



ARIZONA  
FORWARD

## NEWS

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### **ARIZONA FORWARD NAMES MIKE HOLMES ACTING DIRECTOR FOR SOUTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**TUCSON, Ariz.** (Sept. 12, 2013) – Mike Holmes has been named Acting Director for Arizona Forward’s Southern Regional Council. Arizona Forward is a business-based environmental public interest organization that advocates for sustainable growth.

Holmes was formerly the executive director for Imagine Greater Tucson (IGT), which is a founding member of Arizona Forward. During his tenure at IGT, he worked with the community to develop a long-term strategic plan for Southern Arizona and began implementation of the effort. IGT announced last month that it was restructuring to an all-volunteer organization.

“We couldn’t have found a better advocate to help lead our efforts in and around Tucson,” said Diane Brossart, president and CEO of Arizona Forward. “Mike understands that the vision for Southern Arizona must fit into a larger context statewide and that this holistic approach is essential for the environmental quality and economic vitality of Arizona.”

Holmes’ background includes 15 years of executive management experience in new business development and operations. He also has expertise in strategic planning and communication, marketing analysis and project management.

Arizona Forward’s Southern Regional Council is made up of 24 appointed members of the association who live and work in Pima and Pinal Counties. The council meets bimonthly in Tucson and is chaired by Klindt Breckenridge of Breckenridge Group Architects/Planners, who also serves on Arizona Forward’s Board of Directors.

Since its inception in 1969 as Valley Forward, Arizona Forward has brought business and civic leaders together to convene thoughtful public dialogue on regional issues and to improve the sustainability of communities throughout the Grand Canyon State. The organization expanded statewide in January and operates with the belief that businesses must take a leadership role in solving the complex and sometimes controversial problems confronting growing population centers.

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