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For Immediate Release

Greater Phoenix named as a North American City of the Future

April 26, 2007 – London-based *Foreign Direct Investment (fDi)* magazine, a *Financial Times* publication, has named Greater Phoenix one of “North America’s Large Cities of the Future.”

Phoenix, which includes the surrounding communities in its metropolitan statistical area, won first place for best development and investment promotion in North America and fourth for best infrastructure.

fDi panelists took more than six months to select the “top ten” shortlists of cities of all sizes with the best strategies and resources for economic development.

“Our City of the Future rankings reflect an independent panel of judges’ views on each city according to seven selection factors,” says Courtney Fingar, editor of *fDi* magazine. “As part of the selection process, judges reviewed nominations from 108 cities on more than 60 criteria designed to assess cities’ potential to attract business investment projects.”

Greater Phoenix placed first based on the region’s available labor pool, cost-effective location and many unique partnerships. Programs encouraging investor support, training and projects promoting economic sectors also contributed to the top ranking.

The region ranks high in infrastructure for Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and other reliever or public-use airports, railway, highway and freeway systems, plus the \$1.4 billion light rail transit system expected to launch in December 2008.

“*fDi*’s selection of Greater Phoenix as a city of the future acknowledges our potential as a global center of excellence and choice location for innovative firms,” says Barry Broome, president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC). “Congratulations to the leadership within all our communities and their efforts in positively shaping the region’s economy.”

About GPEC

A true public/private partnership, GPEC works with its 17 member communities, Maricopa County and more than 130 private investors to promote Greater Phoenix to companies seeking a location where they can compete and thrive in today’s global economy.

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