



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Chartered flight to Chattanooga, TN and Jacksonville, FL

Chattanooga's Workforce

- Met with representatives from Chattanooga State Community College, Hamilton County Department of Education and the Public Education Foundation to discuss how Chattanooga is meeting the workforce demands of their business community and preparing for future needs.
- Focused on the changing landscape of their economy with manufacturing growth and preparing their current workforce for those jobs. A new plan has been created and being implemented called Chattanooga 2.0 to prepare their current population and workforce for the 10,000+ jobs coming to Chattanooga.

Tour and Overview of the Lamp Post Group

- A venture incubator that provides both capital and mentorship to growing startups. Also toured a recently renovated property, the Tomorrow Building, which is providing micro unit co living space in the innovation district.

Tour of Volkswagen Academy Training Center and Overview of Volkswagen

- Featured a panel discussion with several members responsible for bringing Volkswagen to Chattanooga on the impact of building an international auto manufacturing plant in your community.
- Learned about the newly launched Volkswagen Academy that is providing high school students the opportunity to be educated on Volkswagen's campus Monday through Thursday and return to their original high school on Friday - students earn 40 credit hours toward an associate degree in Mechatronics upon graduation.
- Several attendees are exploring the idea of applying the Academy model to our community.

Regional Partnerships

- Jerry Mallott, JAXUSA Partnership discussed the Jacksonville area and took our group through the process of how they recruit business to Jacksonville.

North Florida TPO- Regional Traffic Management Center

- Executive Director, Jeff Sheffield hosted a tour through the state of the art traffic management center which houses 10 agencies under one roof. One of the many takeaways of this briefing was that we should focus on consistency in traffic management.

Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) Glynco Briefing and Tour

- Unique tour of FLETC to see firsthand how our federal law enforcement is trained, featuring several tours and demonstrations including visits to the virtual gun range, training city and intermodal facility.