



## **KC2026 Hosts FIFA Delegation for Site Visit and Game Day Experience in Kansas City**

**KANSAS CITY, MO (September 26, 2023)** – KC2026, the nonprofit entity charged with fulfilling Kansas City’s Host City requirements for FIFA World Cup 26™, recently completed a site visit with key FIFA and FIFA26 representatives as part of an operational tour which began last week in Miami and ends with Vancouver in early November.

On Sunday, September 24, the KC2026 Board of Directors welcomed a group of over 30 FIFA and FIFA26 experts from key operational areas, from transport and stadium operations to hospitality and pitch management. The delegation later attended the Kansas City Chiefs vs. Chicago Bears game, providing them with an example of the energy, excitement and passion fans bring to the beloved NFL venue, as well as giving them a chance to see some of the venue’s operational services and facilities in action on a match day.

The following day, FIFA evaluated training sites around the Kansas City area and met with local stakeholders including the KCATA, Kansas City Aviation Department, KCPD, Kansas City Streetcar Authority and the Department of Homeland Security. Topics of discussion focused on the stadium, host city operations and training sites, but also encompassed transportation and traffic management, Kansas City International Airport, safety and security, team base camps, turf management and FIFA Fan Festival.

Photos from the site visit are available [here](#) and should be credited to KC2026.

“This was an incredible opportunity to not only discuss critical topics of importance related to the ongoing planning and operationalization of KC2026, but also reinforce what makes Kansas City special,” said Katherine Holland, KC2026 Executive Director. “Thank you to all the individuals and organizations who participated in meetings with our colleagues from FIFA and FIFA26. I continue to be delighted and gratified by the enthusiastic support of our entire region.”

In 2026, three host countries, 16 Host Cities, 48 teams and 104 matches will deliver the most inclusive and diverse sporting event ever, uniting the entire world on a huge stage and engaging millions of fans across 16 stadiums and billions worldwide. The much-loved four-team group stage is retained and leads into an expanded knockout phase that will see the world’s 32 best national teams fight it out for the game’s ultimate prize.

Claudio Cailá Müller, Executive Director Operations, FIFA World Cup 2026™, said: “It was great to be with the various delivery teams in Kansas City to see how their operational plans have been developing, and meet with our key counterparts across a range of functions as we all work together to deliver the biggest FIFA World Cup ever in under three years’ time. We’d like to thank the entire Kansas City team for their dedication and enthusiasm to the project, as well as the amazing experience we all had at the Kansas City Chiefs game. It’s a fantastic sporting venue that we know is going to offer fans something special during the FIFA World Cup in 2026.”

#### **About KC2026**

A nonprofit organization overseeing strategy and delivering host city duties for FIFA World Cup 26™, KC2026 will plan, construct and implement all aspects of Kansas City’s largest sports and fan engagement event in the region’s history. Learn more at [www.KansasCityFWC26.com](http://www.KansasCityFWC26.com)

#### **About Greater Kansas City**

Home to 2.5 million people, Kansas City is a vibrant metro in the heart of the U.S., known as the “KC Heartland.” An all-new single terminal at Kansas City International Airport welcomes guests by air, while 85% of the U.S. is less than a two-day drive away. The region’s red-hot sports culture is embraced every season, headlined by the Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City Royals, Major League Soccer’s Sporting Kansas City, and the National Women’s Soccer League’s Kansas City Current.

Home to renowned arts and culture, experience live entertainment in Downtown Kansas City’s Power & Light District, as well as 40 jazz clubs throughout the area. Find food from James Beard award-winning chefs and sample true KC tradition at more than 100 barbecue restaurants across the metro. Dive into some of the country’s most significant historical moments at KC’s treasured institutions, from the National WWI Museum and Memorial and the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the American Jazz Museum. Learn more at [www.KC.org](http://www.KC.org)

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