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ARPA Member Blast June 19, 2009

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Rusty Unveils Statue of Senator Flake



In response to the sudden death of Senator Jake Flake, the capitol community commissioned ARPA's Director of Government Affairs, Rusty Bowers to sculpt a statue of Flake to be displayed at the state Senate. In this photo by the Republic's Rob Schumacher, Rusty and Senator Sylvia Allen unveil the clay copy of the bust on the Senate. The bust will later be recast in bronze.

We'll see you on the Beach!

Response to the ARPA Convention has been fantastic. We look forward to seeing you next Week.

Senate Natural Resources Committee Passes ARPA Bills.

The Senate has passed a budget and is in final negotiations with the Governor, so Senate President Bob Burns has released his hold on Senate Bills.

ARPA's Legislative Agenda has passed the Senate Natural Resources Committee and now moves to the full Senate for consideration. Here's a recap of the ARPA legislative agenda.

—Senate Bill 1183

ARPA has been working on a project to channelize the Agua Fria River in an effort to increase the value of the surrounding land, make mining operations more productive and provide additional recreation and riparian areas. The law that enables participants to form the Special Channelization District is set to expire in 2010. Senate President Burns has sponsored a bill to eliminate the expiration date.

—Senate Bill 1255 and its companion bill SB 1256

ARPA has been working with the State Mine Inspector to establish a mining reclamation fund that will provide the inspector with the resources he needs in order to properly reclaim aggregate mined lands.

—Senate Bill 1259

Changing market conditions and demand fluctuations can dramatically affect the economic viability of aggregate mines. SB 1259 allows the State Mine Inspector to consider these factors when deciding to extend the period in which to initiate reclamation of the mining property.

—Senate Bill 1260

This bill exempts certain intermittently used mines—that meet a strict set of conditions—from the reclamation provisions of state reclamation law.

—General Plan Amendment

Rusty and Senator John Nelson are working on an amendment that would provide a place for mineral planning in general plans. The amendment is ready and simply needs a germane bill to serve as a host, or a redundant bill to serve as a striker.

Maria Baier Appointed as Land Commissioner



Governor Brewer has appointed Phoenix City Council Woman Maria Baier to head the state Land Department.

Baier previously served as the CEO of Valley Partnership—an organization that advocates for responsible growth. She also served as a member of the Symington and Hull Administrations.

Baier's experience at various levels of Government and the private sector will leave her well positioned to fulfill the Land Department's mission which includes"

"To implement a progressive asset management process, to improve the quality and efficiency of the Department's decision making, and to meet the requirements of the Growing Smarter and Growing Smarter Plus Acts."

Baier has served on the Phoenix City Council since 2008, she is expected to resign next week and the Council will call a special election to fill the vacancy.

Check the ARPA Website for Updates

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