



**Pima County Community College District**

**West Campus**

Office of the Campus President  
2202 West Anklam Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85709-0265  
Telephone (520) 206-6752  
Fax (520) 206-6693  
[www.pima.edu](http://www.pima.edu)

November 5, 2014

US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 201410

As President of the West Campus of Pima Community College (PCC) and Past Chair of the Tucson/Pima County Metropolitan Education Commission (MEC), I am writing in support of the City of Tucson's application to become a Promise Zone.

The mission of Pima Community College is *to develop our community through learning*. Our West Campus serves the west side of our community, a portion of our metropolitan community that has a high percentage of low-income households.

As supporting partners, both the PCC West Campus and the MEC will provide advice and direction regarding current and planned activities in the Promise Zone with a special focus on college access and success that includes relevant workforce training and development.

If selected, I can assure that both the West Campus and the MEC will work hard to partner with the federal government to achieve Promise Zone objectives.

Sincerely,

Louis S. Albert, Ph.D.  
Pima Community College  
West Campus President



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
**TECH LAUNCH  
ARIZONA**

220 W. Sixth Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 210300  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0300  
Tel: (520) 621-5000  
Fax: (520) 626-4600

November 7, 2014

US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20410

RE: City of Tucson Promise Zone Designation application

Dear Promise Zone Designation Committee Members:

*The University of Arizona Tech Launch Arizona Program* is committed to supporting the City of Tucson Promise Zone. As a supporting partner, Tech Launch Arizona will provide advice and direction regarding current and planned activities in the Promise Zone. Tech Launch Arizona currently works in partnership with (*Pima County, City of Tucson, Arizona Commerce Authority, and numerous regional businesses*) and is committed to assisting in the attainment of Promise Zone goals. Tech Launch Arizona's Tech House proposal to the EDA and to Blackstone Foundation is outlined below:

**Technology Commercialization Alliance of Southern Arizona (Tech House)**

- Source of Funds: Proposals to Blackstone Foundation (\$100K/1 year); Economic Development Agency (EDA) (\$250K/2 years).
- Amount committed: \$50K/6 months by Tech Launch Arizona and Aztera to sustain Commercialization Network Alliance (CNA) on interim basis pending grant awards
- Grant Term (dates): Grants are expected to begin March 1 and July 1, 2015, respectively.
- Proposed annual outcomes: Organized, comprehensive SBIR/STTR "cluster" ecosystem—Tech House—targeting dramatically increased SBIR/STTR awards in the region to create strong investment pipeline for local and non-local investment, increasing investment capital in region to companies strengthened by non-dilutive SBIR/STTR funding.
- Eligible recipients for grant assistance: Wide range of services provided to members of the SBIR/STTR ecosystem (small companies, researchers, large companies, and program managers) at no cost.
- Targeted areas for assistance: The Tech House approach will focus on five key areas—each highly consistent with high-performing clusters:
  - **Relationships:** Creating and maintaining formal and informal relationships among all stakeholders
  - **Clarity of information:** Establishing and sharing comprehensive understanding of opportunities, agencies, and technology development and business growth expectations and requirements
  - **Partnerships and facilitation:** Create a foundation and mechanisms for formalized partnerships to occur when needed and in the manner needed

- **Cultural impact:** Capture and amplify social, economic, and environmental benefits of eco-system based technology business growth, creating eagerness and excitement among varied populations
- **Evaluation and Statistics:** Deliberate and meaningful targets and assessment and ongoing improvement based on known outcomes
- **Tech Launch Arizona mission statement:** TLA will build upon the synergies among the faculty, administration, students and alumni of the University of Arizona, its tech parks, and the technology and business community to significantly enhance the impact of UA research, intellectual property (IP) and technological innovation.

Please call anytime if I can provide additional information or answer any questions.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Allen".

David N. Allen, PhD.,  
Vice President, Tech Launch Arizona  
The University of Arizona

November 7, 2014



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Washington, DC 20410

The Metropolitan Education Commission (MEC) is committed to supporting the City of Tucson Promise Zone.

The MEC was established in 1989, and is composed of 34 citizen commissioners who advise, make recommendations, and serve as advocates in all areas as they affect the educational welfare of Tucson and Pima County. The MEC's goals include: To empower and advocate for students, their teachers, and their families; To acknowledge individuals and groups within the community whose exemplary service to students and to education merits such special recognition; and To promote graduation from high school as a first step toward an enriched future for students and a realistic sense of their place within the community.

As a supporting partner, the MEC will provide advice and direction regarding current and planned activities in the Promise Zone. MEC currently works in partnership with the City of Tucson, Pima County, the City of South Tucson, local Pima County school districts, Pima Community College, the University of Arizona, the College Advising Corps, and the Arizona College Access Network. MEC is committed to assisting in the attainment of Promise Zone goals. The \$12 million federal grant application for the MEC Postsecondary Success in Arizona Program is summarized below:

Source of Funds: Investing In Innovation (i3) Validation Grant, U.S. Department of Education  
Amount requested/committed: \$13,200,000.00 (includes \$1,200,000 private sector match)  
Grant Term (dates): 1/01/2015 – 12/31/2020

Proposed outcomes: 4,220 high school seniors served with 80% intending to enroll in a postsecondary program; at least 65% will enroll in postsecondary programs and of those enrolling at least 80% will persist through the fourth semester of their postsecondary education.

Eligible recipients for grant assistance: High need/low income First Generation students  
Targeted areas for assistance: 7 Pima County school districts: Ajo, Amphitheater, Joint Technological Education District (JTED), Marana, Sunnyside, Tucson, Vail

Sincerely,

June Webb-Vignery, Ph.D.

MEC Executive Director

930 E. BROADWAY BLVD., TUCSON, AZ 85719  
(520) 670-0055 (Telephone)  
(520) 670-1110 (Fax)

Email: metcom@theriver.com • Website: www.tucsonaz.gov/mec

November 7, 2014



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Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO) is committed to supporting the City of Tucson Promise Zone. As a supporting partner, TREO will provide advice and direction regarding current and planned activities in the Promise Zone. TREO currently works in partnership with Pima County, City of Tucson, surrounding jurisdictions and the State of Arizona to facilitate the attraction, retention, expansion and creation of high-quality jobs for all our citizens.

TREO, the region's private/public economic development agency, focuses on primary job and investment growth in order to increase wealth and accelerate economic prosperity throughout Southern Arizona.

TREO's Economic Blueprint, the region's long-term strategic plan created in 2007 and updated in 2014, established the following community priorities:

- High-skilled, High-wage Jobs
- Educational Excellence
- Urban Renaissance
- Livable Communities
- Collaborative Governance & Stewardship

Our most immediate action items for the next 5-10 years will focus on talent and workforce development, infrastructure, business-friendliness and healthcare.

As a partner with the City of Tucson, we are committed to assisting in the attainment of Promise Zone goals within these priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Snell", written in a cursive style.

Joe Snell  
President & CEO

120 N. Stone Ave, #200  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
Office: 520.243.1900  
1.866.600.0331  
Fax: 520.243.1910  
[www.treoaz.org](http://www.treoaz.org)