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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: December 15, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner   
Acting County Administrator

Re: **Appointment of Pima County Economic Development Director**

On November 7, 2021, the County Administrator notified the Board of Supervisors of the planned retirement of Dr. John Moffatt as Economic Development Director and the initiation of a search for a new Director. Recruitment for this position was undertaken via a competitive process that included screening of 29 applications, interview of 6 candidates by a panel and follow up interviews with the two top rated individuals by me and Deputy County Administrator Carmine DeBonis Jr. Based on this selection process, an offer was made to the best suited candidate.

As such, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Heath Viscovi-Chiordi as Pima County Economic Development Director. Mr. Viscovi-Chiordi has a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science with a Minor in Spanish Language from the University of Arizona. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Arizona and teaches a course that he developed on the essential aspects of Economic Development for Public Administration and Policy Masters Student.

Mr. Viscovi-Chiordi will be joining us from the Town of Marana where he has performed in progressively responsible management and economic development roles including Interim Airport Director, Assistant to Town Manager, Economic Development Specialist and Management Assistant. Heath is also the recipient of numerous professional and community accolades including the 2021 Gabe Zimmerman Public Service Award; 2019 Tucson 40 Under 40 Honoree; 2019 Member of the Year for the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED); and he has also earned an Arizona Economic Development Professional (AZED Pro) certification from AAED.

In addition, Mr. Viscovi-Chiordi is a current member of the Board of Directors for the Pima County Workforce Investment Board, Arizona Town Hall and Tucson Young Professionals. He is a past Board Member for United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona and the Arizona Association for Economic Development. Heath is also an Alumni Chair of the University of Arizona Chapter of the International City/County Management Association and a member of the Judicial Performance Review Commission.

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
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Mr. Viscovi-Chiordi's full resume is attached for your review. Beyond these credentials, Heath possesses an overflowing passion for community and public service which will be of great benefit to County. His starting date with Pima County will be determined in the next couple of weeks as he works to transition from his current role with the Town of Marana.

JL/dym

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
John Moffat, PhD, Director, Economic Development Office

# HEATH S. VESCOVI-CHIORDI, M.P.A., AZED PRO



## ABOUT

A dedicated and motivated Public Administration professional with 8 years of progressively responsible management experience in local government management and council relations, of which 7 years of experience include supervision, creation, implementation, and management of Economic Development programs, policies, projects, and staff.

## EXPERIENCE

Interim Airport Director | March 2021 – July 2021

***Town of Marana – 11700 W. Avra Valley Rd. Marana, AZ 85653***

- Directed all operations for Marana Regional Airport.
- Supported aviation-related Economic Development initiatives at Marana Regional Airport.
- Acted as primary point of contact for all external and internal projects with FAA and ADOT.
- Secured additional administrative assistance for Airport Staff/created finance-related SOPs.
- Helped to secure upwards of \$1.5M worth of Federal and State grants for airport improvement projects.
- Began Siting Study and EA process for Federal Air Traffic Control Tower Construction program.
- Supervised coordination of Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP) for ADOT.

Assistant to the Town Manager | October 2019 - Present

***Town of Marana – 11555 W. Civic Center Dr. Marana, AZ 85653***

- Act as official designated Public Lobbyist on behalf of the Town of Marana.
- Assist in preparation and coordination of Town-wide annual budget.
- Manage and maintain the Marana Citizens' Forum advisory committee.
- Represent the Town Manager's Office in local, state, and national capacities for the Town of Marana.
- Manage and maintain the Management Intern program for the Town Manager's Office.
- Fill critical leadership roles in the event of a vacancy for director, deputy director, and supervisor positions for the Town of Marana.
- Manage and coordinate special projects and long term initiatives within the Town of Marana.
- Craft and distribute all major communications for the Town Manager's Office and Town Council.
- Leverage partnerships with local, state, and national public management organizations to maximize essential service delivery to residents.
- Develop and implement business attraction strategy for Downtown Marana.
- Directly assist the Economic Development Director in policy development, program creation, budget management and interdepartmental projects.
- Other duties as assigned.

Adjunct Professor | August 2016 – Present

***The University of Arizona – 1100 E. University Blvd. #200, Tucson, AZ 85719***

- Designed, implemented, and currently teach a 16 week course focusing on teaching the essentials of Economic Development to Public Admin and Policy Masters Students.
- Linked the course to the statewide Econ Dev organization, AAED, through membership, networking, and professional development opportunities for students.
- Connects students with local Econ Dev orgs and departments for internship and networking opportunities.
- Trains future Public Admin and Policy professionals for careers in Economic Development.
- Assists in placing young professionals in Economic Development careers.

Economic Development Specialist | November 2016 – October 2019

***Town of Marana – 11555 W. Civic Center Dr. Marana, AZ 85653***

- Directly assisted the Economic Development Director in policy development, program creation, budget management and interdepartmental projects.
- Created and managed business retention and expansion programs for Marana.
- Created and implemented Economic Development marketing programs.
- Built and managed all electronic media/information outlets for Economic Development.
- Cultivated and maintained client-customer relationships for attraction, retention and expansion.
- Created, evaluated and managed Economic Development Incentive Programs.
- Leveraged partnerships with local, state, and national Economic Development and private development entities.
- Developed and implemented business attraction strategy for Downtown Marana.
- Coordinated and implemented Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Coordinated Tourism related Economic Development Strategies.

Management Assistant | September 2014 – November 2016

***Town of Marana – 11555 W. Civic Center Dr. Marana, AZ 85653***

- Provided direct support to the Town Manager and Deputy Town Manager in the areas of policy development and implementation, special projects, budget prep, council relations, and more.
- Managed and maintained the Marana Citizens' Forum community outreach program.
- Assisted with strategic planning and interdepartmental programs.
- Conducted research and research analysis for project development, support, and implementation.
- Helped develop and implement council communications programs.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AWARDS, & EXTRAS

- 2021 Gabe Zimmerman Public Service Award Honoree.
- 2019 Tucson 40 Under 40 Honoree.
- AZED Pro Designation for Economic Development in the State of Arizona.
- Alumni Chair of University of Arizona ICMA Chapter.

- Board of Directors Member for the Pima County Workforce Investment Board (PCWIB).
- Former Board of Directors Member for the AZ Association for Economic Development (AAED).
- Former Board of Directors Member at United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona.
- Board of Directors Member for the Arizona Town Hall organization.
- Board of Directors Member for Tucson Young Professionals organization.
- 2020-2023 Judicial Performance Review Commission Member.
- Member of the Year for the Arizona Association for Economic Development (2019).
- New Member of the Year Award for the Arizona Association of Economic Development (2016).
- Elected Precinct Committeeman in Legislative District 3, Precinct 62 in Tucson, AZ.
- Volunteer – United Way Days of Caring, 2018 to present.

## EDUCATION

The University of Arizona (UArizona)

**May 2014** Master of Public Administration

- **Related coursework:** Intergovernmental Theory, Economics, State & Local Finance, Statistics, Program Evaluation, Management Practices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Networking, Policy Analysis.
- Master of Public Administration Student Association Programming Chair.
- Master of Public Administration Student Association First Year Representative.

The University of Arizona (UArizona)

**May 2010** B.A. in Political Science, Minor in Spanish Language

- **Related coursework:** Management Theory, Constitutional Law, Economics, Political Networks, Fundraising, Local, State & National Politics, International Relations, Financing, Communications.

## REFERENCES

Available upon request.