



# City of Apache Junction

*Home of the Superstition Mountains*

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MEMORANDUM TO: The Honorable Mayor & City Councilmembers

MEMORANDUM THRU: Bryant Powell, City Manager  
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager

MEMORANDUM FROM: Patrick Ainsworth, Economic Development Director

SUBJECT: Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) contract Renewal FY 23/24 and GPEC Board Recommendation

DATE: July 18, 2023

Since 2007, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) has been serving as the City's Regional Economic Development agency where GPEC assists with strategic economic development initiatives such as business recruitment, expansion and attraction to bring additional jobs and positive economic outcomes to the Phoenix metropolitan region. Today, GPEC represents 22 cities in central Arizona representing over 4,390,000 residents.

As part of the City's GPEC membership, we have representation on the GPEC Board of Directors, Mayors & Supervisors leadership participation, access to GPEC educational and ambassador events and direct involvement with the Economic Development Directors Team meetings. GPEC's services have assisted the Greater Phoenix Region by attracting new employers and enhances the region's economic competitiveness. Since their 1989 inception, GPEC has attracted over 950 new companies to Arizona resulting in 174,000 new jobs and over \$36,600,000,000 in capital investment.

The agreement between GPEC and the City of Apache Junction has specific responsibilities to cooperate on a regional level to assist GPEC's annual performance goals. Some strategies are periodically adjusted based on the three-year GPEC Action Plan as well as to reflect current economic circumstances; however, the core focus and goals remain relatively fixed.

A full copy of the contract and exhibits has been provided to this agenda item. This year's membership renewal with GPEC is \$24,486.00 (based on \$0.6252 per capita for Pinal County population of 38,851, and \$0.4897 per capita for Maricopa County population of 400). Staff respectfully recommends approval of the contract and Mayor Wilson's recommendation to have Councilmember Peter Heck serve as Apache Junction's representative on the GPEC Board of Directors.