

Contact: Meg Kelsey
City of LaGrange
Phone 7068832013
suggestions@lagrangega.org

200 Ridley Avenue
LaGrange, GA 30240



Press Release

State and local officials visit China

LaGrange, GA, January 25, 2017: In September 2016, Sentury Tire, a Chinese tire manufacturer based in Qingdao, China, announced plans to open its first US manufacturing facility in LaGrange.

To celebrate the decision by Sentury Tire and to continue working toward the opening of the plant, state and local officials visited China last week.

LaGrange Mayor Jim Thornton joined the delegation, as well as Scott Malone, President of the LaGrange Development Authority.



"We enjoyed meeting with the leadership of Sentury Tire in Qingdao as we continue to work toward the opening of their plant here in LaGrange. They are making a tremendous investment in our community, and we want to help them be successful," said Mayor Thornton.

The delegation was led by Pat Wilson, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, and, in addition to the local officials, also included members of the state's economic development team and representatives of Georgia Power Company, which assisted with the recruitment of Sentury.

"The decision by Sentury to locate in LaGrange was a big win for Georgia. We had a very successful visit with their senior leadership last week, and I am particularly grateful that Mayor Thornton and Scott Malone were able to join us" said Commissioner Wilson.

In addition to the visit to Sentury Tire, the delegation also visited government officials and other Chinese firms that may have interest in Georgia.

"Since the announcement by Sentury Tire, we have been approached by other Chinese businesses interested in LaGrange and also by a city in China that is interested in establishing a sister-city linkage. I believe this is only the beginning," added President Malone.

Sentury Tire plans to invest 530 million dollars and create more than 1000 jobs in LaGrange. The plant is scheduled to open in late 2018.

For more information contact Scott Malone at LaGrange Development Authority:
smalone@lagrangega.org or +706 883 2049.