

## **Mayor Gordon Appoints Business Leaders to Phoenix Workforce Connection Board**

Mayor Phil Gordon recently appointed seven valley business leaders from prominent companies and organizations to the Phoenix Workforce Connection Board. The board, under the leadership of Michael Fisher, senior property manager for Westcor, provides governance and establishes policy for the local workforce investment area one-stop system in partnership with chief local elected officials. Members of the board consist of executive level business leaders (majority), community/faith based partners and senior level managers from state and local government.

The newly appointed board members are: Kristen Lopez, Arizona Small Business Association; Jesus Love, US Bank; Judy Norris, Arizona Public Service; Michelle Rill, The Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce; Sarah Woods, Bayard Advertising; Josiemarie Martinez, The Arizona Republic and; Anese "Linda" Spearman, American Express.

Business and community leaders are making the commitment to come together work on issues facing the community and region during times of financial and economic turmoil. Board members along with stakeholders create collaborative partnerships to better align and leverage resources to develop sustainable systems and solutions to grow and retain a qualified and skilled workforce. Some of the Phoenix Workforce Connection partners represented are economic development, post secondary education, workforce development, business associations and industries.

The Phoenix Workforce Connection One-Stop System offers workforce solutions to businesses and individuals. This is accomplished through a menu of services offered through multiple access points throughout the community. Workforce solutions available to businesses include: assistance with applicant recruitment, referral, and pre-screening; employee assessments (basic, occupation, and workplace skills); advertising or recruitment of job openings; access to a database of qualified applicants; retention services; and support or guidance services for managers and employees during downsizing.

To find out more about Phoenix Workforce Connection visit <http://phoenix.gov/phxwc/index.html> or call 602-262-6776 for general information or Krista Rippee at 602-534-0548 for board membership information.