Railvolution

A Regional “Game-Changer”
Sustainable Communities Working Group
October 19, 2011

Shannon L. Scutari
“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
"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
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

“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.”

- Valley Forward Livability Summit, 2010

“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.”

- 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 with 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

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