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# Deloitte planning big operations center, 2,500 jobs in Gilbert

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Audit, tax and consulting firm Deloitte is planning a big operations center in Gilbert that could bring at least 2,500 jobs, pending approval Thursday from the town's council.

A development agreement between the town and Deloitte posted Wednesday afternoon calls for the city to provide up to \$3.05 million in incentives, based on the types of jobs created.

The town is anticipating up to \$9.1 million in direct and indirect financial impact from the facility during the next 10 years, according to the agreement.

The agreement is contingent on Deloitte developing 100,000 square feet of space and delivering the jobs with average annual wages of \$95,207 within 10 years. It also calls for more than \$34 million in capital investment by Deloitte during that time frame.

Deloitte officials declined to discuss the project prior to the council vote.

Dan Henderson, director of Gilbert's Office of Economic Development, said the project — pending council approval — is a big win for Gilbert and the region.

"We think that Gilbert is the perfect home for Deloitte," he said.



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Deloitte is planning a big operations center in Gilbert that could bring at least 2,500 jobs.

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd., based in the United Kingdom, has more than 260,000 employees worldwide focusing on auditing, tax and consulting services. The company has a professional services operation in Phoenix.

The development agreement is based in three phases, with Deloitte receiving \$2.1 million in incentives for the first 1,500 jobs and nearly \$1 million for the next 1,000 jobs, broken out over two phases.

Gilbert has developed a reputation among site selectors recently as a cheaper alternative to Tempe, Chandler and Scottsdale while still having access to the same or better workforce.

Roughly 42 percent of Gilbert's residents have a college degree or higher, according to the U.S. Census. The town has a median household income of \$85,581, one of the highest in the Valley.

Gilbert also has a history of laying out incentives to land big deals. Between 2013 and 2017, the town put out \$41.5 million incentives, with the bulk of that, about \$35 million, going to the Rivulon development.

Henderson said the project would be a boon for not just Gilbert's workforce but the region's as well.

**Patrick O'Grady**  
Managing Editor  
*Phoenix Business Journal*

