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AZ Green Chamber Endorses David Ortega for Mayor of Scottsdale

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The Arizona Green Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce its endorsement of David Ortega for Mayor of Scottsdale in the 2020 General Election. This endorsement is based on Mr. Ortega's answers to an open-ended survey put together by the Board of Directors for the AZ Green Chamber of Commerce. The quotes below are selections of Mr. Ortega's response from the survey, which included a broad swath of sustainability issues, from water and waste, to renewable energy and sustainable food systems.

A trained and practicing architect, Mr. Ortega served on the Scottsdale City Council in 2000-2004, and supported the creation of the Green Building program to streamline building permit processes and incentivize application of sustainable principles. He continues to believe that the Green Building program should be promoted in Scottsdale *"as much as possible."*

On the crucial issue of water and the prolonged drought in Arizona, Mr. Ortega has said he will support tiered water rates and other incentives to encourage conservation: *"The cheapest way to increase the availability of limited resources is conservation. This has been achieved through rebates for installing low-flush toilets and irrigation using gray water, which should be expanded. But more importantly and significant, water escalation rates encourage xeriscaping."*

On the important issue of renewable energy, Mr. Ortega's position is clear: *"...As renewable energy becomes ever more competitive in price with fossil energy, the City will and shall be a leader in the Valley in adopting and using it."*

Finally, when asked if he would support the creation of a sustainability staff position within the City of Scottsdale which could pay for itself in just a few years through the water, waste and energy efficiencies it would create, Mr. Ortega was enthusiastic: *"I am wholeheartedly in favor of such a staff position."*

For more than a decade, the Arizona Green Chamber has worked hard to...

- Promote innovative green business ideas
- Publicize green businesses
- Enable and educate businesses how to become green or greener
- Advocate for and organize green businesses to impact public policy in a non-partisan way
- Connect green businesses with customers.

The Arizona Green Chamber is a non-partisan 501(c)6 organization that serves as a portal of information, resources and connectivity, aligning companies of all sizes and other community organizations, agencies and municipalities to address the need for economic growth in Arizona that is sustainable and environmentally responsible. We envision Arizona as a leader for socially responsible and diverse "green" businesses and industries that create a stronger and more resilient state economy.

Please visit us and join us in our mission at www.azgreenchamber.org