

# Economic Development Advisory Board Regular Meeting

June 11, 2025 | 8:30 a.m.

UA Chandler Campus | 3rd Floor  
55 N. Arizona Pl., Chandler, Arizona 85225



## Board Members

Jen Hewitt  
Rommie Mojahed  
Ryan Smith  
Julie Graham  
Ron Hardin  
Marc Valenzuela  
Jacob Knudsen  
Lana Berry  
Kari Zurn  
Neil Calfee  
Christopher Dobson  
Raj Chakraborty  
Anthony Deard  
Michael Mobley

Pursuant to Resolution No. 4464 of the City of Chandler and to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Economic Development Advisory Board and to the general public that the Economic Development Advisory Board will hold a REGULAR MEETING open to the public on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., at University of Arizona Chandler Campus, 55 N. Arizona Pl, Chandler, AZ. One or more Board Members may be attending by telephone. The Chandler City Council has been invited, and a quorum may attend. No action will be taken by the City Council.

Persons with disabilities may request a reasonable modification or communication aids and services by contacting the City Clerk's office at (480) 782-2181(711 via AZRS). Please make requests in advance as it affords the City time to accommodate the request.

Agendas are available in the Office of the City Clerk, 175 S. Arizona Avenue.

# **Economic Development Advisory Board Regular Meeting Agenda - June 11, 2025**

## **Call to Order/Roll Call**

## **Unscheduled Public Appearances**

Members of the audience may address any item not on the agenda. State Statute prohibits the Board or Commission from discussing an item that is not on the agenda, but the Board or Commission does listen to your concerns and has staff follow up on any questions you raise.

## **Consent Agenda**

Items listed on the Consent Agenda may be enacted by one motion and one vote. If a discussion is required by members of the Board or Commission, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion and determination will be made if the item will be considered separately.

1. March 5 2025 Economic Development Advisory Board Minutes

## **Action Agenda**

2. Move to elect Board Chair and Vice-Chair

## **Briefing**

3. City of Chandler Board and Commission Message - Mayor Kevin Hartke
4. Dignity Health Update - Brian Galle, VP of Operations at Dignity Health
5. Chandler Fashion Center Update - Jacob Knudsen, Vice President of Real Estate and Monica Greenman, General Manager of Macerich

## **Member Comments/Announcements**

## **Calendar**

6. The next Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

## **Adjourn**





**Economic Development Advisory Board**

**Economic Development**

**Date:** 06/11/2025

**To:** Economic Development Advisory Board

**From:** Chelsey Faggiano, Economic Development Project Manager

**Subject:** Approval of minutes for the Economic Development Advisory Board meeting held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025

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**Attachments**

March 2025 Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER,  
ARIZONA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025, HELD IN-PERSON AT CHANDLER CITY HALL, 175 S.  
ARIZONA AVE., CHANDLER, ARIZONA.

Board Present: Kari Zurn, Chairwoman  
Julie Graham, Vice-Chair  
Micah Miranda, Secretary  
Neil Calfee, Board Member  
Anthony Deard, Board Member  
Chris Dobson, Board Member  
Jennifer Hewitt, Board Member  
Mike Mobley, Board Member  
Rommie Mojahed, Board Member  
Karla Moran, Board Member  
Dan Serrano, Board Member  
Ryan Smith, Board Member  
Terri Kimble, Ex-Officio

Board Absent: Raj Chakraborty, Board Member  
Ron Hardin, Board Member  
Jacob Knudsen, Board Member  
Joshua Wright, Ex-Officio

Others Present: Andy Bass, Deputy City Manager  
Joe Abeita, Economic Development  
Chandler Escalante, Economic Development  
Chelsey Faggiano, Economic Development  
Odette Moore, Economic Development  
Caly Strickler, Economic Development  
Michael Winer, Economic Development

1. Call to Order/Roll Call  
Ms. Kari Zurn called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes  
Mr. Ryan Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from Wednesday, December 11, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chris Dobson. Minutes approved unanimously.
3. Action Items  
None.
4. Briefing Items
  - A. Chandler Career Center Updates  
Chandler Escalante, Economic Development Workforce Project Manager, provided an overview of the Chandler Career Center.

He began with a timeline of the program development and launch. He said City Council authorized one-time funding to create a position to focus on workforce development initiatives in July 2023. He was hired in October 2023 and was tasked with working with PipelineAZ to develop the Chandler Career Center online platform. He said the platform is designed to serve job seekers and local employers and was officially launched in April 2024. At launch, the focus was on advanced manufacturing employers looking for top talent, but it has since expanded to other target industries. The pool of job seekers looking for rewarding careers has also grown over time.

He then outlined workforce development efforts to onboard employers and job seekers onto the Chandler Career Center:

- Hosting an advanced manufacturing career expo with companies utilizing the Chandler Career Center and two other job fairs for local employers with planned layoffs.
- Hosting four Lunch and Learn events to help Chandler employers publish current job openings.
- Developing a Transferable Skills Workshop Series in partnership with Arizona State University to offer upskilling opportunities for job seekers.
- Monthly meet ups at the Downtown Chandler Public Library to assist job seekers with local employment opportunities.
- Meetings at local high schools to help students looking to enter the workforce.
- Attending quarterly Chandler4 Workforce meetings with community partners, including Chandler Gilbert Community College, Chandler Unified School District and the Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

He concluded by sharing workforce performance metrics (as of February 2025): 41 total companies and 641 job seekers utilizing the Chandler Career Center, 506 jobs posted, and 11 partnered workforce development events.

#### B. UA Chandler Programming Update

An update on University of Arizona (UA) programs at the Chandler campus was provided by Mike Mobley, UA Regional Manager of Maricopa County. Mr. Mobley began with an overview of the Outreach, Distance & Continuing Education (ODCE) annual report, which reflects the university's commitment to providing renowned educational opportunity to a myriad of learners. The report highlights shared that ODCE locations have supported:

- 4,500 total learners
- Learners between the ages of 15-98
- 45+ undergraduate & graduate programs
- 60+ certificate programs & short courses

Mr. Mobley then gave an overview of the Near Year Network, which has two locations in Maricopa County (Chandler and Gilbert) and additional locations

in Douglas, Nogales and Yuma County. He said the university offers locally focused programs led by elite, world-class faculty for working students.

He then provided an update on the UA Chandler Campus, stating it has been successful with nearly 85 students currently enrolled and over 400 students visiting the campus annually. He added the university will be launching the following new programs at UA Chandler:

- Project Management PMP Exam Prep
- Spanish/English Translation and Interpretation
- A full-time and part-time MSBA program
- Mining Engineering & Criminal Justice

He concluded by saying the UA Chandler campus will be receiving IT updates for offices and classrooms and they are looking forward to welcoming new students to Chandler.

5. Advisory Boardmember Comments

Terri Kimble reminded the board of the following upcoming events — Ostrich Festival March 14-16 and 21-23; Small Business Expo April 2; Evolving Trade Landscape Workshop April 22 and Michael Pollack Economic Update April 24.

6. Next Meeting

Ms. Zurn announced the next Economic Development Advisory Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. A calendar invite will be sent to all board members in advance.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Zurn adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kari Zurn, Chairwoman

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Micah Miranda, Board Secretary