



DRAFT MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING

May 28, 2008, 7:30 a.m.

San Tan Conference Room

1. Call to order

Present:

Council Member Mortensen	Town of Queen Creek
John Schroeder	CGCC Williams Campus
Roseann Sweet	Queen Creek Resident
John Larson	Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce
Steve Sossaman	Queen Creek Resident
Jean Humphries	Arizona State University
Jason Barney	Land Developer
Carson Brown	Vanderbilt Farms
Dr. James Murlless	Queen Creek Unified School District
David Valenzuela	Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport
Doreen Cott	Town of Queen Creek
Kim Moyers	Town of Queen Creek
Wayne Balmer	Town of Queen Creek
Jim Nelson	SRP

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Items for Discussion

- A. A MOTION was made by Commissioner Schroeder, seconded by Commissioner Barney, to approve the minutes dated March 26, 2008. Voice carried 9-0.
- B. A presentation was given by Mark Young, Intergovernmental Liaison for the Town of Queen Creek, on the Williams Gateway Freeway (SR802).

Key Points:

- Out of the 4 different alignments that were considered, alignment 2 and 4 will be moving forward.
- Alignment 2 offers the greatest benefit to the City of Mesa.
- Alignment 4 will have greater impacts for Queen Creek; combines with the proposed north/south freeway and offers better access for new population growth. The Town of Florence, Apache Junction and Pinal County will have interest in this option as well.
- Alignment 4 will move more people and help with transportation problems. It will also provide economic development for Pinal County.
- No timing has been established and there is currently no funding for the freeway east of Meridian Road.
- The environmental assessment on alignments 2 and 4 will take approximately 2-3 years to complete.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Sossaman, seconded by Commissioner Barney, for the Economic Development Commission to support the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for Alignment 4 of the Williams Gateway Freeway. Voice vote carried 9-0.

- C. A presentation was given by David Valenzuela, Economic Development and Marketing Manager for Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport on the Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport Strategic Plan.

Key Points:

- Copies of the Master Plan Concept and Strategic Business Plan were distributed.
 - New companies to the airport include Cessna, Hawker Beechcraft and Embraer.
 - 400 new jobs will be created.
 - Arizona Direct, a marketing program for the entire area, will be rolled out soon.
 - Allegiant Airlines is currently offering flights to 12 destinations (24 flights a week) with plans to expand up to 40 flights a week. Vision Airlines is currently offering 3 flights a week.
- D. The Economic Development Commission Bylaws were distributed to the commission members. Clarification has been added for liaison members, designated seats, non-designated seats and term of office. Economic Development Director Doreen Cott proposed that the Commission elect a new chair, vice chair and work program at the July meeting.
- E. Due to time restraints, no update was given on the sub-committee for Arts, Culture and Experience and will be given at the next meeting.
- F. Summary of current events –
- Economic Development Director Doreen Cott reported that the Banner Ironwood Medical Center has broken ground on Phase I. The BIMC is located at Combs and Gantzel Roads. Banner Health has requested annexation into the Town of Queen Creek.
 - Planning Manager Wayne Balmer provided an update on the Mesa Gateway Strategic Development Plan and conversations between City of Mesa and Queen Creek on land uses along Germann Road and the Queen Creek Road alignment.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.