

Cleveland mayor promotes city to sister city in France

Posted by [jdubail](#) July 08, 2008 15:22PM

Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's international marketing tour resumed today with a trip to Rouen, France.

There, Jackson plans to officially launch a previously announced sister-city relationship with Rouen, which is located in the Upper Normandy region.

Earlier this year, Jean-Michel Guyard, Rouen's deputy mayor, led a delegation to Cleveland to meet with Jackson and establish local contacts with local companies. Jackson, who is expected to return to City Hall on Monday, hopes the partnership with Rouen spurs economic development here.

"It's about recognizing our strengths and building relationships that have the capacity to produce mutually beneficial results," the mayor said in a news release. "We must bring Cleveland to the world; we are open for business like never before."

The Cleveland and Rouen regions already share the presence of several companies, including Lincoln Electric, Lubrizol and MTD Products.

Joining Jackson in France are his government affairs chief, Valarie McCall, as well as representatives from the Positively Cleveland tourism bureau, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, the Cleveland Clinic and other organizations.

The trip is the latest of several recent visits the mayor has made in hopes of selling Cleveland to foreign investors. In May he and City Council President Martin J. Sweeney traveled aboard Continental Airlines' first flight from Hopkins International Airport to Paris. Prior to that, the mayor went to Costa Rica to seal a trade deal.

Categories: [Breaking News](#)

Comments

CollinwoodRL says...

Yes, come to Cleveland and get robbed or murdered. It sounds like a paid vacation to me. Must be taking his queues from Ms. Tubbs.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:31PM

westernone says...

Frank is truly an idiot!

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:32PM

lobo540 says...

I didn't realize that Frace had a city in which crime was rampid and the politicians and judges gave everybody a free pass. Good job Frank! It's not like there are any issues that need your attention here at home. Sounds like Jane Campbell all over again. I guess you poor residents of Cleveland will just have to get used to this type of behavior...Until you wise up and vote Republican that is!

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:38PM

kpiper1980 says...

I sure hope they dont want to mix any French Police force into the city! They will surrender to the thugs in no time.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:43PM

kpiper1980 says...

Soap and Razors = French Kryptonite

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:51PM

DannyOcean01 says...

Have any Ebonics-French dictionaries been produced yet?

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:56PM

migueld says...

Wait a minute: give credit where it's due. The man is actually trying to secure business for the region and people are bitching?

I'm the furthest thing from a Frank Jackson fan, but are you kidding me with these complaints? This should be 80% of his time----selling/promoting the city. What else would you have him doing? I think I'd rather he leave the policing to the police. His interference only hurts us.

Get him out there and spend the money he would inevitably spend anyway in a positive way to try and attract business. Frankly, I would rather have him out of town.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:58PM

willteachyou says...

Frank Jackson is on the road to Rouen?

Posted on 07/08/08 at 3:59PM

carguy1 says...

FEE- FI- FO- FUM (That's Frankie reciting his telephone number.)

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:03PM

ban4life says...

Can our sister wire large sums of cash?

no dollars, send euros, they are worth more.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:07PM

Liberal4life says...

is there relocation available?

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:14PM

rhbole says...

Not a bad idea, but we really need to do some basic stuff here first, like:

- 1.) Streamline the regulatory/permitting process. It's not that we have too many rules, just that the city is incompetent at administering the regulations we have, so they seem worse than they are. For instance, it takes about 7 months to get permits to build a building that needs variances in this city, while other areas (gasp, even Europe!) do it in 1/3 that amount of time.
- 2.) Work to ensure adequate response times for public services (so, for instance, when you call a cop for a vehicle theft they actually respond in a timely manner).
- 3.) Make sure we have basic city services like municipal waste collection (with a decent recycling program) and street cleaning.
- 4.) Improve the quality of our labor force so that at least some of our people are actually qualified for the jobs companies might bring.

I would think these would all be prerequisites for serious business investment.

- A downtown resident

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:19PM

kpiper1980 says...

I hate France! We save them in two world wars and when we go visit they are rude! And then when we need some assistance with Iraq they are no help. I think people should boycott France

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:38PM

crazymaking says...

Maybe what Frank will learn there is how tax dollars are spent on the citizens and not empire building wars. They have a mass transit system that puts us to shame.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 4:46PM

2mcurmudgeon says...

Leave it to the suburbanites to slam the big city mayor for doing his job. I found the comparison to Campbell particularly enlightening, given how little promotion of the City of Cleveland she engaged in. If you don't have a clue of what you speak, shut your mouth.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 5:23PM

scottCLE says...

It's you idiots who post on this site that give Cleveland a bad reputation!

How come you manage to find fault in everything that is done? MAN!!!

Posted on 07/08/08 at 5:50PM

buckeyedawgs says...

Too many of these posters need to see REAL results from a Mayor; not jetting off to Costa Rica securing a port deal, or luring a German wind-power company to base it's U.S. HQ's here..

NO, they need to see real results! You know, like some shiny new smokestacks.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 5:50PM

alexrn says...

i support mayor jackson promoting cleveland to anyone who will invest in the city. bringing businesses to cleveland will only help.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 6:09PM

Realityor0 says...

Only Repubs can complain about Dems being anti-business and at the sametime complain when a Dem tries to lure business here. Repubs should be ashamed of themselves.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 6:10PM

blitz234 says...

Frank you ##### idiot why don't clean up your own house first before you invite guest. When your new American hating friends from France arrive you could tell them about the well manned Police, Fire and Ems system you have instead of lying. You could tell them how the people and all the city of Cleveland employees love you because of all the great things you have done instead of lying. Tell them

they don't have to worry about being robbed or killed or approached by a drug dealer because you have got rid of the crime in Cleveland instead of lying. Tell them how the city has a surplus of money and you can take trips anywhere you want to instead of lying. Frank get your butt back to Cleveland and take care of your problems here so you don't have to lie....

Posted on 07/08/08 at 6:31PM

DannyOcean01 says...

Posted by miguel on 07/08/08 at 3:58PM

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The problem is, what kind of image does Frank Jackson project as mayor of the city of Cleveland when visiting other places? Answer - that of an inarticulate, uneducated, bumbling fool. Does that image reflect his constituents fairly? Ummm, yes. Therefore, how would Frank Jackson visiting other places as Cleveland's ambassador do anything other than reinforce Cleveland's image as a national/world laughing stock? Clevelanders need to put the cart before the horse and elect a mayor who can actually speak and appear presentable before attempting to go on PR blitzes.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 6:39PM

Scrivo says...

Because Cleveland has a bad neighborhood where 90% of the crime occurs, it's not worthy of building international relationships? Show me any city with no crime or else quit your jealous whining.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 8:32PM

Fatzo says...

why is our mayor in France? For crying out loud come home and clean up your own backyard before you start looking at other cities in POTHER FREAKING COUNTRIES!!!! And you wanna know why Cleveland is hurting business wise.....clueless politicians!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Posted on 07/08/08 at 8:49PM

dannykeene says...

With all of old europe to visit with cheap europasses, I'm sure that those pretentious, american hating frogs are just chomping at the bit to visit cleveland.

Oh, the Cleveland Clinic? I thought that those advanced societies in europe had free welfare for their citizens. Why, with their utopian social medicine, would they come across the pond for american hospitals. Tell me that you democrat.

Good job frank, there hasn't been a more ridiculous european vacation since the griswalds went there in the 80s.

Posted on 07/08/08 at 10:38PM

rigggs says...

ubadah ubadah.. da problem is we do's have a problem. We be knowin wat dah solution is too. Problem is dat we aint be doin anything about it.

Posted on 07/09/08 at 12:26AM

Footer