



Media Release

For Immediate Release
October 13, 2015

Contact: David S. Steele
520.321.1111 o
520.907.2620 m

SAHUARITA FARMS PLAN UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY COUNCIL Provides a 40-50 year framework for development of FICO farmland

(Sahuarita, Ariz.) Last night, the Sahuarita Town Council unanimously approved the Sahuarita Farms Specific Plan and Development Agreement. The approval comes more than 4-years after FICO initially submitted the plan and after dozens of public meetings, hearings and open houses.

The Sahuarita Farms plan will guide the development of FICO's farmland as it transitions to other uses over the next 40-50 years. It will create a sustainable community that includes housing, commercial and employment uses, parks, trails, and open space. Sahuarita Farms also includes a river master plan that transforms the 12-miles of the Santa Cruz River running through the town into recreation and natural areas while providing flood control.

"This has been our family's home for more than 65 years and will continue to be," said Dick Walden, President and CEO of Farmers Investment Co. "It is important that we leave the best legacy possible for our children, our employees and our community. I know that the Sahuarita Farms Land/River Plan provides the foundation for a bright future for the Town of Sahuarita. We appreciate the leadership of the Mayor and Council to bring us to this point."

FICO submitted the Sahuarita Farms plan to the Town of Sahuarita in 2011. Since then, the plan has been the topic of many public meetings and open houses, governmental hearings and stakeholder meetings. In March 2014, Pima County approved the plan covering the portion of the FICO farm in unincorporated Pima County.

Given the long-term nature of master plan implementation, FICO will continue its successful local farming operation to meet the national and global market for its pecans for the foreseeable future. In that regard, FICO has near term plans to expand its corporate presence of over 270 employees in Sahuarita and to upgrade its pecan processing facility. And FICO looks forward to continuing its corporate support of the local community by hosting the 7th annual [Sahuarita Pecan Festival](#) next month on November 14th

For more information about Sahuarita Farms, go to: www.SahuaritaFarms.com