

**Pima County Small Business Commission
Meeting**

Thursday, May 16, 2019
3:00 P.M.

County Administration Building
130 W. Congress, 1st Floor
Tucson, Arizona

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

Michael Mallozzi
Lyra Done
Jenni Zimmerman
Mark Miller
Juan Padres
Gabrielle David (via conference call)
Lucretia Free

Committee Members Absent

Ken Goodman, Chairman
Rhonda Pina
Kent Blumenhal

Staff that Addressed the Committee

Pima County:
Patrick Cavanaugh, Economic Development
Deseret Romero, Economic Development

Guest Speaker:

Lea Marquez-Petersen

Guests:

Supervisor Steve Christy
Beth Borozan
Lynn Davis

MOTIONS

MOTION: Juan Padres moved, seconded by Jenni Zimmerman to approve the April 2019 meeting minutes. Motion approved 6-0.

MOTION: Juan Padres moved, seconded by Lyra Done to adjourn. Motion approved 6-0.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Free and began at 3:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Commission led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Juan Padres moved, seconded by Jenni Zimmerman to approve the April 2019 meeting minutes. Motion approved 6-0.

4. Chairman's Report

No report.

5. Vice Chair's Report

No report.

6. Coordinator's Report

Commission Coordinator Patrick Cavanaugh updated the Commission on Economic Development Director John Moffatt's recent contact with Amazon.

- Amazon has agreed to discuss the small business component.
- Amazon has agreed to attend a Small Business Commission meeting.
- Amazon will be connecting with the tribal governments.

Mr. Cavanaugh will add Amazon as a regular agenda item.

7. Presentation from Lea Marquez Petersen: "The State of the Small Business Economy"

Ms. Marquez Petersen provided her presentation (attached) and responded to questions from the Commission.

8. Pima County Sign Code

Mr. Cavanaugh updated the Commission on the recent meeting between Pima County staff, Commissioner Free and Commissioner Pina. Pima County is continuing to gather feedback for updating the Pima County Sign Code.

9. Community/Rural outreach: Mt. Lemmon Update

Commissioner Zimmerman shared the recent advertising for the upcoming events at the Mt. Lemmon Community Center. She also announced the opening of a gift shop on June 11th.

10. Small Business Commission Awards 2019 Development Process

No report.

11. JTED Update/Discussion of Pima County Assistance to JTED

No report.

12. Other Commission Reports

Commissioner David updated the Commission on the Ajo rate increase issue with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

13. Main Street Employee Ownership Act

Mr. Cavanaugh provided a review of the enacted law addressing the Main Street Employee Ownership Act.

Commissioner Mallozzi shared the positive effects related to the Main Street Employee Ownership Act.

- Builds community wealth
- Changes how employees think because of their ownership of business
- Keeps businesses local

14. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Cavanaugh noted:

- Work Plan related to Ms. Marquez Petersen's presentation
- Amazon
- Sheriff's Department

15. Call to the Public

No one spoke.

16. Adjournment (4:15 p.m.)

MOTION: Juan Padres moved, seconded by Lyra Done to adjourn. Motion approved 6-0.

THE SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMY IN ARIZONA

Lea Márquez Peterson, MBA
President, Márquez Peterson Group – a public affairs firm

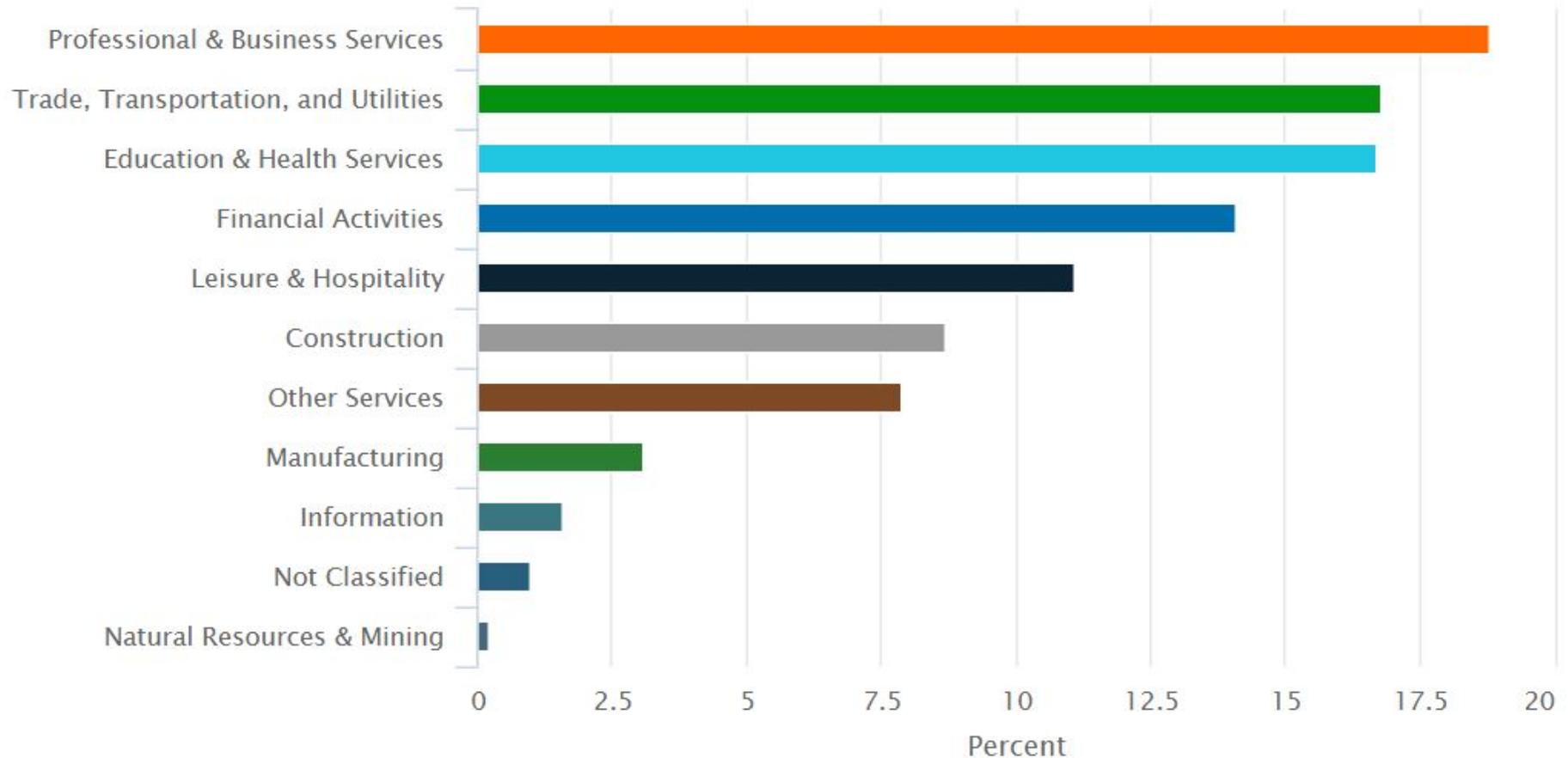
What is the state of Small Business in Arizona?

- Arizona is #1 in nation for entrepreneurial activity (per the ACA)
- 571,495 small businesses in Arizona; 99% of all businesses!
- 1 million employees in Arizona (43.7% of all employees) work at small businesses
- Women own 36% of all businesses; among Hispanic-owned businesses, that share rises to 44%. (U.S SBA)

Business Growth (2017)



Share of Total Business Starts for Tucson MSA by Industry (2015)



U.S. Census Bureau – SUSB via MAP (mapazdashboard.arizona.edu)

Challenges to small business growth

- Access to Capital
- Finding qualified employees (retention)
- Cost of health care
- Overregulation
- Impact of Poverty on small business economy in Southern Arizona
- 58% of adults in rural areas say access to high speed internet is a challenge

Opportunities for small businesses in Arizona

- Only 6400 businesses export products outside of Arizona
- Workforce development programs; Pima County One Stop Center
- Advising and Technical assistance services
- Opportunity Zones
- Collaboration and advocacy as an industry or as a region

Thank you for your service on the Pima County Small Business Commission!