



Your Homes....

Your Roads....

Your Future!

ARPA Member Blast May 22, 2009

ArizonaRockProducts.org

Rusty's Presentation to Natural Resources Committee



ARPA Government Affairs Director Rusty Bowers made a presentation to the Senate Natural Resources Committee on Monday and took the opportunity to explain the economic benefits that the Rock Products industry provides to Arizona. Additionally, he provided a detailed update on the Agua Fria Channelization and reminded the Committee Members that the law that authorizes the channelization district is set to expire—and ARPA has a bill to eliminate the expiration date.



Have you registered for the ARPA Conference in Laguna Beach yet?

Time is running short.
 Call Chrystal at
 602-271-0346
 and then turn in your
 registration today!

Councilman DiCiccio Addresses ARPA Board

Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCiccio addressed the ARPA Board meeting on Wednesday. The Board raised the issue of escalator/de-escalator clauses as well as the use of recycled asphalt. Councilman DiCiccio shared his growth agenda and included the following priorities.

Sell Existing City Services to other Governments - The City would sell existing services provided internally (i.e. helicopter maintenance or ambulance services) to other cities, the county and/or the state in order to grow City departments

Incentivize Savings in City Departments - Allow departments to keep more of the money they are able to save as an incentive to saving more.

Self-Financing City Departments - Find ways for departments to charge for their services through fees for services in order to rely less on the General Fund. This would also allow employees to retain their jobs during times of low tax revenue.

Risk Pools in Criminal Justice System - Combine the costs (jail, etc.) of dealing with people convicted of specific crime and charge it to the people who are convicted that can pay. In this risk pool all costs are assigned to this pool rather than having the "little old lady" in Phoenix have to pay for them.

Create a Citizen Commissions to Study Increased Revenue Sources for the City - A Commission, consisting mostly of private sector CEO's and major company business leaders, would recommend ideas for increasing City revenues and how we could do business better overall in the City of Phoenix. New or increased fees and other potential revenue sources would be studied and recommended to the City Council by this group.

Hire Consultant(s) to Review City Operations - Consultants could be hired to study City operations for efficiency and performance and recommend improvements. The City organizational structure could also be studied for improvements by consultants.

Create or Modify Existing Citizen Commission(s) to Study Economic Development - Use private sector experts on Commission(s) that would study economic development clusters such as healthcare, solar energy and alternative fuels. The Commission(s) would develop road maps, executive summaries and business plans for the clusters. There should be two citizen commissions or executive teams created. One would look at more strategic goals for the city as to new growth economies. People on this commission could be individuals like Bill Post or Craig Barrett. The committee would be charged to look at long range opportunities for Phoenix. The second committee would be more operational in function. It would be charged to look at ways to bring better efficiencies to city government and to look at our overall function as to what services we provide and whether those functions could be better streamlined or other if other entities could better perform them.

Create a More Diversified Economy - Direct the City's economic development program toward creating a more diversified economy.

Make the Solar Energy Cluster a Major Focus of Economic Development - Work to make Phoenix a center for solar energy research and development and manufacturing.

Make the Deer Valley Airport a Major Economic Development Center - Work to use the Deer Valley Airport as a center for economic development similar to the Scottsdale Airport. Options could be from full privatization to the creation of a Community Facilities District or a community development corporation (CDC) or for the district.

Focus on Creating High Paying Jobs - The City should focus its economic development efforts on creating high paying jobs.

Participate in Shaping Federal and State Policy on Solar Energy - Study Federal and State programs for supporting solar energy and support those programs that would assist in the development of a solar energy cluster in Phoenix.

