

## Arizona City Preferred Future Workshop Summary Report

Date: April 16, 2008  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Location: Central Lutheran Church

### Handouts

Preferred Alternative Vision Handout  
Land Use Plan Map  
Multimodal Circulation Plan Map  
Economic Development Plan Map

### Attendees (10):

Bear Albrecht; Evelyn Casuga; Ruth Dahl; Mary Lopez; Benjamin Maresca; W. Barry McCain; Claudine Sabel; Paul Sabel; Justin Stabley and Fred Stevens

### MEETING SUMMARY

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The purpose of the Pinal Preferred Future Workshop was to bring together residents and stakeholders from around Pinal County to receive input on Pinal Preferred Future built through the input of previous public involvement activities, work group input, and Comprehensive Plan Team effort and depicted in a series of three plans: land use, multimodal circulation, and economic development. Prior to the start of the event, participants reviewed the Pinal Preferred Future Plans and browsed related exhibits.

The event was guided by a detailed PowerPoint presentation that described the Comprehensive Plan process and project status, addressed some of the planning realities facing Pinal County, reviewed the Pinal County Vision, and described the land use, multimodal circulation, and economic development plans. The presentation guided participants through a feedback instrument that solicited input on the three plan maps presented, as well as 12 “Cool Tools” which could help implement the Plan; some of the “Cool Tools” presented were those offered by the Morrison Institute in their 2007 report, *The Future At Pinal*, while others were developed by the Pinal County Comprehensive Plan team. The Pinal Preferred Future Workshop PowerPoint is available in the project website Library at: [www.PinalCountyPlan.com](http://www.PinalCountyPlan.com).

### FEEDBACK FORM SUMMARY

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**Forms received: 8**

**Note: Feedback as found in this report is recorded as it was received and is not edited for content or grammar.**

### Pinal Preferred Future Plan Comments

Are there changes you would suggest regarding the **land use** plan?

- Incorporates all the input well from multiple meetings!
- I've been to several of the presentations and the Land Use Plan has come a long way. Good job.

- Keep open one as - develop Sabino Canyon – like areas – user fees – generates its own revenue – hospitality business and outdoor education – camping, hiking, biking, etc.
- Best said, agree with you all in presentation totally. Don't have anything to say that Peggy, Curtis or Audra said.

Are there changes you would suggest regarding the **multimodal circulation** plan?

- Highway 87 Commuter Rail – tie to commercial airport. I really like the Context Sensitive Corridor along the 79.
- The Highway Capacity Roadway, running between the Tohono O'Odham Nation and Arizona City will probably run into some problems. There are major drainage issues, currently. If to construct a roadway, where will the drainage end up? Also, the Nation currently has farm land in the area. There is same housing development to be put in on some of this farm land (just a proposal now).
- Commuter rail most effective next to a large airport.

Are there changes you would suggest regarding the **economic development** plan?

- Need to hold onto employment centers and achieve 500 jobs per 1000 residents (not just retail/commercial jobs, but living wage jobs). Pinal County needs to actively support regional economic development efforts such as CAREDF, NEPEP and the Copper Corridor.
- Nope.
- Build on “already there” powerhouses, i.e. the Casa Grande Medical Community.

### **“Cool Tools” Selection Summary and Comments**

Participants were asked to select up to four “Cool Tools” they liked most. The following summarizes the selection totals and any submitted comments.

Pinal Consensus Council: 1  
 Pinal as Regional Service Provider: 1  
 “Greenprint” Developable Lands: 3  
 Purchase Open Space: 4  
 Outdoor Education: 3  
 Megapolitan Mobility Project: 5  
 Community Garden Project: 0  
 Sonoran-Friendly Landscaping: 1  
 Pinal Scholars Fund: 4  
 County-Wide Broadband/WiFi: 5  
 “Green” Employment District: 4  
 Cash for Grass Rebate Program: 0

#### **Comments provided:**

Pinal Consensus Council:

- No comments.

Pinal as Regional Service Provider:

- No comments.

“Greenprint” Developable Lands:

- No comments.

Purchase Open Space:

- Great idea! This will keep developers from grabbing all the land.
- Better ensure what has been expressed as a desire by residents.
- And other alternative for funding.

Outdoor Education:

- Teach students at a young age to treat the open spaces with care.
- They need hands-on experience to the outdoors.

Megapolitan Mobility Project:

- We are behind in transportation. We need to connect cities in the county and between Phoenix and Tucson.
- Will take a regional effort to be successful.

Community Garden Project:

- No comments.

Sonoran-Friendly Landscaping:

- No comments.

Pinal Scholars Fund:

- Need to keep people here. We need higher education in Pinal County.
- Indeed – tie to a very active/proactive economic development program.

County-Wide Broadband/WiFi:

- Really need this county-wide.
- It is good for information and also communication.

“Green” Employment District:

- Get out in front of emerging industries.

Cash for Grass Rebate Program:

- No comments.

**Additional comments:**

- I believe all the plans have had great input during the past year. I know somethings will change, but doing planning now makes sense.
- I’m a Tohono O’Odham member. We have a scholarship program and part of the agreement of receiving a scholarship is upon getting a degree is that you return to the Tohono O’Odham Nation and work for the Nation for a year or two. But, as mentioned, there needs to be jobs to fit the education. I really like the idea of the “Cool Tools”.
- Build on “already developed” businesses or regions, i.e. Casa Grande Regional Medical and Heart Institute. Develop more specialty medical and supply. Build, preserve and

support historic areas, i.e. ruins, historic downtowns, so they become retail/tax generating, like Bisbee and Jerome. Keep these areas in county.

- I have chosen these four for these reasons: Outdoor Education to increase interest in young people to want to work in Pinal County, Pinal Scholars Fund for same reason. County-wide broadband, for these conferences and such to save on traffic congestion and using now technology efficiently same as outdoor Greenprint Developable Lands. Important to use alternative energy such as solar, wind energy, etc. It is, as always, a fun experience with this group.