

Partnering Charter

Formation of an Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion

The local governments and business interests in Arizona and Sonora desire to build a globally competitive megaregion. This initiative requires a large scale example of collaborative governance and cross-border initiatives to mutually enhance economic development that encompasses local and regional agencies in Arizona and Sonora. The parties hereto have agreed to build mutual understanding, share knowledge, and develop social capital in the process of setting policy direction within what will hereinafter be known as the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion.

The international economic environment has generated greater competition to attract and retain sources of employment and new strategic projects. While the States of Arizona and Sonora are working on economic promotion along the Mexico-United States border area, regions and local governments are the engines of the greater economy and need to collaborate to be globally competitive.

Based on the above facts, it becomes essential to establish a mechanism for coordination and integration that will enable the signing states and local governments to identify strategies for joint promotion, to spur economic development and create greater prosperity for its inhabitants.

The parties below hereto have agreed to collaborate through this Partnering Charter to build mutual understanding, share knowledge, and develop social capital in the process of setting policy direction within what will hereinafter be known as the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion, which may be renamed in the future following mutual consent by members party to this charter.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The founding members of the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion mutually and reciprocally agree upon the following guiding principles and will work together to:

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- Establish a collaborative dialogue between the communities of Arizona and Sonora (from local, State and Federal governments, and business and trade organizations in collaboration with institutions of higher education and consulting firms) within the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion;
- Cooperatively schedule meetings of local and regional elected officials from Arizona and Sonora to discuss and identify the development, governance, operation and policy objectives of the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion;
- Foster competitiveness and innovation in the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion and implement economic development plans and strategies to benefit the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion;
- Brand the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion to promote it as a truly desirable location to attract and retain businesses as well as to foster their expansion; and
- Use the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion as a framework to further enable the development of local relationships to advance projects/initiatives of regional significance on both sides of the border in areas such as transportation and infrastructure, education, economic development, border security and public safety, trade area promotion, commerce and tourism.



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Signature

4-11-14
Date

Gilbert Lopez
Printed Name

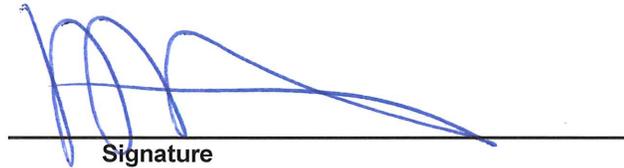
SCMPO
Organization


Signature

4-11-14
Date

JULIA R GUSSE
Printed Name

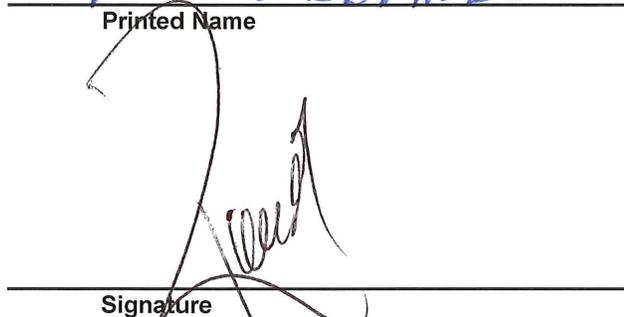
CAG
Organization


Signature

4/11/14
Date

MICHAEL LEFAULT
Printed Name

MARICOPA ASSOC. OF CROP D
Organization


Signature

11 abril 20 14
Date

Raulo G. Lopez
Printed Name

PRE. de la ASOC de Alcedes de Sonora
Organization

**Partnering Charter
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Ken Strobeck
Signature

4-11-14
Date

Ken Strobeck
Printed Name

League of Arizona Cities & Towns
Organization

Jonathan R. Hochchild
Signature

4-15-14
Date

Jonathan R. Hochchild
Printed Name

City of Tucson / P.A.G.
Organization

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Organization

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Organization