

The Business Journal of Phoenix - April 26, 2007

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Surprise, Yuma dubbed 'Cities of the Future'

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by [Cathy Luebke](#)

The Business Journal

Go west young Phoenicians. Surprise and Yuma made strong showings in Foreign Direct Investment magazine's North American Cities of the Future.

That follows the Phoenix suburb's ranking among America's Top 100 Places to Live by **Relocate.com**. However, this time Phoenix was not entirely left out.

FDI researchers spent six months compiling lists for its City of the Future package published in its April/May issue. Criteria included economic potential, cost effectiveness, human resources, quality of life, infrastructure, business friendly environment, and development and investment promotion. Cities were scored based on population in major, large, small and micro categories.

Surprise claimed the No. 7 spot on the micro city list. Categories also were broken into sublists where the city ranked:

- First in best development and investment potential.
- Second for best infrastructure.
- Third for business friendly environment.
- Third for quality of life.

Yuma ranked No. 4 on the micro cities top 10 as well as placing in several subcategories:

- Second in economic potential.
- Fourth for best development and investment promotion.
- Third for cost effectiveness.

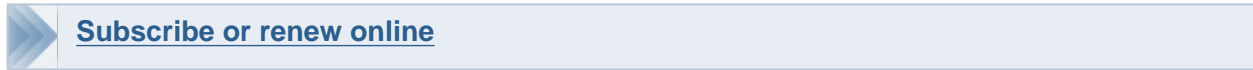
Phoenix didn't place in the top 10 of for large cities, but did make a couple of the sublists:

- First for economic development and investment promotion.
- Fourth for best infrastructure.

Top ranked cities in each of the major categories were: Chicago, major city; Juarez, Mexico, large; Windsor, Ontario, small; and Zapata, Texas, micro.

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