



## 435 South: Mary Birch on Collaboration, Building Consensus and Jobs

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Johnson County has been my home since 1976. I have gone from being the new gal from rural Kansas to almost a native. I relish every time I meet someone who was born and grew up here, went away and has come back to raise their family and be near their parents. They are the ultimate compliment to everyone's hard work.

For 18 years I ran the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce and the last seven years I've been the government relations coordinator at Lathrop Gage law firm in Overland Park. These two wonderful opportunities have given me a front-row seat to witness one of the most dynamic community-building efforts in the country. [Read more ...](#)