

Railvolution

**A Regional “Game-Changer”
Sustainable Communities Working Group**

October 19, 2011

Shannon L. Scutarí



“The Phoenix” - a mythical bird that bursts into flames and is reborn from its own ashes

“The Phoenix” - rises from the ashes in a more powerful and beautiful form

The Ashes

“No economic recovery is possible in Arizona without strong recovery in housing and construction sectors.”

-Elliot Pollack, Arizona Economist

“Arizona Leads the Way in Job Losses. Arizona has lost 300,000 jobs since late 2007.”

- Arizona Republic, Sept. 28, 2011

“100,000 Arizona foreclosures (single family homes & condos). For those who have managed to keep their homes, more than 50% of Phoenix area homeowners owe more than their home is worth and are “underwater” on their mortgages .”

- Associated Press

The Rising

Maricopa County Voters
Overwhelmingly Approve
20-year Regional Sales Tax for Rail,
Transit and Roadways which includes
57 miles of Regional Rail Lines

- *Proposition 400: November, 2004*

“2/3 of the housing units
necessary to support 50-year
growth projections have not been
built yet. The entire Valley could
be reshaped if growth and
development patterns are
transformed.”

- *Valley Forward Livability Summit, 2010*

“We envision a
metropolitan area where
you can choose to live
where everything you do
or need is within a nicely
shaded walking distance
or bike ride or close to
safe and affordable high-
capacity public transit.
Your home, health care,
workplace, nightlife,
recreation, schools,
libraries, sporting events
and shopping – all
available without the
need to hunt for a parking
spot.”

- *Tempe, Phoenix and Mesa Mayors*

Game-Changer: Mayors + Rail + \$ = New Mindset



Sustainable Communities Working Group

A one-of-a-kind ***state, local, regional, private, and non-profit partnership*** seeking to make equitable ***Transit Oriented Development (TOD)*** a ***reality*** in areas of Greater Phoenix well served by mass transit.

“Imagination is more important than knowledge.
Knowledge is limited, and imagination encircles
the world.”

-Albert Einstein

Public Partners

- **Arizona Departments of Housing and Transportation**
- **Cities of Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa**
- **Metro Light Rail**
- **ASU Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family**
- **Phoenix Industrial Development Authority**

Private Partners - \$20M Fund

- **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)**
- **Raza Development Fund**
- **Urban Land Institute**
- **State Farm**

Foundation / Non-Profit Partners

- **Phoenix Community Alliance**
- **East Valley Partnership**
- **Downtown Phoenix Partnership**
- **St. Luke's Health Initiative**
- **Arizona Community Foundation**
- **Valley Forward**

Sustainable Communities Working Group

- Provides “connective tissue” for intergovernmental cooperation
- Engages neighborhood residents early before projects are presented by developers
- Engages developers to look at the whole station area when planning project

Sustainable Communities Working Group

- **Provides private funding to reduce risk for lenders and assist w/ access to public funds**
- **Public sector elected officials and staff are key partners for public policy changes**
- **Independent party assisting with the identification of TOD opportunities along transit corridors**

Thank you

For more information contact:
Shannon L. Scutari
Scutari & Co., LLC.
(602) 810-4505
slscutari@gmail.com

sustainable communities working group