

## Chief executive officers nationwide rank Nevada second as best state to do business in U.S.

*Recognition adds tangible value to Henderson's continued development success*

**HENDERSON, NEV.** – For the second consecutive year, *Chief Executive* magazine ranked Nevada as the second best state in which to do business.

Results, which were published in the magazine's January issue, surveyed 339 chief executive officers from across the country. California was ranked worst for business for its second consecutive year. Texas was ranked first.

The results are not surprising to the City of Henderson.

"For many years Nevada, especially Southern Nevada and Henderson, have been continually ranked as top places to do business. There's certainly a trend showcasing our state as an attractive place to do business, but you never take it for granted," said Henderson Mayor James B. Gibson. "We understand surveys can be subjective but the continued results are hard to ignore. And, the fact is, we live and work in a great place."

Gibson's comments can be easily echoed through a number of other reports and surveys that ranked Nevada – particularly Henderson, Nev. – as a top place to do business.

In late 2005, *Yahoo!Hotjobs* and *CNN Money* ranked Henderson, among the nation's top ten cities to work and

live. And earlier this year, Henderson received the national "America's Crown Communities" award from the *American City & County* magazine. The recognition resulted from a service enhancement program in the

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*- Mayor James B. Gibson  
City of Henderson*

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Development Services Center that yielded user-financed construction permits and a 99 percent on-time rate for plan reviews.

"These are impressive numbers and the recognitions and awards truly reflect the state of business we have developed here in Henderson," Gibson said. "You cannot operate under a business-as-usual mentality. You've always got to be on your toes."

Bob Cooper, manager of the city's Economic Development Division agrees.

"Staying focused on developing critical business areas has been key in our success," Cooper said. "It's a fine balance between recruiting, retaining and raising our business climate to the healthy level it's at. And Henderson's worked hard to accomplish that."

Henderson – known for its master-planned communities and high-quality of living – has been at the front of the growth spurt of Southern Nevada, growing from just 60,000 people in 1990 to currently over 250,000. That population would make Henderson the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city in the state of California – larger than such cities as Irvine, Glendale and San Bernardino.

Over the past six years, the Henderson Economic Development Division has been instrumental in recruiting 102 non-hospitality, non-retail firms to Henderson which have created more than 6,500 jobs while occupying nearly four million-square-feet of space. The economic impact of the efforts is estimated at more than \$478 million.

**For more information on the City of Henderson's Economic Development Division, call (702) 267-1650.**