

Economic Engines Honoree

Category: Services



Economic Vitality Department

City of Scottsdale

www.scottsdaleaz.gov



Photos: Economic Vitality Department-City of Scottsdale



The team at Scottsdale's Economic Vitality Department helps attract and retain businesses to the city.

The Economic Vitality Department of the city of Scottsdale is responsible for the continued growth of one of the Valley's largest cities. The department is made up of four divisions — business services, revitalization, tourism and economic development — that work to energize Scottsdale's economy.

Business services concentrates on the retention and development of local companies, with a focus on small businesses. For example, the commercial permit fee reduction program saved businesses more than \$98,000, and produced more than \$183,000 in new fees for Scottsdale.

The Southern Scottsdale Investment Activity report states that since 2003, more than \$3.3 billion was invested in the area, thanks to help from the revitalization division. Many new projects are in the works, including the McDowell Road Streetscape Improvement Project and the Southbridge development along the Waterfront.

Tourism remains one of Arizona's most important industries, generating billions of dollars each year, and Scottsdale plays a major role in efforts to continue developing this vital business sector. Approximately 16 percent of Scottsdale's jobs are associated with the tourism industry. The city hosts two of the largest events in the state — the FBR Open and the Barrett-Jackson car show — which have an estimated \$200 million economic impact every year.

Other developments the department has worked on include the opening of SkySong with Arizona State University, which has resulted in the creation of more than 400 jobs focusing on research and development. Also, 1,000 jobs were created with the retention and expansion of Dial's corporate headquarters. The Economic Vitality Department works to encourage the growth and abundance that will lead Scottsdale and Arizona to a bigger and brighter economic future.

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Year Established

Scottsdale: 1951

Economic Vitality

Dept.: 2001

AZ Employees

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Many new projects are in the works along the Scottsdale Waterfront.

