

NEWS RELEASE

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Gateway Studios eyes Mesa for \$70 Million Production Studios Complex

Mesa, AZ - Plans are underway for Arizona's first and only major soundstage complex. A private investment group has retained CBC, Inc, developer and consultant, to produce plans for the new \$70 million Gateway Studios motion picture production complex they are planning to build in the city of Mesa, Arizona.

"This state of the art production campus will incorporate green building design, renewable energy technology, and an earth friendly and community friendly approach to film making," says Vincent Stark of CBC, Inc., project manager for the Gateway Studios project.

In the preliminary planning stage, the 55 plus acre campus will be developed in two phases.

The Phase I campus will include four soundstages, from 15,000 sq. ft to 22,000 sq. ft., with clear heights of 35 and 45 feet. It will also feature production and post-production facilities, a combined 67,000 sq. ft. of office space, production storage buildings, an 11,000 sq. ft. auditorium, daycare center, gym and spa, medical services building, large back-lot production areas and street production sets.

The adjoining soundstages can expand up to 45,000 sq. ft. The 11,000 sq. ft. auditorium will host film screening, casting, lecture and classroom amenities and film production. The completion of the Phase I complex is slated for late 2012.

"When it comes down to comparing Arizona to other locations, the issue of Arizona not having a state-of-the-art soundstage becomes a huge hurdle to get over, and projects end up in other states as a result," says Noel Paynter, president of the Arizona Film & Media Coalition. "With a studio like Gateway Studios proposes, Arizona would unquestionably attract significantly more projects which would translate into more production dollars flowing into the state as well as an

increase in production employment. A project such as Gateway Studios is essential to Arizona's survival as a competitive film production location.”

“Mesa and the state of Arizona are proving to be film friendly,” says Stark. “And considering the short six hour drive, or one hour flight from Los Angeles, Arizona's ‘right to work’ status, and all that Arizona continues to offer, we hope that Gateway Studios will capture filmmakers from around the globe.

The close proximity to the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport for private and commercial air travel, easy access to the upcoming Williams-Gateway Highway connector ramp, and the upcoming new five-star Gaylord Resort at the old G.M. Proving Grounds factored in the placement of the production studios campus.

While the Grand Entry will have a classical Roman 16th century style of architecture, the technology and functionality of the sound stages and production offices will incorporate modern and advanced communications and networking technology that will be engineered for adaptability well into the future.

“We will provide the infrastructure here in Arizona that is long overdue,” Stark adds. “Gateway Studios will offer everything that a major production studio complex has to offer, plus the unparalleled benefit of Arizona's amazing and diverse landscape.”

The second phase of the project will include four additional sound stages, from 15,000 – 31,000 sq. ft., production storage facilities and exterior production sets. The timeline for Phase II construction will be announced at a later date.

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Images for print can be found at www.gatewaystudios.com Press Page.

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