



**Progress report on the *Vision for Arizona* project of
The Center for the Future of Arizona**

June 15, 2005

On March 20, 2005 the Center for the Future of Arizona presented its *Vision for Arizona* to the public in a full page announcement in newspapers across the state. The *Vision for Arizona*, distilled from 50 major Arizona policy reports and endorsed by more than 70 public and private organizations, provides a framework of the issues Arizona must address if we are to create the kind of future we desire.

We are pleased with the very substantial positive response to our announcement of the Visioning project, from news stories and editorials to personal and organizational interest in participating in the project, and we write now to report on our plans for implementing the project.

We are proceeding on three fronts:

First, with the assistance of a team from ASU, we are developing indicators for all of the key elements contained in the Vision statement. The indicators will show Arizona's current and historic position on selected issues such as education, transportation, and the economy, and will provide the foundation on which desired goals for the future can be developed and measured. We expect to have an initial draft of these indicators available for discussion and review by late summer.

Second, we will form two regional Futures Councils over the summer with the intention of having them serve as important pilot projects that will enable us to determine the best way to organize and carry out the implementation of the *Vision for Arizona* throughout the state.

Third, and finally, we continue to explore ways to identify a limited number of break-through strategies (called BHAGs, or Big Hairy Audacious Goals in our various public discussions) that will enable us to identify and accomplish some truly transformational changes as Arizona continues its rapid growth over the next 15 to 20 years. One of the most frequently mentioned bold initiatives would move Arizona's public education system to the top quartile among the states by the year 2020.

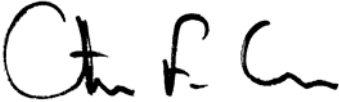
We, at the Center, are busily at work developing our staffing and funding plan for the implementation phase of the Visioning project, and we hope to have all of that in place by the end of the summer, as well.

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We want to thank all of you who've helped us develop and launch the Visioning project to date and we invite you to continue your close ties with us as we move into the implementation phase of the project. We are currently in the process of redesigning our website, www.ArizonaFuture.org, to provide fresh and timely information about the Visioning project on a regular basis and we invite you to stay in touch with us through that website.

Thanks again for your interest and help.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lattie F. Coor in black ink, consisting of stylized cursive letters.

Lattie F. Coor, Ph.D.
Chairman and CEO

Handwritten signature of Sybil Francis in black ink, featuring a large 'S' and 'F' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sybil Francis, Ph.D.
Executive Director