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## MACKENZIE HIRES CHRIS BLAKNEY AS SENIOR ECONOMIST



**Portland, Oregon** – Managing Principal Rich Mitchell announces the strategic hire of Chris Blakney, assuming the position of Senior Economist—a new role at Mackenzie. Blakney has spent the past 12 years at Johnson Economics, but has been involved in conducting economic and regional analysis studies on many projects with Mackenzie. “Chris Blakney and Johnson Economics have been a pivotal asset for Mackenzie over the last several years,” Mitchell said. “We decided to bring Chris on, recognizing that his talents will strengthen Mackenzie’s ability to support the needs of our clients in analyzing the economic feasibility of a project in any given region,” Mitchell claimed.

Chris Blakney’s understanding of current industry and economic trends, reputable work ethic, and proven track record of influencing economic growth in the region, were a few key reasons Mackenzie brought Blakney to the firm. Mackenzie’s Director of Land Use Planning, Todd Johnson, believes Blakney’s expertise adds a new dimension to the Mackenzie team. “Chris’s experience is an exciting extension of our ability to support our clients with an expansive understanding of the current market trends,” Johnson said. “His depth of knowledge of regional economies reinforces our market driven approach to project design and delivery.”

Blakney has been serving public and private sector clients across the Pacific Northwest for over 12 years, managing projects that include economic development and impact analyses, market analyses, due diligence studies and feasibility analyses. Blakney has had a distinguished career furthering the development of land parcels in Oregon and Washington, including an economic analysis supporting Land for Jobs initiatives; a project to modernize Oregon’s Industrial Site Certification Program; and a feasibility analysis informing the redevelopment of the Lloyd Superblock into Hassalo on Eighth. “Above all, what excites me about joining Mackenzie is the daily exposure to a multi-disciplinary team,” Blakney said, enthusiastic about his transition to Mackenzie. “The cross-pollination of knowledge that comes with a daily interaction with planners, engineers, architects, and designers, is invaluable for growth in my discipline.” Blakney holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics, with an emphasis in mathematics and domestic policy, from Pacific Lutheran University.

### **About Mackenzie**

Mackenzie is a provider of professional design services comprised of professionals in architecture and interior design; structural, civil and traffic engineering; land use and transportation planning; and landscape architecture. Anchored in the foundational elements of high performance elements and client focus, Mackenzie brings deep expertise in commercial office, healthcare, community infrastructure, education, institutional, federal, high tech, public building, industrial, retail, and mixed use projects. For more information, please visit [www.mcknze.com](http://www.mcknze.com) or call 503-224-9560.