

# **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Steering Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, September 4, 2007 – 10 AM  
Globe-Miami Chamber of Commerce  
1360 N. Broad St.  
Globe, AZ 85501

## **Attendees:**

Barbara Ganz, Payson Regional Economic Development Corp.  
Jess Knudson, Town of Florence  
Scott Powell, Town of Florence  
Bill Marshall, Arizona Public Service  
Ed Carpenter, Sunstate Bank  
Doreen Cott, Queen Creek  
Melanie Oliver, Town of Superior  
Martin O’Haus, City of Eloy  
Chris Martin, Southern Gila County Economic Development Corporation  
Russ Tronstad, University of Arizona, Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics

## **CAAG Staff:**

Craig Ringer

## **MINUTES**

### **I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Barbara Ganz called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. All provided self-introductions.

### **II. COMMENTS FROM THE VICE-CHAIR**

Ms. Ganz addressed the need for data at levels smaller than county-wide and asked for assistance from anyone who might come across data at these more detailed levels.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 19, 2006**

Ed Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 30, 2007 meeting. Doreen Cott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. 2007 CEDS UPDATE REVIEW**

Mr. Ringer briefed the Committee on the CEDS update process. He mentioned that he is currently trying to incorporate Job Centers for Kearny, Mammoth, and Payson and asked that, if completed prior to the next Management Committee

meeting, they could be included with this year's update. He also stated that Vice-chair, Jim Nelson, had suggested changing the title of "Job Centers" to "Employment Centers" as this is the wording that EDA prefers. Committee members agreed to the above conditions.

A motion to approve the CEDS Update was made by Jess Knudson and seconded by Doreen Cott. The motion passed unanimously.

## **V. EDA EMPLOYMENT CENTER GRANT STATUS**

Craig explained to the Committee that he had met with Jacob Macias of EDA's Regional Office in Seattle at the recent Governor's Conference on Rural Development in Oro Valley. He stated that EDA is apparently interested in funding this project that would look at the CAAG Region on a more local basis and study Employment Centers- existing and needed- and determine target industries/businesses for each area. Mr. Ringer doesn't expect any real activity to occur until after the first of the year, if the project is funded, due to the length of time it would take to submit an application and receive final approval and a contract. He further stated that most EDA projects are to be completed within a year from the signing of the contract.

## **VI. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS**

Russ Tronstad of the University of Arizona's Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, provided a Power Point presentation to the Committee detailing agriculture's contributions to the economies of Gila and Pinal Counties as well as the State and nation. He made his presentation available to anyone who would like to have a copy.

Mr. Tronstad also extended an invitation to attend the Agriculture Business Forum which will be held at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino on November 15, 2007.

## **VII. EDA FUNDING AWARDED TO ARIZONA**

Mr. Ringer distributed a handout he received from Jacob Macias of EDA detailing the history of EDA funding to the state of Arizona since 2000.

## **VIII. TOURISM STRATEGY UPDATE**

Craig informed the Committee that 2007 marks five years since the original *Regional Tourism Marketing Strategy* was approved by Regional Council. He further informed those present that the original plan called for a five-year update. Mr. Ringer stated that, as there is no funding dedicated to this update, it would be necessary to produce a basic revision. Members recommended that, at the very minimum, the goals and objectives be specifically addressed. It was also

emphasized that many changes have taken place within the two counties over the past five years and that an update now would be very timely.

**IX. COMMUNITY PPROJECT/PROGRAM UPDATES**

Attendees provided updates regarding their community's/organization's activities as related to economic development.

**X. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be scheduled for sometime in either December or January.

**XI. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.