

Mr. William (Bill) J. Jabjiniak
Director of Economic Development
City of Mesa



Bill Jabjiniak has served as the City of Mesa’s Economic Development Director since October 2007. He has more than 30 years of results-driven vision and leadership in revitalization strategies, public/private partnership opportunities, project financing and business recruitment.

Mr. Jabjiniak leads a team of 14 professionals focused on business attraction, retention and expansion, entrepreneurship, redevelopment, and revitalization for Mesa. Jabjiniak’s mission is to grow the local economy, primarily through the strategic expansion of Mesa’s industries of opportunity – Healthcare, Education, Aerospace and Tourism/Technology (HEAT).

Since Jabjiniak took the helm, the Office of Economic Development has assisted in creating and retaining more than 19,000 jobs, successfully landing more than 240 projects and generating \$4.98 billion of capital investment to Mesa. Notable projects include attracting five new higher education institutions, Apple, Boeing, AQST Space Systems, CyrusOne, EdgeCore, Digital Realty, Santander Consumer USA, CMC Steel, Cessna Aviation, Able Engineering/Textron Aviation, Constant Aviation, Niagara Bottling, and Crescent Crown Distributing. His office was responsible for leading the adaptive reuse of the Air Force Research Laboratory, converting it to the Arizona Laboratories for Security and Defense (AZLabs) – a cyber security, aerospace and defense center of excellence – all while maintaining the high security protocols. His team was also responsible for retaining the Chicago Cubs and Oakland A’s spring training operations, MD Helicopters’ corporate headquarters and manufacturing facility, and expanding Banner Health’s Desert Medical Center and Cardon Children’s Medical Center.

Moreover, under Jabjiniak’s leadership, his team has successfully implemented an entrepreneurship program which includes LAUNCHPOINT, Mesa’s Technology Accelerator. Other accomplishments include creating the Southwest Mesa Redevelopment Area (RDA), guiding the expansion of Valley Metro Light Rail through Downtown Mesa, and managing multiple Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) projects in conjunction with the Light Rail expansion.

Jabjiniak and his team have received many prestigious awards and recognitions, most recently the City was ranked 18th for US Cities with populations over 300,000 in the *2018 Prosperity Now Scorecard* and in 2017 the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) recognized Mesa’s Office of Economic Development as one of only 60 Accredited Economic Development Organizations (AEDO) in the U.S. Jabjiniak’s team also received the 2016 IEDC Silver Award for Excellence in Economic Development in the category of Real Estate Redevelopment and Reuse for the Centrica-Santander project, two 2016 Arizona Association of Economic Development (AAED) Golden Prospector Awards for the Centrica-Santander project and two marketing video productions, and the 2016 Arizona Data Center Award for Economic Development Team of the Year from the Global Data Center Alliance. In addition, the City was recognized in 2016 as one of “America’s Top Cities for Global Trade” by *Global Trade Magazine*.

In 2015, his team received an AAED Golden Prospector Award for marketing collateral, and in 2014, they received three IEDC Silver Awards for Excellence in Economic Development; The J. Robert Havlick Award, Innovation in Local Government for “How Mesa Became a College Town”; the AAED’s Large Organization of the Year and Economic Developer of the Year; and the International Downtown Association’s Achievement Award for the Higher Education Initiative. In 2013, the team received the IEDC Silver Award for the Mayor’s Downtown Summit and the Gold Award for the Economic Reporter Newsletter, as well as the Arizona Commerce Authority’s Excellence in Innovative Economic Development Award.

Prior to joining the City of Mesa, Jabjiniak served as Director of Economic Development for the City of Richmond, Virginia. He developed a program for the Atlanta Braves to package a \$50 million stadium with a new mixed-use, privately financed development. While serving as Destination Manchester Coordinator in the Office of the Mayor for the City of Manchester, NH, he guided major development projects including a \$40 million TIF-financed, mixed-use development and the \$50 million riverfront stadium development through the political and regulatory approval process.

Jabjiniak received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Franklin Pierce University, and holds both a Master of Science in Community Economic Development and a Master of Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire University. His professional affiliations include the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED), International Economic Development Council (IEDC), and International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC). He also serves as the chair of the Mountain Vista Medical Center Advisory Board and as a Mesa Chamber of Commerce board member.