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Date: 9/17/2014 12:04:33 AM
Subject: Prt 57 m

Duane what proof and stats do you have this 57m tax payer investment is paying off so far? As i stated in my email I see no way possible this will work based on the way people with money to spend search the Internet and use technology . I repeat very few search a State for info versus a city. Its obvious Kevin Meany and BFG had no clue about this . I don't want to publicly embarrass you , but you were quoted saying MB , Charleston and Hilton head had the money to promote themselves and this 57 m was going to be used to promote other tourism destinations in SC . Exactly what other destinations ? Again you must use these 3 major destinations to even have a chance to introduce other parts of SC to tourist . However getting them to do so with BBQ trail over seafood ,the ocean and the fact the best BBQ restaurants are also located in these 3 cities and along the coast as well is not going to be easy .

What we need to do in rural areas and many cities in SC is create jobs versus decay of our cities , hopelessness and crime . Building any meaningful numbers of tourism in non coastal areas and our rural areas and non coastal cities is not possible . Sorry to be the bearer of bad news.

Further sad to inform you , but BBQ in SC is inferior to many other states and SC actually has very few high quality real fire pit BBQ restaurants . It also has very few 3-5 star hotels outside of our major resort and city areas . I am very concerned about this . Our only strength and hope to compete with Florida is our coastal areas and seafood not a BBQ sandwich . Texas, NC , Tenn, Ala , even Fla have far superior BBQ . In fact the world BBQ championships is in Memphis .

Kevin Meany has no track record of success in the destination marketing business and this is now much more obvious . I have been in the destination marketing business and tourism publication business for 40 yrs . Further one of my hobbies is cooking and eating great BBQ and I have attended the World Championships in Memphis . We have a saying "Where there is no smoke there is no BBQ " electric oven massed produced BBQ is not BBQ and this is mainly what SC has .

When I attended the Governors conference on tourism and listened to his company presentations I knew then our 57 m would be in trouble . Is this 57m for 6 yr contract or 57m per year for 6 yrs ?

I certainly am open to being proven wrong and apologize if I am .

I have Cced a world renounced travel and tourism expert John Buchanan . John also is an expert on Chambers and CVBs . I have hired Johns services to guide me in areas I am not an expert in.

Between John and I we have 80 yrs of knowledge .

Also I again repeat SC prt can not sell ads competing for those ad dollars and budgets in competition with SC media . Thx

Sent from iPhone excuse all typos / misspellings 80% mobile

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