

DRAFT

Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan



SONORAN DESERT CONSERVATION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

EDUCATION SESSION #3

July 24, 1999 (9:00 - 11:30 a.m.)
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (Gallery)
2021 N. Kinney Road /
Tucson, Arizona, 85743

PIMA COUNTY'S PEOPLE, ECONOMY, WATER AND LAND

Pima County's Social Demographics
David Taylor

SHARON BRONSON

Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

I am Sharon Bronson, Chair of the Pima County Board of Supervisors for those of you who may not know me and I want to welcome all of you here today for this third session. I would like to recognize Joe Joaquin, Tohono O'Odham Nation Cultural Affairs; Daniel Preston, San Xavier District; Renee Red Dog, Planner for the Tohono O'Odham Nation and Kathy Jacobs with the Arizona Department of Water Resources. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for coming. I would like to note that a session was added to the Educational Series in December when the Tohono O'Odham Nation will present cultural and historic information as the process goes forward. At this point, I will turn the meeting over to Chuck Huckelberry, County Administrator to tell you about updates.

CHUCK HUCKELBERRY

Pima County Administrator

We have, for those of you who picked up a packet, several memorandums containing materials submitted to the Board of Supervisors over the last week. One of the memorandums is an update and status report about what is occurring with the plan, what activities have occurred and it provides all the summaries and high points. If you are interested in a longer version of the update, we have bound versions containing more detail. We are moving along on the technical side. Staff has been doing a series of introductory technical and/or information reports of all elements of the Plan. A few weeks ago a report was published for the historical and cultural aspects of the plan. We recently published a report on the riparian issue and the water resources element of the plan. As you look around the room you will notice there are many exhibits contained in the larger documents on poster boards set up for viewing. These provide a history of riparian decline and County urbanization that has occurred. We hope that within the next ten days there will be another book on the mountain parks which is similar to other reports that are coming out. The books provide baseline information about each of the elements of the plan are available at the County Administrator's Office for those interested in obtaining a copy. We accept comments, review and critiques for the final product, as we go along. This helps us develop the plan and make it better.

SHARON BRONSON

Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

It is my pleasure as we begin this third session on Pima County's People, Economy and Land, to introduce David Taylor. He is the Planning Program Coordinator for the City of Tucson Planning Department. David has a very extensive resume and I think you will enjoy hearing him speak. Whenever I attend a forum where David speaks, I come away with a smile on my face and a better understanding of who and what we are as citizens of Pima County. His education includes a Masters of Arts and Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology from the University of Arizona. Let me introduce David Taylor at this point.

PIMA COUNTY'S SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHICS: DAVID TAYLOR

Good morning. It is great of all of you to be here this morning, especially coming out on a hot muggy day in the middle of summer and listen to an economist, two planners and a lawyer. Boy, talk about community spirit.

We are here to help you understand some of those issues such as land, which Frank Behlau will talk to you about, Pima County's economy will be discussed by Marshall Vest and Michael McNulty will talk to you about water issues. I am going to talk to you about social demographics plus everything you did not want to know. The only reason we are here is to help you folks understand the issues and what we are going to do is not give you a set speech. When you are confused and when we say something really stupid, stick your hand up and if we are alert enough to see it, we will stop and talk about what it is that we just got through saying and hopefully help you to solve it.

This is sort of the mother of all slide shows, (Marshall has a nice presentation that has color and 21st century technology). This is a chart about population growth and it is typically the sort of chart that was shown to you by Chambers of Commerce. You should be shocked if you look at this chart for more than a second because it is useless.

Pima County, for 200 centuries, was the home of folks who did not know about these issues because they lived in the land rather than on the land, and then we showed up. Many of the Tohono O'Odham think the neighborhood went to hell on the first day we got here 200 years ago. It was Spain for 30 years, then it was Mexico for 30 years and then people who look like me stole it.

The local residents were so thrilled about being sold to the Yankees in 1854 that they burned all the tax records downtown in a big bonfire in celebration of this event. When people that look like me showed up, what we thought the desert needed was to be arranged, usually like a checker board and so you can tell the part of downtown that was built by the Spaniards, it kind of follows the land. The roads were essentially a cow path. Now your cow was your civil engineer, rather than Mr. Huckelberry. The cow refuses to go up anything more than a 2.5% grade so if you stay on a cow path you are fine.

People that came originally from Northern Europe or England wanted to make the road square and so they spent a lot longer by these shady mountains straightening roads, engineers love to straighten things. The real growth curve is not straight as this curve, that is reality.

Obviously that is a lie, we have had boom and bust, boom and bust. You can see too, here is the real estate glut, this is the new tax law.

Notice that historically, however, after the great war is when we really grew in Pima County. This is a real chart. In the future, you will have both economy and population growth that will look like the past. You will have good times and not so great times. The not so great times in Pima County are better than any good times, you have to keep your focus on it is not that bad.

Here is an example of how the city grows, this could be Eloy, Benson or whatever, nothing happened here until World War II and then both population and area kind of go up in tandem.

Why is that? Well, most of Arizona cities tend to be somewhere between 2,500 and 3,000 people to the mile. That is the taste for the views that we come to Arizona for so we never really get very dense. Los Angeles has 7,000 people to the mile, there is no city in Arizona that comes close to that, the City of Tucson has 2,500.

It is okay for you to look at this, it's kind of an age-sex pyramid, this is not a weird game that comes on MTV. Babies are on the bottom, seniors are at the top and ladies are to the right. Now you see the Baby Boomlet, you see the little notch; that is high school age, that is the baby bust and that is the reason Catalina High School was not all that heavily enrolled a couple of years ago.

Over the next 20 odd years, notice how old the Baby Boomers are. Now these people have inherited seven trillion dollars and they spent it all, okay? They have those little ropes around the back of their glasses and they are all driving Saabs and Volvo's but they have BMW brochures in the back seat. They were not hampered by the Depression and did not go through the big war so why care? They have all the money but they really do not like sacrifice.

Here is the net change. From 1995 to 2015, this is how we are going to grow, these are the folks that are not here now but they are going to be. Notice the Baby Boomers represented by that bulge. That bulge is there because the Baby Boomers are creating jobs, serve on committees and they pay taxes, it is going to be a good fiscal picture. You wanted to do something heroic over the next 20 years, this demographic picture says you have got to have the money. That's good. Now you notice the 30-year-olds come and disappear. All the heavy metal rock stations better get into golden oldies. Then there is this little bulge, the 1.3 kids the yuppies are going to have. Well, they are not all yuppies, they are closer to my age they grumpies, grim and ruthless and upwardly mobile professionals. Notice here at the top of the chart that there is nothing. What is that? Well, in 2015 we will have fewer 75-year-olds, I will be 75 in 2015. There are fewer of us and they are here today. It is the burden of testosterone. You have here 20,000 women over the age of 85 in twenty years, they will have outlived their pension. What do we do? Ladies, save your money!

Here is 2025, look at how square this population pyramid is. In the developing nation of Guatemala, very wide at the bottom and very narrow at the top. When it looks this square, you have Denmark. Why do you care about that? Any demographic age-sex pyramid that looks like this, those are socialists. It is a weird fact that the Baby Boomlet generation is going to turn socialist. Was that sobbing? No?

Here is 2050, usually the limit even in a planner's planning horizon, and look at how square it is. You notice the Baby Boomlet? What we have is about one-third of the populations beyond it. About one-third of the population is still in school so one of the issues that happens when they get past 2015 is that taxes really start to weigh on people that are working. It is like Scandinavia, the tax rates are rather high because that is the nature of how many people who are younger and older than the normal workforce.

Another thing about the population age: there are many discussions in the city about decaying infrastructure and about schools that are under-enrolled. It is the nature of both the level of the County and in anybody's neighborhood that population waxes and wanes.

This is normal, it is not some fool at the city who made a crazy decision but one of the things you probably do not want to do to a valley like ours, with population growth like ours, is to continue to put huge, sunk costs and expenses into fixed things that only have one use. We used to build 33 room school rooms, one furnace and one cooler and in those neighborhoods we need one-half that size school. If you have to think about this at all, what you want is multiple use facilities. In fact, when you are in the downside of the population cycle, it can be used for something else and then all the empty nesters and the widows disappears from that neighborhood and it fills up with young people again and you are right back to where you were 25 years ago.

For 200 centuries, 100% of us were Native Americans and that started to decline as Spain arrived. About 90% of the population in Pima County 140 years ago was Hispanic which declined to about 25% by 1950 and by 2050, we will be back to about 40%. Here, the chart shows no Anglo's until all of a sudden, the population just jumped straight up in the air by 1850 with 80% of the population of the valley being Anglo. Here, the chart shows African-Americans, Asians and Native Americans. In the future, the valley will be like Hawaii in that there will be no majority culture here in 2050. About 40% will be Anglo, 40% Hispanic, and approximately 6% each will be Native Americans, African-Americans and Asians so we are a chocolate chip cookie. We are still going to celebrate our cultural differences. Remember "Tucson Eat Yourself" every October? We will not be a milk shake, we will be chocolate chip cookie dough and for the residents, part of the great attraction of the valley is the fact they do not come here looking for Illinois, they come here to see what Native Americans and Hispanics have built architecturally. We come here to celebrate the values that distinctive cultures bring to our valley. There are over 200 ancestral groups in Tucson that have more than 500 people. There are 8,000 households in Pima County that speak German. We are like a United Nations and Tucson economically is like Ellis Island, it is just that we did not have an ocean.

Our population changes rapidly, this is just one year indicating in-migration 57,000 and people leaving, 40,000 folks; people being born at about 11,600, people dying 6,600 and the net change at 22,000 which is approximately what it is this year. That happens every year with one-third of the population, nearly 300,000 people in Pima County think there is an end to Wilmot.

They are clueless about water issues, never heard of Mike McNulty, think Mr. Huckelberry is the Mayor. They do not take a morning or evening newspaper and they get their entire input of the world from KNST and CNN, they are non-involved, they do not vote so amongst the real issues that you hear in this community is, how do you get enough stakeholders to care enough to make sacrifices? Because you work in a strategic process to develop a long-range plan to preserve all the things that hold us down here, all the things you cherish and the issue is, one-third of the population turns old, one-third of the population of the valley is going to be less in five years. Not only is there an annual cycle and Marshall will discuss the economy, here on this chart you can see the wax and wanes of residential permits. It has been like that since World War II, it does not matter who the politicians are in Washington or Tucson so amongst the things we have to think about as we formulate business plans, County budgets, city budgets that run like a roller coaster, it is never flat. Every not-for-profit and those jurisdictions with their budget requests for the following year, it is always last year's budget plus 3% of the base for the chief executive. This is stupid! This is the economy you would expect, it is the nature of how we work here.

We talked a little bit about in and out migration, where do Tucsonans come from? Phoenix! You have more Tempe graduates in Tucson than there are in Maricopa County, then surrounding Arizona communities and the Los Angeles area. Now most of the Californians who move here are simply looking for the same at a cheaper rate. They are from Chicago, they are people who believe in lawns. Remember "Lawn of the Year"?

We export people also. Where do we send people? To Maricopa County. We send them right back to Phoenix and surrounding counties and Southern California. We actually export more people to Phoenix than we import. Foreign/Overseas in the Los Angeles area and other Southern California locations in surrounding counties is where we send those folks.

What about the folks that come here? They are almost all poorer than existing residents. Foreign or overseas sources of our immigration was a very high proportion. We are upside down at \$15,000.00 per year on the relative salaries of people coming in versus people going out. Whereas, if we can import people from Dallas and Seattle we are doing real well. Why do you care about this? Most of the people come to Tucson are like me; coming in on bald eagles and five cylinders. They have immediate need for social services and support systems and those are very expensive to fund, aren't they? It is going to grow! But, they are like most of those folks that landed at Ellis Island, with a little help, with a little luck and some hard work they are running things. They are the American Dream in the sense of a move, a move will solve a family problem, you just have to believe it. American mobility, the freedom to move is so precious. I had a Russian friend visiting here who was astounded that Americans can move anywhere without telling anyone or without registering. Once we are here, we move along.

This chart illustrates residents counted in the last census with about 43% of the people are in the same house, 30% were in a different house. Every time we talk about impact fees for the newcomers, 30% of the new home buyers are already here. They are, as you are, trading up, or the house is too big after the kids leave, let's get a townhouse, let's not be landed gentry anymore. Once we are here we move around a lot.

This chart applies to the city but applies to counties too, and 57% of the residents in the City of Tucson rent, 57% of the renters moves again in less than 18 months. Here is the apartment manager giving away the microwave and the free carpet upgrade and about one-half of the rental population in the city has jumped straight up in the air and redistributes itself every summer. It is U-Haul madness. About three years ago 49% of the U-Hauls west of the Mississippi were in Phoenix. They called me up in a panic and wanted to know what to do. I said, "Keep them, they will be leaving soon enough." At the neighborhood scale with this kind of movement in and out of the County and around the community - (I am in my eleventh house and I have lived here for 42 years. I am normal as it turns out. Even the homeowner moves on the average every three and a half years in Pima County) - stakes in neighborhood scale issues can be pretty low when you move that much. It is hard to set the renter in a big apartment complex real interested in zoning issues because in their heart of hearts, they know they are gone next year, they are not here. Or the big companies like Microsoft or Raytheon have not moved me out so amongst the real challenges for you who have demonstrated that you are good stewards, that you care and you are here, you are 15 miles west of where you live probably, on a Saturday morning, and one of the real challenges is tying up people in today's issues, irrespective of their point of view, so they will do something, they will act, they will vote and make commitments to bond issues.

Labor Force Participation: why would you care about that? Boys are on the left, ladies are on the right and notice the growth in labor force participation is lead by females. Some of that is changing cultural attitudes about, "I can be president." Do you notice the boys, they are flatter than a pancake. What is going to happen in the future is the labor force participation rate of the females is going to approximate the national average, it is going to be somewhere in the mid-1960's if not higher. Why do you care about that? Mom is not home, everyone has one of these stupid cell phones or a Day Timer or a pager stuck in their ear. For some reason elementary school teachers and principals believe that holding teas at 3:00 p.m. is a clever way to meet the neighborhood. Well, there is nobody home, Mom cannot leave work to go to a tea with the principal at 3:00 p.m. Attendance at evening meetings is comfortable for them, they are all home, everybody is going to have Day Timer entries.

How else did we change recently? This chart illustrates a change in the household type between 1980 and 1990 with 7% of the growth like Ozzie and Harriet; 50% growth in non-family households and a lot of growth in single parent housing. In 1980, one-quarter of the households were like Ozzie and Harriet and by 1990, they accounted for only one-fifth. Forty percent of the households in the city are not families, they are single, they are widows, they are people sharing living quarters and persons of the opposite sex sharing living quarters.

How do you sell a school bond when one in five households have kids? Are we always going to finance heavy infrastructure by taxes on property? You have to secure a bridge by taxes on property. Urban behavior: 98% of Arizona's future growth is urban. Ninety percent of all growth in the next 50 years will occur in three counties. We are the fifth most urbanized state in the nation out of 50 and in 25 years we are going to be second.

Now the only way to pay for an urban scale for service delivery is urban tax on urban behavior. Typically now, we call them sales taxes, those are the taxes on services. I meet the same pothole in the road going to see the CPA as I do going to Walgreen's but if some bureaucrat like me, some Communist were to go before the Supervisors or the Mayor and Council and said, "We need to tax services," it would be like Godzilla meets Bambi, you could not even find a grease spot where I used to stand. If you wish to fund things to meet the quality of life at least as high as it is today, you must think about urban revenue streams, irrespective of the jurisdiction question, you have to shift from a 15-year-old, works in Greenlee County whatever they mine, you have to shift from that way of doing things to the exactions on urban behavior. This gentleman and I traded service, some bureaucrat reaches in there and grabs a couple of pennies, that is what is going to happen for retiring land like Bellota Ranch, fixing a road and Swan and River, the funding of libraries.

Since we are talking about money, between 1980 and 1990, adjusted for inflation, incomes went down in Arizona including Pima County and the City of Tucson, we got poorer. I call this the Reagan/Bush miracle.

Here are the people we compete with for the good jobs, we are dead last. We are the poorest of the bunch, we are not a Gucci, Briand, Chablis town, we are a steak and taters bunch.

When I moved here in the 1950's a seven course meal in Tucson was a six-pack and a burro. We have gone slightly up market since then but we live next to a Third World Nation that ships us desperate and poor people who are looking for an opportunity, that will never go

away. However, that is not why we get poorer, we get poorer because we do not have the skills in Pima County in the marketplace to compete. There is no evil myths of migration that has caused this, our kids just are not smart enough, it is that simple. We did not grow well because we did not grow with enough ideas and learned skills.

Remember the student curve? The solid line on the chart is the Anglo rate of earnings, this is all of the money earned by employees including salaries and profit divided by all the workers so think of it as an average wage. The solid line is unadjusted for inflation and it looks like things are very bullish. The one that has all the little marks is adjusted for inflation, it is flatter than a pancake which is why it is hard for Mr. Huckelberry to build those bridges that we need, he is running out of money. Adjusted for inflation, he has less on his plate than was once the case since we have doubled the population during this period.

Slide: POVERTY DEFINED

The rich are getting richer

The poor are getting poorer

The middle class is losing ground

What eats up the resources of the City and the County? Dealing with poverty, fixing houses, supporting poor people who are desperate and some bad things happened on the poverty scale. The rich are getting richer. It is nice to qualify as being rich, you are slightly about one dollar higher in the middle. The poor are getting poorer and the middle class is losing ground, that is the national picture. Marshall is going to show you some statewide information in just a few minutes. Sort the income in the nation from top to bottom and then cut it five ways so you have a top one-fifth and you have a bottom one-fifth. The bottom one-fifth of American households makes a median income at 4% of the money; the bottom 20% earns 4% of the money. The top 20% earns half the money.

The Greek Theory: There are three curves, each one of which has the same median value of income, a perfectly flat distribution that you might call that Sweden. This blue thing which is a one-humped camel that we make for all the middle class Americans and a mobile distribution with two humps in it, we will call that the rich hump. This is a theoretical distribution and it has the same meaning. In 1980, what happens to the distribution of income in Pima County? You can see there is median income and there are the rich folks with the same hours, same scale ten years later. The middle disappeared from the middle class and some headed towards a rest home and if they went back a ways they would look up in Tierra De Las Lexis in the foothills. If they went this way, we are trying to treat them at Kino. Is there anything unique to Tucson about that? No, the same thing happened to America.

In 1964, when LBJ was President of the United States, remember the "War on Poverty," when you were throwing money at sin? One-quarter of American households were working poor. We threw money at sin for ten years and halved it to 12%. When last measured here in 1994, it was back to 18% and it is currently back to 23%. A quarter of American working households are below the poverty level. Remember I said we did not create wealth? The school system just did not do the job nationally and it sure did not in Pima County.

Lately, things have improved a bit. Home ownership in Pima County peaked at 66% in 1980, it was down to 61% in the 1990 census and declined by 1996 clear down to 52%. It has come back recently but it still is not back to where it was in 1980. Some of the lack of home

ownership is Generation X not was into grass. They do Rio Cancion, red Miatas, dual income, no kids, let's party. They just are not into grass. Some of it is due to increased wealth. The upshot on poverty is getting worse but lately is improved. The 1980 census, where were we? We were 13% in Pima County, it went up to 17% plus in ten years, remember the Reagan/Bush miracle? By 1993, it is still up. Now a lot of people think you can work yourself out of poverty. The County, in 1989 and 1993, the poverty rate went up 4% points. One of the real issues for us is workforce training, getting the skills of Pima County up to a living wage. Now we can do some work study, we can mandate that the wage just be "X" but that does not work in the long run.

Remember the idea where anybody can move? If we were to raise arbitrarily the minimum wage to say \$20.00 an hour, just like that, the Board of Supervisors just declare that minimum wage, the entire population of Texas would be in Pima County in one week. You cannot fix it that way. The way you fix it is you train the kids to have a real job. You make your kids leave your house permanently so they can have a real job.

Slide: Problems Still Remain

Poverty too high

Crime

Education

- High dropout rate

- Students poorly prepared for the world of work

Income gap is widening

Things have improved, the County is doing very well here. Illinois, in the worst quarter, Tucson had in the last 25 years better in an entire year than Illinois has at any time? So what are we whining about? Poverty still remains, poverty is still too high even though it is improved. Crime is nothing to write home to mother about. Education of all the things we need to fix is right up there. We have high drop out rates and students are poorly prepared for the world of work, I am sorry to say that. The income gap is widening which Marshall will talk about briefly in just one minute.

Slide: Arizona Rankings, 1998

(1 = best, 50 worst)

Crime rate 38

Drug-induced deaths 46

Births to unwed mothers 46

Infant mortality rate 45

Number of children in poverty 48

Teen-age pregnancy rate 48

High school graduation rate 44

Here are the Kids Count in 1998 and the scores of Arizona. This is out of 50 states, you can see where we rank. This is a sorry picture. This is nothing to be proud of. We have a lot of work ahead of us.

**Slide: AZ Has a Third-World
Dropout Rate**

Fourteen % of Arizona teens are high school dropouts
the highest in the nation

One-third of all Hispanic students fail to finish high school

The Dropout Rate for Hispanic students is 2.5 times that of
Blacks and 3.5 times the rate for Whites.

Remember we talked about dropouts? Well, I will not read the chart to you but believe it or not, it is not getting any better at this. We have some real improvement to do.

Now lastly, how do we pay for stuff? I mentioned this before, this is your net assessed value for Americans that shows how you pay for stuff. You can see that most of it comes from homeowners and businesses. Utilities you would think had some legislators and lobbyists in Washington or Phoenix. Utilities just do not pay much, do they? Homeowners pay for most of it and business pays for the rest.

Now let us say for the sake of argument that my name is Charles Huckelberry, he is much prettier and taller than I am, but let's pretend like that is me. I used to have, adjusted for inflation and per capita because my expenses as a County Administrator, kind of divided up person by person for road improvements, the library system or whatever. So let us say that I have \$2,800.00 per capita in 1977 dollars and today, I've got about \$1,500.00 dollars. Now how do you think the Board of Supervisors reacts to a chart like that? There is only one way to fix it; if the costs are still going up you have to raise the rate. Why? One-half of your budget is property taxes, right? Well, it should be higher than the city because this is an urban County, delivering urban scale service demanded by us. There have been very few demands down at the Supervisors Hearings lately to drop services, very few. There is about one-half as much money per capita to work with than was the case 20 years ago. So why do we bother you with stuff like that? You are going to have to deem making decisions about what you want, what you want to pay for and what you do not want to pay for because there is not enough to do it all. We have to make some priorities and we have to make some decisions.

Slide: WHY DO WE BUILD AT THE EDGE?

DEMAND SIDE

WE SELL THE SIZZLE, NOT THE STEAK

**EVERYONE WANTS CAMELOT AMONG THE SAGUAROS OR SEVENTEEN ACRES AND
A HORSE FOR JOHNNY**

MOST PEOPLE PREFER TO LIVE AT THE EDGE

EVERYTHING IS NEW

SUPPLY SIDE

THE DIRT IS CHEAPER AT THE EDGE

THE PROFIT IS IN THE DIRT

INFRASTRUCTURE IS PROVIDED UPON DEMAND AND AT THE SAME COST AS ELSEWHERE

SALES ARE EASIER

THERE ARE MANY ECONOMIES OF SCALE

And you are going to start looking at this: Why do we build at the edge? It is very expensive to service. Think of the area of the circle, every time we increase the rate of the center the area goes up exponentially. Well, so does Mr. Huckelberry's service costs. Sheriff Deputies travel on poor roads and the average in the city is 25 acres of road per 1,000 and in the unincorporated County is it is 80 acres of road per 1,000. Well what other theory illustrates growth? It is on the supply side. The dirt is cheaper at the edge, the problem is in the middle, that's it we do not have to look. It is still cheaper to go out to the edge but that is not the problem. You and I came with a thirst for space, we spent two centuries building a one-story town. I used to have in my mind that Tucson had this law of height, I call it the "Aluminum Lawn Chair Law." In your aluminum lawn Chair, on your patio looking at the Catalina Range over the pyracanthas, okay and over the marble chip roof next door, the roof could not be higher than one-half the Catalina Views, that was the law of height and in town, anyone who builds anything higher than that, it was a huge plus. Well, anyone who can live that good in town, we have decided we want 17 acres and a horse for Johnny. We want Camelot among the saguaros. Most Tucsonans I know want a six-lane divided interstate at the end of their mailbox, you leave in the morning that goes directly and without a light to their shaded parking space at their place of work. We are so ambivalent about growth, we want a team that whips ASU every year, we have our symphony, we have more sales and the minute you go home and fire up the margarita machine, you are an instant Sierra Club member. You want fewer Okies like me scaring your quail or building on that lot the realtor said would always be empty.

Slide: **WHAT CAN BE DONE?**

DETERMINE WHAT GODS WE WILL WORSHIP

Is mobility, freedom of movement, more precious than opportunity for our children?

Is living at the edge our only desire? If so, what can be done to improve the competitive advantages of the center?

Shall we expand the capacity of roads and transit, better manage regional land use decisions, provide reasonable alternate mode choices, and still accept an increase in congestion?

WHAT CAN NOT BE EXPECTED

THERE ARE NO IDENTIFIED SOURCES OF REVENUE SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN THINGS AT THE LEVEL OF OUR NOSTALGIC MEMORIES

SHUTTING DOWN THE ECONOMY WILL NOT RETURN US TO A STATE OF BLISS - IT ONLY REDUCES OPPORTUNITY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION, BUT WITHOUT ACHIEVING THE SELFISH GOALS OF THE PRESENT GENERATION.

IT ALSO REMOVES THE ECONOMIC ENGINE WHICH PRODUCES THE REVENUES TO CARE FOR THE PRESENT GENERATION WHEN GROWN OLD.

In Pima County, we have 842,000 people. The planners who work for you, the County Administrators that work for you, elected officials who work for you cannot make you do anything you do not want to. You must want to save, you must want to but you cannot just want it, you have to pay for it and in the future how we pay for it needs to be more seriously addressed. Why is that?

During the last nine years, that is where we go. Is that infill? Seventeen acres and a horse for Johnny. Thank you very much.

COMMENTS: SHARON BRONSON:

If you have any questions for Mr. Taylor, I will entertain them now. I told he you he would be entertaining. I would like to put Mr. Taylor on the Board of Supervisors agenda for August 3, 1999, when we formally adopt the budget. Here are a couple statistics for you. Pima County has the highest property tax rate of all 15 counties in Arizona, that's the bad news. The good news though is that of the 15 counties we are tenth, we are at the bottom one-third in what we tax total per capita. So the taxes you pay as individuals are less than they are in nine other counties so that is the good news since taxes are never good news.

Okay, let us talk a little bit more about the economy and I am really pleased now to be introducing Marshall Vest. He is the forecasting project director of the University of Arizona's College of Business and Public Administration. He is a contributor to the Blue Chip newsletter focusing on Arizona's economy. He is an authority on Arizona's economy, he consults with Arizona's largest companies and his forecasts are one of the most Business Economists (NABE) and is past president of the Arizona Chapter. He has taught courses in environmental management, economic forecasting and is a consultant in the fields of urban planning and economic development. As we deal with the economics of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, here is somebody whose information will be very informative.