Betsy Cohen is the Executive Director for the regional Immigration & Innovation Initiative called The St. Louis Mosaic Project. This initiative is a joint collaboration of the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, the Regional Chamber, the Regional Business Council, five universities and leaders of the other 15+ organizations on the Steering Committee. The goal is that by 2020 our region will have the fastest growth rate of foreign-born people, reversing our current declines on our regional population of 2.8 million. With this new talent at all skill levels will come entrepreneurship, job creation and people to add to our neighborhood schools, businesses, government, culture and shared economic prosperity. We will involve business, government, education, faith, safety, health, culture, diverse local chambers and agencies plus the people of our region. This initiative will add to local momentum already building for the high number of technology startups and plant science opportunities.

Betsy is on the board of the St. Louis United Way, the Advisory Board of the St. Louis University Cook School of Business, the St. Louis Crisis Nursery Advisory Board and the Washington University Council for Sustainability. She has been recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as one of the most influential women in St. Louis, and she has been recognized by the YWCA as a regional corporate leader.

Betsy received her BA from Wellesley College and her MBA from the Harvard Business School. She speaks French, beginner Spanish and had a long career with international colleagues in her previous role as a vice president at Nestle Purina. At Purina, she also launched and led a St. Louis regional coalition.

Info about the initiative: www.StlMosaicProject.org