



MONTHLY **UPDATE**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT + TOURISM

DECEMBER, 2025



Shared Co-Work Space

Appointments have been coordinated to further explore operating systems for access control and billing for the co-work space, including determining which components may need to be incorporated during construction. Participation is ongoing for the design discussion and the review and requests for quotes for the project. This co-work space will be an asset for local entrepreneurs and others who need work space to succeed.

Opportunity Zones

The Arizona Commerce Authority has confirmed that existing Opportunity Zones remain in effect through December 31, 2028 and will overlap for two years with the next round of Opportunity Zones. The ACA is awaiting guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury regarding eligibility criteria for new designations and will administer the state's selection process. Potential priority areas will be identified in Kingman and a request will be coordinated with Mohave County in advance for recommendations.

UPS Lease Renewal

The lease with UPS in the Industrial Park has been updated and an appraisal has been ordered to evaluate the value of its parcel.



I-40 Trade Port Corridor

A quarterly coalition meeting was attended by the ECDEV team and updates were provided on the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART), Rural Autonomous Vehicle (RAV), Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD), and Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA) grants, as well as the continued development of the I-40 Trade Port Corridor. The SMART grant focused on technology and communications systems that will support a digital twin for the corridor, integrating logistics and freight movement data to track multi-state freight activity. This system will provide real-time information on vehicle location, traffic conditions, optimal routing, fueling locations, required rest breaks, parking availability, and arrival and departure times. The RAV grant supports complementary freight tracking efforts across the corridor. Due to the federal government shutdown, the Albuquerque hub launch has been rescheduled to February 24, 2026, with several announcements planned in conjunction with the launch. The Albuquerque hub location has been finalized, and Winslow is nearing finalization of its hub site. The BUILD grant funds are anticipated to begin flowing in April 2026. The RIA grant has approved an additional designation for the I-40 Trade Port Corridor, with a public announcement anticipated in January. A new video has been added to their website, and here's the link to that video- <https://vimeo.com/1127775193?share=copy>

Local First Arizona

The ECDEV team coordinated with Mohave County Economic Development and the Chamber of Commerce to host a site tour for Local First Arizona, who is considering Kingman as a potential host city for the 2026 Rural Policy Forum, proposed for August 5th–7th, 2026. The tour included potential venues for special events, main forum sessions accommodating approximately 275–300 attendees, breakout session spaces, and key stops for an economic development tour. Local First Arizona is completing its due diligence and has not yet made a final decision.

2026 International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)

A booth space for this conference in Las Vegas, May 18–20, 2026 has been secured and a design for a customized booth is in the works with a local design and construction company.

Kingman Academy of Learning Government Tour

The ECDEV team attended and presented at the Kingman Academy of Learning Government tour, where 24 students and two teachers visited as part of an introductory public service course within its college and career readiness program. The visit provided students with an opportunity to learn about the wide range of career paths within the City of Kingman and to hear directly about experiences working in local government. Brief presentations highlighting the various tasks and roles within Economic Development and Tourism, helped students understand how these functions support community development, business growth, and local quality of life.

Work Group Healthcare

Mohave and La Paz Healthcare Work group held a meeting that the ED team attended. Participants discussed the proposed Rural Health Transformation Program and related healthcare workforce initiatives. The group reviewed a significant grant opportunity, approximately \$57 million statewide, with an estimated share of nearly \$3.8 million for Mohave County that will focus on workforce development, behavioral health, maternal health, telehealth expansion, and long-term healthcare access. A substantial portion of the discussion centered on the need to significantly boost mental and behavioral health services, as there is a recognized and growing deficit in that area across the region. There was strong emphasis on collaboration and a unified regional approach, including expanding clinical rotations, residency slots, and training programs. The message that KRMC and other partners want is broad participation and alignment across organizations, which Kingman could benefit from if the group moves forward collectively.

Origin Mine

Patriot Rail confirmed that an initial load of copper concentrate was received on December 15, 2026. Over the next 12 months, they anticipate shipping approximately 700–1,000 rail car loads.

Arizona Association for Economic Development Northern Committee

An AAED Northern Committee meeting was held where members discussed plans for the next Northern Committee event, potentially a round-table focused on rural community growth and aligning energy needs with expanding development. A subcommittee was formed to explore topics and identify a venue. The meeting also included updates on upcoming AAED events, along with an announcement that three rural board member seats will be open in the upcoming AAED Board elections.

Media Assistance by Tourism

Australian journalist Marie Barberie who visited in July as part of a multi-state Route 66 road trip, wrote an article that appeared in the New Zealand Herald via print and online that was syndicated with a reach of 3.2 million. Kingman and Tin Can Ally were both mentioned.

Tourism Initiative Review

The Beale Street Theater project submission was reviewed, scored, with the funding request, and feedback was given to Monica Murphy the City of Kingman Grants Administrator.

Running Hare Sculpture

A discussion is in progress to relocate the sculpture to a better area downtown. LEI consulting firm is being consulted for the project scope.

Lightcast Analysis Report

Lightcast is a labor-market analytics platform that provides real-time workforce and industry data, to support economic development research. The City ED team worked with Mohave County Economic Development, the license holder for the program, who offered to run reports the City may need through December.

Digital Twins Project

An introduction was sent to the representative to get this project back on track to create a digital twin of the City of Kingman. A time will be set up to discuss the scope and quote. The plan for kicking off this project is January. The I-40 trade port group is also looking to develop a digital twin for modeling. Coordination with GLD Partners will be held to better understand outcomes which may help contribute and progress the initiative.

ECDEV 2025 Annual Report

A layout graphic for the report is in process and the team is also working on an outline for the document. The goal of the report is to better align with the ECDEV strategic plan and to tie the ED department's efforts in 2025 with the goals in the plan.

AAED's Tim Kanavel Scholarship

New ED Project Manager, Jeremy Palmer, was awarded this scholarship to attend AAED's 2026 Basic Economic Development Course. This scholarship covers the course registration fee.

Public Art Master Plan

A presentation was made at the Economic Development Advisory Commission meeting on 12/23 and it was recommended that this project move forward and be presented in the future to City Council for approval.

Kingman Centennial Logo design

The Tourism team worked internally to produce a logo marking the 100th year celebration of the Mother Road- Route 66. The logo can be seen at: <https://www.explorekingman.com/route-66-centennial>

CareFlight 15th Anniversary Celebration

CareFlight held its 15th Anniversary Celebration at the Kingman Airport and the event was well attended.

Marketing Update-

New skins, (tarps) were added to the billboard at 3rd Street and Andy Devine Ave. incorporating Kingman's Route 66 Centennial Logo. New snipes (patches) will be added celebrating the Route 66 Centennial on Kingman's two I-40 billboards. Kingman Tourism and the AZ Route 66 Association assisted Travel Zoo with a Top 10 Best Bets correspondent news contribution to 21 MSN Now news affiliates across the US. The 2026 Dining Guide is going out to print with 94 listings for a 20,000 print-run. An Expedia campaign is opening, targeting Arizona's top origin markets. Hopper ads were produced to begin in January on high trafficked areas within their ecosystem, targeting Chicago, Las Vegas, Phoenix, SoCal, Tucson, France, Germany, Mexico and the UK.

A Visit USA Parks Campaign has concluded that went from September through December 2025.

The results are below:

Impressions: 188,854 (the contract estimate was 150,000) Engagement rate: 47.84% (the industry average is 8-12%) Link clicks: 5,633 (the contract estimate was 4,000)

US: 2,200

UK: 1,461

German speaking market: 1,698



The Elm Cabinet Chamber Ribbon Cutting

A ribbon cutting was held in December for new Kingman business The Elm Cabinet. The ECDEV team attended to support the Chamber, to network, and to represent the ECDEV department. Jeremy Palmer, the newest member of the ECDEV team was introduced to the business owner to see if there was anything the ECDEV team could assist them with.

Lewis Kingman Park Boxcar Project

There was a review and feedback was provided on the structural engineering and design scenarios for the transition of the boxcar for the finish grade on the north end of the car. Design alternatives were received for a 90% set of the drawings. More review will be taking place. This project will turn a old train boxcar into a pedestrian bridge connecting the park to the adjacent overflow lot.



2026 Statewide Rural Arizona Pitch Competition

A meeting was held with Scott Hathcock of Moonshot, a shared co-work space and entrepreneurship program based in Flagstaff, regarding Kingman's potential participation in its 2026 statewide rural pitch competition tour. Moonshot's program supports entrepreneurs through pitch events, mentorship, and resource connections, with local winners advancing to a statewide showcase. Host city requirements are minimal, consisting primarily of providing a venue, assisting with outreach, and identifying a point of contact, while Moonshot manages the event framework, judging, materials, and marketing templates. This opportunity aligns well with the City's shared co-work space initiative and would further highlight Kingman's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

2025 Visitor Center Year End Numbers

Sales

- ❖ 2025: \$461,038.75
- ❖ 2024: \$432,446.51
- ❖ Guestbook listings noted 57% domestic 7,019 and 43% 5,322 were international visitors.

Tours

- ❖ • 2025: 534
- ❖ • 2024: 445