Analysis & Key Facts

Personal Profile

Ryan Kaup is a dedicated Economic Development Director at the City of Apache Junction, Arizona. With a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Miami University and a Master's in Public Administration from Arizona State University, Ryan has consistently demonstrated his ability to attract and retain businesses, foster capital investment, and shape future infrastructure development. He brings over a decade of experience in economic development, having previously served as an Economic Development Project Manager for the City of Chandler and even gaining unique experience in the sports industry with Minor League Baseball.

Company Profile

The City of Apache Junction, incorporated in 1978, operates under a Council-Manager form of government and is located approximately 35 miles east of Phoenix. As the gateway to the Superstition Mountains and Tonto National Forest, Apache Junction is home to around 39,009 residents and attracts over 500,000 visitors annually for outdoor recreational activities. The city focuses on key economic sectors including manufacturing, distribution/logistics, retail, and hospitality/tourism, with major employers such as Banner Health and Western Industrial Resources. Recently, the city has expanded its development opportunities by annexing nearly 6,700 acres, enhancing its growth potential.

Interests

- Economic development and urban planning
- Business attraction and retention strategies
- Outdoor recreation and community tourism

Unique Facts

- Ryan transitioned from a career in Minor League Baseball to specialize in economic development, highlighting his diverse professional background.
- He played a key role in the City of Chandler's economic initiatives for nearly eight years, significantly contributing to the city's growth before joining Apache Junction.

Opportunities

Pain Points and Solutions:

Pain Point	Evidence	Solution
Attracting and Retaining Businesses	The primary role of Ryan Kaup involves attracting and retaining businesses, indicating a continual challenge in this area.	Business Consulting: Develop targeted strategies to enhance business attraction and retention, leveraging data analytics to identify and engage potential businesses effectively.
Efficient Management of Development Projects	The recent annexation of 6,700 acres for development suggests the need for streamlined project management and coordination.	Process Automation: Implement workflow automation tools to manage development projects efficiently, ensuring timely completion and resource optimization.
Handling High Visitor Volume	Apache Junction attracts over 500,000 visitors annually, which can strain infrastructure and resource allocation.	AI Consulting and Implementation: Utilize AI to analyze visitor patterns and optimize resource allocation, enhancing the visitor experience while managing costs.

| Data-Driven Decision Making | With diverse economic sectors and significant development projects, there is a need for robust data analysis to inform decisions. | AI Agent Development: Create AI assistants to gather and analyze economic data, providing actionable insights for informed decision-making. |
| Community Engagement and Communication | Economic development roles require effective communication with businesses and residents to foster community support and collaboration. | AI Agent Development: Develop AI-powered chatbots to handle inquiries from businesses and residents, ensuring timely and accurate communication. |

Opportunities:

- **AI-Powered Business Attraction Platform:** Implement an AI-driven platform to identify and target potential businesses for attraction, using predictive analytics to assess viability and fit.
- **Automated Project Management System:** Deploy a comprehensive automation system to manage development projects, track progress, allocate resources, and ensure deadlines are met efficiently.
- **Visitor Analytics and Optimization:** Utilize AI to analyze visitor data, optimize tourism-related services, and enhance the overall visitor experience while managing infrastructure demands.
- **Data-Driven Economic Insights:** Develop AI tools to aggregate and analyze economic data, providing Ryan and his team with actionable insights to guide strategic decision-making.
- **AI Chatbots for Community Engagement:** Create AI-powered chatbots to handle inquiries from businesses and residents, improving communication efficiency and fostering stronger community relationships.

Booking Page Info

How they found us:

No data available

Info for the meeting:

No details provided

Research Report

LinkedIn Profile Details

Name: Ryan Kaup

Headline: Economic Development Director at City of Apache Junction, Arizona

Location: United States

About: Dedicated Economic Development professional with a proven track record of attracting and retaining businesses, fostering capital investment, and shaping future infrastructure development.

City:

Country: United States

Job Title: Economic Development Director

Company: City of Apache Junction

Company Description: The City of Apache Junction was organized, formed and incorporated under the laws of the State of Arizona on November 24, 1978. It has a "Council-Manager" general law form of government where the City Manager is appointed by the City Council. The Council consists of seven members elected at-large, on a non-partisan basis. Residents elect the Mayor and six Councilmembers, making each accountable to the entire citizenry. Located 45 minutes from downtown Phoenix, Apache Junction is home to the majestic Superstition Mountains and is the gateway to outdoor desert recreational adventures. Apache Junction, surrounded by Legends.

Company Website: http://www.apachejunctionaz.gov

Industry: Government Administration

LinkedIn URL: https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryankaup/

Education

School	Degree	Field of Study
Miami University	BA	Economics
Arizona State University	MPA	Master's of Public Administration

Experience

Company	Title	Date Range	Location
City of Apache Junction	Economic Development Director	Feb 2025 - Present	
City of Chandler, Arizona	Economic Development Project Manager	May 2017 - Jan 2025	
City of Chandler, Arizona	Economic Development Research Assistant	Dec 2013 - Apr 2017	
Minor League Baseball	Professional Baseball	Jun 2011 - Nov 2013	

Recent LinkedIn Posts

We will be rolling out an Apache Junction Economic Development LinkedIn account next month. In the meantime, wanted to share this clip on my personal page. Exciting growth is coming to AJ. Look forward to keeping the real estate community apprised of the fundamentals.

Posted on: 2025-03-27

Google Research Analysis

Apache Junction is a city located in Pinal and Maricopa Counties in Arizona. Here are key details about the city: ## Overview - Incorporated on November 24, 1978[1][2] - Population: Approximately 39,009 as of 2023[4] - Located about 35 miles east of Phoenix[4] - Known as the gateway to the Superstition Mountains and Tonto National Forest[4] ## Government - Council-Manager form of government[2] - City Council consists of a mayor and 6 councilmembers elected at-large[2] - Current mayor is Chip Wilson[7] ## Economy and Development - Key target sectors: manufacturing, distribution/logistics, retail, and hospitality/tourism[4] - Major employers include Banner Health, Western Industrial Resources, and Fry's Food stores[4] - Recently annexed nearly 6,700 acres for new development opportunities[4] ## Community Features - 10 developed parks with amenities like ballfields, trails, an aquatic center, and skate park[4] - Apache Junction Public Library provides various services and programs[8] - No city property tax levy[9] ## Demographics - Population was 38,499 as of the 2020 census[7] - Median household income: $58,619[17] - 17.2% of residents have a bachelor's degree or higher[17] ## Tourism and Recreation - Over 500,000 visitors annually for hiking, camping, and biking[4] - Attractions include Lost Dutchman State Park, Superstition Mountain Museum, and Goldfield Ghost Town[4] - Hosts events like the Arizona Renaissance Festival and Lost Dutchman Days[4] ## Services - Apache Junction Water District provides water services to residents[5] - Parks and Recreation Department offers various programs and facilities[6] The city's official website is http://www.apachejunctionaz.gov, where residents can find more information about city services, departments, and community resources[12][13].

Trustpilot Reviews

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Rating: undefined

Date: Invalid Date

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Citations

- https://www.ajchamber.com/community/
- https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/8/Government
- https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/55/Our-Community
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- https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/111/Parks-Recreation
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_Junction,_Arizona
- https://www.pinal.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Apache-Junction-Public-Library-15
- https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/1069/The-Apache-Junction-Advantage
- https://www.ajpl.org/apache-junction-history/
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- https://www.visitarizona.com/places/cities/apache-junction/
- https://www.mapquest.com/us/arizona/arizona-state-government-429588774
- https://data.census.gov/profile/Apache_Junction_city,_Arizona?g=160XX00US0402830