



# TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



## The Greater Phoenix region is a crucial gateway for international commerce to global markets.

Greater Phoenix is ideally positioned for global business with convenient access to the busy California markets and international trade with Mexico. A robust transportation system that includes highways, rails and bustling Sky Harbor International Airport will continue to foster rich and dynamic trade relationships.

A stronger, more competitive industry is the catalyst for business expansions and the creation of additional highly skilled, high-wage jobs in transportation and logistics companies as well as businesses that depend on a strong transportation network.

## Who is involved?

**PHOENIX FORWARD**™'s Transportation & Logistics Leadership Council explores industry trends and public policy issues that impact critical transportation infrastructure and addresses industry challenges and opportunities. The council is led by Mary Peters, former Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation and former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, and Karrin Kunasek Taylor, Founder and President of Arizona Strategies.

The council advocates for effective infrastructure investment for the region's transportation, supply chain and logistics industry. The council works together to boost the region's competitiveness by elevating and driving public dialogue around vital issues impacting funding, road maintenance, congestion management and the movement of people, materials and products by road, air and rail.

The co-chairs are joined by leaders in the transportation, supply chain and logistics sector, including:

- **David Berry**, *Vice President*, Swift Transportation, Inc.
- **Chad A. Freed**, *General Counsel & Executive Vice President of Corporate Development*, Universal Technical Institute, Inc.
- **Alan Maguire**, *President and Principal Economist*, The Maguire Company
- **Shawn Merle**, *Sr. Manager Carrier Contracts*, PetSmart, Inc.
- **David Skinner, P.E.**, *Vice President, Area Operations Manager*, HDR Engineering, Inc
- **Victor D. Vidales III**, *Owner & Founder*, RE/MAX New Heights Realty
- **Marisa Walker**, *Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning/Infrastructure*, Arizona Commerce Authority
- **Jeff Williamson**, *Senior Vice President/Division Manager*, Heavy Civil Construction, Sundt Construction, Inc.
- **Mark Yalung, P.E.**, *Vice President, Arizona Area Manager*, Parsons Brinckerhoff

## Guiding Principles and Accomplishments:

- Bolster the industry's image to strategically enhance infrastructure investments to retain, strengthen and grow existing businesses by increasing public awareness and defining criteria for prioritizing high-value projects
- Support transportation funding through the communication of the council's comprehensive transportation case study published in 2016
- Support rule simplification and streamlining of regulations at the federal level to enhance opportunities for AZ transportation
- Advocate for policies that strengthen the industry



### CO-CHAIR

**Mary E. Peters**  
*President & CEO*  
Mary E. Peters Consulting Group, LLC



### CO-CHAIR

**Karrin K. Taylor**  
*Founder & President*  
Arizona Strategies

**The Case for Transportation Funding**  
It is estimated for every \$1 billion invested in public transportation, 46,000 jobs are created. We must prioritize investment in our future.



**VITAL TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**  
It is imperative to take action now to support strategic investment in Arizona's transportation infrastructure. This investment is vital to Arizona's future economic competitiveness and prosperity.

Arizona's economic future is dependent upon a solid commitment to investing in an advanced transportation system that supports economic growth and facilitates the creation of quality jobs for residents.

It is estimated that for every \$1 billion invested in public transportation, 46,000 jobs are created and supported. If Arizona's economy and business climates are to grow and thrive, funding of transportation and maintenance of Arizona's transportation system is an urgent priority. Arizona's transportation systems are relatively new, comparatively reliable, multi-modal and benefit from forward-focused planning and regularly generated revenues. However, new and existing infrastructure requires continual investment. Major segments of Arizona's transportation system are in need of maintenance and repair. The challenges are exacerbated by deferred maintenance and unreliable, inadequate revenue sources.

**WHY TRANSPORTATION MATTERS**  
The development of transportation infrastructure in Greater Phoenix has been a critical component of the growth of the region and the state of Arizona. During the course of the recession, the state's priority has shifted from expansion to preservation and modernization. Historically, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has spent 73 percent of its funds on highway expansion but future expansion funding is only estimated at 23 percent. We must prioritize investment in our future.

**ARIZONA'S TRANSPORTATION STRENGTHS AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS**  
The strength and economic impacts of Arizona's well-planned transportation infrastructure investments have provided the foundation to support a prosperous and growing region.

**Advanced Transportation Infrastructure:**  
Arizona's young transportation infrastructure was built and designed with technologically advanced planning principles and safety standards, ensuring longer lifespans, increased efficiencies and a longer lifespan.

**Transportation-Friendly Weather:**  
Arizona's mild weather in most of the state reduces road maintenance costs while providing optimum construction conditions nearly all year.

**Proximity to Large Economic Markets:**  
Arizona is strategically located between two of the largest economic markets in the world, California and Texas. Arizona also sits adjacent to Mexico, whose economy is projected to grow from the 4th to 7th largest in the world by 2050.

To learn more about the Transportation & Logistics Leadership Council contact Economic Development Project Manager, Jocelyn McAlpin 602.495.6492 | [jmcalpin@phoenixchamber.com](mailto:jmcalpin@phoenixchamber.com)