AGENDA

Economic Development Commission

San Tan Conference Room

22358 S. Ellsworth Road

October 22, 2025 | 7:30 AM

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 notice is hereby given that the Economic Development Commission will hold a meeting open to the public as set forth above. The presiding officer may modify the order of Agenda Items and/or address items in a sequenced deemed appropriate. Commission and staff may participate in this meeting in person, telephonically, or electronically. Physical access to the meeting space will be available 15-minutes prior to the meeting start time.

Accessibility:
The Town of Queen Creek is committed to making its public meetings accessible to individuals with disabilities. For special accommodations, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 480-358-3000 / TownClerk@QueenCreekAZ.gov or the Arizona Relay Service at 7-1-1 at least 72-hours prior to the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. INTRODUCTIONS

4. PUBLIC COMMENT *Members of the public may comment on items not on the agenda. Please observe a time limit of three minutes. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.*

5. ITEMS FOR DICSUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Consideration and possible approval of April 23, 2025 and July 23, 2025 Minutes.

B. Discussion and possible action on the Chair and Vice Chair with terms beginning October 22, 2025 and ending October 28, 2026.

C. Discussion and possible approval of the Annual Work Plan priorities for FY26.

D. Presentation and discussion on the Transportation Master Plan.

E. Presentation and update on projects in the development pipeline.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Summary of current events - Reports from Chair, Commission Members and Economic Development staff.

7. ADJOURNMENT

5.A

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK ARIZONA

TO:	**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**
FROM:	**DOREEN COTT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**
RE:	**CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF APRIL 23, 2025 AND JULY 23, 2025 MINUTES.**
DATE:	**October 22, 2025**

Suggested Action:

Approve the April 23, 2025 and July 23, 2025 Minutes.

Attachment(s):

1. Joint Meeting of the Economic Development Commission and Downtown Arts & Placemaking Advisory Committee Minutes.pdf
2. Economic Development Commission April 23, 2025 Minutes.pdf

MINUTES

Joint Meeting of the Economic Development Commission

and Downtown Arts & Placemaking Advisory Committee

San Tan Conference Room | 22358 S. Ellsworth Road

July 23, 2025 | 7:30 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Economic Development Commission Chair Tayrien at 7:32 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

PRESENT:
Chair Grant Tayrien
Commissioner Nancy Horman
Commissioner Jason Barney
Commissioner Perry Berry
Commissioner Brian McKean
Commissioner Shane Randall
Commissioner Jenna Kahl
Commissioner Connor Schnepf
Commissioner John Rea
Commissioner Brent White
Commissioner Neil Calfee

ABSENT:
Vice Chair Marc Valenzuela
Commissioner Chris Clark
Commissioner Derek Neighbors
Commissioner Nate Knight
Council Member Jeff Brown – Council Liaison
Commissioner Troy Young – Planning and Zoning Liaison

DOWNTOWN ARTS AND PLACEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PRESENT:
Chair Brian McKean
Vice Chair Whitney Tolle
Committee Member Jaren Beauchamp
Council Member Travis Padilla – Council Liaison

ABSENT:
Committee Member Valerie Done
Committee Member Lisa Collins
Committee Member Allegri
Committee Member Nimisha Patel-Sciascia

3. INTRODUCTIONS

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

5. ITEMS FOR DICSUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Presentation and discussion on the Tourism Strategic Plan.

Doreen Cott, Economic Development Director, introduced the item and noted that the Town Council directed staff to take over the Tourism program for the Town. Agritainment tourism is identified as one of the tourism sectors in the Strategic Plan. Tourism is important for driving growth in the Town and diversifying the tax base. Ms. Cott reviewed the Town's unique destinations, selling points, and local cuisine and products. Ms. Cott said staff worked with the Arizona Office of Tourism to establish the Town as a Destination Marketing Organization which then allows staff to apply for grants. Staff established baseline metrics to see how they improve year-over-year. Ms. Cott reviewed the grants that the Town received and the projects that were completed with them. Ms. Cott reviewed different conferences and networking events that staff participated in over the last year and how they engage with local partners.

Ms. Cott spoke about how they chose a consultant to work with, and the result was a one-page strategic plan. There were three phases of the project which included focus groups and surveys about the Town, planning sessions, and finalization of the plan with an internal team comprised of staff from Economic Development and Communications & Marketing. Ms. Cott gave an overview of feedback and participation from the community. Ms. Cott said there is a desire for clear guidelines of how funds will be used. Ms. Cott provided the Commission and Committee with a copy of the strategic plan and reviewed the new goals, objectives, and initiatives. One of the next steps is to create a marketing plan to increase visitors and determine key marketing messages.

Commissioner Randall asked about the goal of increasing overnight stays by 15% and if they had the facilities to achieve that. With only one hotel it makes it challenging to try to increase it because there is nowhere else for people to stay even if they wanted to.

Ms. Cott agreed that they need additional facilities, and it is anticipated that the second hotel will be breaking ground soon. The development team is close to finalizing the construction loan.

Commissioner Barney spoke about the current building costs, and it makes it challenging to make a deal work.

Commissioner Schnepf said they were working on conceptual plans for something at their business, but it was very expensive. The hotel will likely be a signature brand of a boutique model that is a bit higher end. It would only be about 80 rooms.

Commissioner Schnepf said he liked the plan and involving the agritainment destinations is huge. They could be doing more to work with the Town in a better capacity to attract more people. The agritainment vibe is something that no other municipality can offer.

Commissioner White spoke about the vision statement and said Queen Creek is the premier destination instead of the capital of the world.

B. Update on the activities of the Downtown Arts & Placemaking Advisory Committee.

Brian McKean, Downtown Arts and Placemaking Advisory Committee Chair, said they have formalized the Committee and completed the definition of public and private art. The Committee is working on Constitution Week, an I Voted sticker, mural guidelines, and funding options. The Committee is finalizing an art asset map that shows where the public art is in the community. Chair McKean said the Committee is continuing to work on partnerships and collaborations, especially how art installations could be included in new developments.

Commissioner Barney said that Barney Farms development spoke with the historical society to try to incorporate it into the design of the development. It was great to get the developers to include the history and culture of the Town.

C. Update on economic development projects planned or underway in Queen Creek

Ms. Cott reviewed the status of the LGES project and noted hiring was underway. Ms. Cott reviewed developments underway around the Town and businesses that recently opened.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Summary of current events - Reports from Chair, Commission Members and Economic Development staff

Ms. Cott announced Bridgette Blair, Economic Development Specialist, was awarded Member of the Year by the Association of Economic Development.

Commissioner Berry commented on Ms. Cott's award of Top Influential Women in Arizona.

Commissioner Barney commented on how much Ms. Cott has done to help the Town.

Commissioner Berry said they just started the 2025-2026 school year. Commissioner Berry noted the new Mountain Trail Academy had 400 students enrolled and the overall district growth was 600-700 kids. The next business partner breakfast will be held on August 21.

Commissioner Schnepf said they were getting ready for the fall season and there were big improvements made. Commissioner Schnepf spoke about the glamping trailers and the experience.

Commissioner Barney spoke about other businesses that would be starting construction.

Commissioner Rea said he was excited for the tourism initiative, and they would help however they could. Commission Rea noted the Garlic Festival would be coming up and is looking forward to the event season.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tayrien adjourned the meeting 8:21am.

FOR THE TOWN:

_____

Brian McKean, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Victoria Roedig, Deputy Town Clerk

I, Victoria Roedig, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Economic Development Commission and Downtown Arts and Placemaking Advisory Committee Minutes of the July 23, 2025 Joint Economic Development Commission and Downtown Arts and Placemaking Advisory Committee Meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Passed and approved on:_____

Minutes
Economic Development Commission
22343 E Ryan Rd, Queen Creek, AZ 85142
Frontier Family Park – Recreation & Aquatic Center
Wednesday, April 23, 2025
7:30 AM

1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tayrien at 7:39 a.m.

2) ROLL CALL

PRESENT:
Chair Grant Tayrien
Vice Chair Marc Valenzuela
Commissioner Jason Barney
Commissioner Perry Berry
Commissioner Neil Calfee
Commissioner Shane Randall
Commissioner John Rea
Commissioner Brent White

ABSENT:
Commissioner Chris Clark
Commissioner Nancy Hormann
Commissioner Jenna Kahl
Commissioner Nate Knight
Commissioner Brian Mckean
Commissioner Derek Neighbors
Commissioner Connor Schnepf

ALSO PRESENT:
Commissioner Troy Young – Planning and Zoning Commission Liaison

Vice Chair Valenzuela, Commissioner Barney, and Commissioner Calfee attended electronically.

3) INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

4) PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

5) ITEMS FOR DICSUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5.A) Consideration and possible approval of the January 22, 2025 Minutes.

Department: Economic Development

Economic Development Commission January 22 2025 Minutes.pdf

MOTION:	**To approve the January 22, 2025 Minutes.**
RESULT:	**Approved unanimously (8-0)**
MOVER:	Brent White
SECONDER:	Perry Berry
AYES:	Grant Tayrien, Marc Valenzuela, Jason Barney, Perry Berry, Neil Calfee, Shane Randall, John Rea, Brent White
ABSENT:	Chris Clark, Nancy Hormann, Jenna Kahl, Nate Knight, Brian Mckean, Derek Neighbors, Connor Schnepf

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

6.A) Summary of current events - Reports from Chair, Commission Members and Economic Development staff.

Department: Economic Development

Doreen Cott, Economic Development Director, said LGE would start construction within the next few months on The Switchyard.

Chair Tayrien asked if that included the houses on the corner as part of the sale.

Ms. Cott said yes and noted there would be a groundbreaking ceremony soon. Ms. Cott reviewed businesses recently open. The Town was offered advertising space at the Mesa Gateway Airport to promote tourism in Queen Creek. Ms. Cott announced the LG Energy Solution manufacturing facility is about 50% complete and they will begin mass hiring during the summer.

Commissioner Berry announced the field at Queen Creek High School will be replaced with turf through a grant that was awarded to them. Commissioner Berry spoke about the water savings this project will have for the school district.

7) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Tayrien at 7:49 a.m.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

_____
Grant Tayrien, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Victoria Roedig, Deputy Town Clerk

I, Victoria Roedig, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Economic Development Commission Minutes of the April 23, 2025 Economic Development Commission. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Passed and approved on:_____

5.C

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK ARIZONA

TO: **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

FROM: **DOREEN COTT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

RE: **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL WORK PLAN PRIORITIES FOR FY26.**

DATE: **October 22, 2025**

Suggested Action:

Discussion and possible approval of the Annual Work Plan priorities for FY26.

Attachment(s):

1. EDC FY25-26 work plan DRAFT.doc

DRAFT

Economic Development Commission
Work Plan for FY25-26

1. Work with staff and the consultant team to update the Economic Development Strategic Plan and make a recommendation of approval to the Town Council.

2. Work with staff to implement recommendations outlined in the Tourism Strategic Plan.

3. Work with staff to implement recommendations in the Town Center/Downtown Core Plan and provide feedback on Downtown Core projects as appropriate.

4. Provide input and recommendations on new Arts and Placemaking programs/projects that may benefit Queen Creek as outlined in the Arts and Placemaking Master Plan.

5. Review Major General Plan Amendments as appropriate.

6. Provide input on educational updates to be shared at the quarterly meetings to keep Commission informed on different issues, programs and development.

5.D

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK ARIZONA

TO: **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

FROM: **DOREEN COTT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

RE: **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN.**

DATE: **October 22, 2025**

Suggested Action:

Presentation and discussion on the Transportation Master Plan.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK ARIZONA

TO: **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

FROM: **DOREEN COTT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

RE: **PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ON PROJECTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE.**

DATE: **October 22, 2025**

Suggested Action:

Presentation and update on projects in the development pipeline.