

A 300,000 square foot FedEx Ground distribution facility is under construction near the Henderson Executive Airport. The facility will give FedEx one-day access to Southern California, Southern Utah and Phoenix markets.



State, Local Initiatives Create Jobs Out West

BY JOSEPH DOBRIAN

Nevada, Arizona, and Oregon are leading the economic recovery in the West. Henderson, Nev., located southeast of Las Vegas, has become a commercial hub in its own right, according to Barbara Coffee, the city's manager of economic development and redevelopment. She reports that much of the space left vacant during the recession has now been backfilled, and several build-to-suit projects are underway.

"It's not as easy, now, to find 100,000 square feet (9,290 square meters) of contiguous space in Henderson," she says.

"The city's currently offering a 350-acre parcel of transition property in west Henderson, near the executive airport. We're courting commercial developers by offering them proximity to the airport and the California markets."

Henderson has a total of 12 universities, in addition to the nearby University of Nevada at Las Vegas, so it's gaining importance as a location for life sciences, biotech and healthcare.

"Many companies come to the area for conventions," Coffee notes, "and they're finding Henderson an ideal corporate loca-



tion because it lets you meet clients and customers as they visit.”

Sandra Watson, president and CEO of the Arizona Commerce Authority, reports that Apple, GoDaddy, General Motors, and Gigya have recently selected Arizona for significant corporate expansions.

“Arizona offers proximity to many of the world’s top economies, including California and Mexico, and a competitive tax and pro-business regulatory environment,” she says.

Marc Zolton, public affairs manager at Business Oregon, says that Daimler Trucks North America will keep its North American headquarters in Portland and invest \$150 million to expand it. “Nike’s \$150 million headquarters expansion will add 500 new jobs,” he adds. “Recently, we’ve seen increased investment in food processing, software, and advanced manufacturing, and resurgence of the semiconductor/electronics supply chain.”

Henderson

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