



June 15, 2022

President Karen Fann  
Arizona Senate  
1700 W. Washington Street,  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Senate Minority Leader Rios  
Arizona Senate  
1700 W. Washington Street,  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Speaker Rusty Bowers  
Arizona House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington Street,  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

House of Representatives Minority Leader Bolding  
Arizona House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington Street,  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear President Fann, Speaker Bowers, Minority Leader Rios, and Minority Leader Bolding:

I write this letter on behalf of Arizona Forward's Forest Health Committee to respectfully request the Arizona's Legislature's support of the Department of Forestry and Fire Management (Department) budget request for the State's Healthy Forest Initiative and the Good Neighbor Authority Program. The Healthy Forest Initiative and the Good Neighbor Authority Program are critically important functions of the Department that are actively reducing wildfire risk, accomplishing forest restoration goals, and protecting our communities and natural resources from devastating wildfires.

[Arizona Forward](#) is a 53-year-old non-profit with a mission to connect business and civic leaders to improve the environmental sustainability and economic vitality of Arizona. [Our members](#) range from large technology manufacturers and municipalities to small businesses and utility companies. One of Arizona Forward's four strategic priorities in 2022 is improving forest health. Every month, a member-led Forest Health Committee meets to discuss forest health solutions for our State. In May 2022, the Forest Health Committee discussed the proposed budget for the Arizona Healthy Forests Initiative and the Good Neighbor Authority Program.

The Forest Health Committee supports increased funding and resources to the Department to help increase the pace and scale of forest restoration throughout Arizona. The State plays a critical role in helping us achieve forest restoration goals and reducing wildfire across the State of Arizona. In addition, the Department is working closely with variety of partners and businesses to ensure the protection of communities and invest in rural economies. Increased funding and resources are important to ensure the Department and the State can achieve their forest restoration

The Forest Health Committee thanks you for leadership, continued support of forest restoration efforts and supporting the Department's goals to reduce wildfire risk across the State. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Oliver Adams  
Forest Health Committee Chair & Board Member, Arizona Forward  
Vice-President Operations, Mother Road Brewing Company

CC: Arizona Forward Board of Directors