is \$700,000. Our grass roots effort was started after it became apparent this was a closed and controlled process designed to avoid government accountability. We have a Facebook page called **Save Century II**. We're trying to keep it updated with radio interviews, podcasts, and local TV station broadcasts. **Our goal is to let the people of Wichita decide what should happen to our public property.** We are filing Kansas Open Records Act to obtain answers to questions regarding this development. We are also nominating Century II for historic status which would help with tax credits and renovation costs.

Please help us! We have been paying for meeting rental, facility insurance, newspaper ads, flyers, projector rental, and venue costs. We don't get funds from the City! We are giving away Save Century II t-shirts with a minimum \$20 donation to the Historic Preservation Alliance. Please use the attached order form. Our next meeting is October 22, Tuesday, at 5:30 p.m. in the Mary Jane Teall theater. More announcements will follow.

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