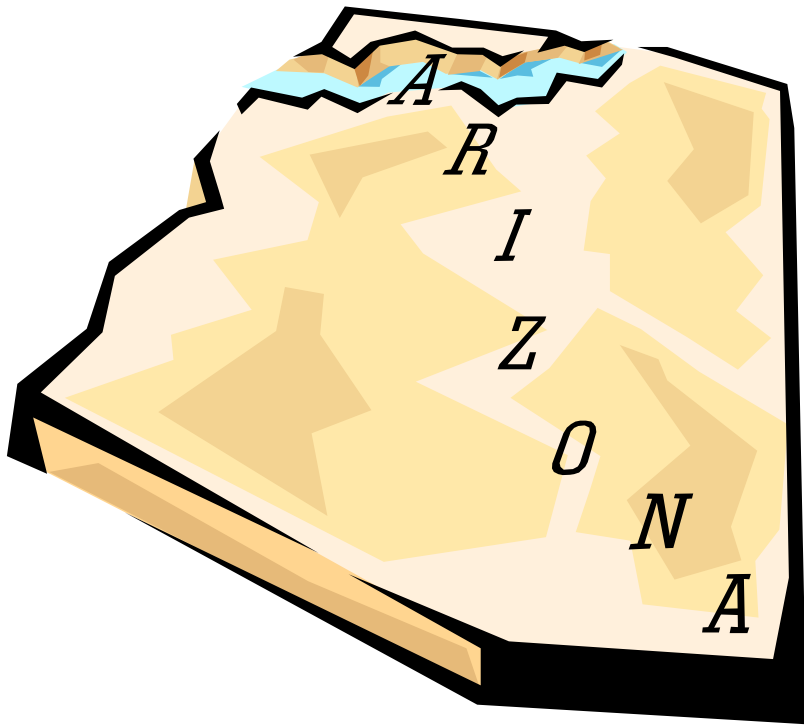


ARIZONA PLANNING COMMISSION



BIS 402 Group Simulation: Arizona Planning Commission

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The simulation developed by our group involves a meeting of the Arizona Planning Session in the year 2016. Issues being brought to the members of the commission by the public include the lack of water for the size of the population, the strain on the educational and healthcare institutions by an ever-increasing number of immigrants, public safety and transportation costs that are becoming prohibitive. The federal government in response to the states fighting over water allocation has taken over the Colorado River and the Central Arizona Project. The population in Arizona is now 10 million and growing at a rate of 5% annually.

The planning commission will encourage interdisciplinary consideration of global perspectives in dealing with these complex problems. The commission hopes that the issues being presented can be negotiated and resolved by participants from varied economic, ethnic and sociological backgrounds.

Globalization is not a new phenomenon. Some of us have been nomads since our first ancestors left Africa more than 75,000 years ago, but we rarely leave a place without looking back from time to time. We maintain relationships with the people we leave behind—we trade with them, marry them, return to the old country for religious reasons or to be buried. The Phoenicians traded widely around the Mediterranean, Alexander linked India with Egypt, the Silk Road and the Arab empires connected the farthest east of China with the extreme west of Spain, and Julius Caesar established trade relationships among the tribes of most northern reaches of Europe and those on the shores of North Africa.

What is new since the dawn of industrialization is the pace at which globalization occurs. When the Phoenicians sailed around the margins of the Mediterranean and Western Europe, change happened first along the coast. Innovation moved into the inland areas at only the speed of a person on a fast horse—or a load of cargo on a slow mule. Even after Columbus “discovered” the Western Hemisphere, the pace of globalization was still that of a man on horseback. It was not until the advent of trains, telegraphs, and steamships that globalization really started to move.

One aspect of modern globalization is an increase in the rate of population mobility. People move from place to place in search of improved conditions—employment, climate, culture and education. In the United States, “rust belt” city centers have deteriorated and decayed as the heavy industries that once supported their populations moved to other countries, while “sun belt” cities have turned into sprawling Los Angeles-style endless suburbs tied together with clogged freeways. Quite often the

infrastructure—the technological support system of our urban civilization—has not kept up with the population fluctuations.

“Infrastructure” refers to such things as clean running water, sewage and garbage disposal, food growing and distribution, transportation, home construction and maintenance, police, fire fighters, healthcare, gas, electricity, telephones, Internet, entertainment, etc. If each of us had to supply these for ourselves, we would not have time to do anything else. With each increase in population, miles of road, electric and telephone wire, gas line, water and sewer pipe must be built. Electric generating capacity must increase, water treatment plants must be built, and food must be brought in from further and further away as arable land is built over with houses, businesses and roads.

One theory on “global carrying capacity” is based on the ability of the earth to lose heat. In more practical terms, an estimate of any one area’s maximum sustainable population would be based on carrying capacity of the rarest resource in that area. In the deserts of the world, that resource is potable water. Water is essential—human beings are not desert animals, and we cannot live for more than a few days without drinking water. For that reason, most large human settlements have been in coastal areas or along the banks of rivers. Water is heavy, and expensive, in either labor or fuel, to transport.

Water recycling, the re-use of “grey water” for landscape watering and water rationing can all help, but if a drought occurs and the aquifers are not recharged, no amount of conservation will support unlimited population growth in a desert area. Large international corporations, foreseeing water shortages caused by global climate

changes, have been buying up expensive water treatment plants, promising that privatization will decrease costs to consumers. What has happened, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, is that the poor cannot afford to pay for the now-expensive clean water. They scrounge water from sewage-clogged rivers, and their children die of dysentery and cholera.

Water is not the only thing that must be transported in a crowded future. The suburbanization of arable land and the rise of the “global supermarket,” enabling affluent people to eat Chilean cherries in January and Australian oranges in July, and greenhouse tomatoes year-round, means that our food no longer comes from the farmers in our immediate neighborhood. Food is trucked, shipped, or flown in from further and further away. Increasing fuel consumption may lead to increasing fuel costs as fuel becomes scarce.

People must also get from place to place. Our American pattern of suburban sprawl is ideally suited to both maximum fuel consumption and maximum frustration levels. Some areas, unable to keep up with the costs of building and maintaining roads, have begun to sell or lease road systems to private corporations, converting them to toll roads. Currently several Spanish, French, Italian, Chinese and Australian companies are considering bidding for the lease on an Indiana toll road. The operator of a toll road can promise lower traffic density, simply by raising the toll high enough to keep many vehicles off their road. The poor, meanwhile, spend increasing amounts of time simply getting from home to work and back again.

Another infrastructure affected by increasing population is the healthcare delivery system. With more immigrants comes a greater need for doctors and nurses, hospitals

and pharmacists—only so much of the healthcare process can be automated, and almost none can be outsourced. Healthcare must be situated where the sick people are. But how many new immigrants are able to afford healthcare? The United States is the only industrialized country, which does not pay for universal health care for its citizens, even though the government mandates that no one can be turned away in an emergency. Hospitals and emergency rooms care for the poor now without any hope of recovery cost in many cases. Globalization, however, has brought us new/old technologies: acupuncture from China, therapeutic massage, Zen meditation from Japan, and yoga from India, medicinal plant compounds from rain forests in Asia and South America and deserts in Africa. All of these may help keep a burgeoning population healthier and keep the healthcare delivery system running smoothly.

It's not all gloom and doom. As the numbers of immigrants increase, so do the possibilities of new connections and new networks. Cultural, educational, social, even culinary contacts among new immigrants can enrich society. When Columbus and his compatriots returned to Europe, they took with them tomatoes, potatoes, corn, chocolate...who can imagine Italian cooking without tomato sauce, Irish stew without potatoes, or life without silken-sweet Belgian chocolate truffles? The same adaptability and networking that makes it possible for a society to accept a new ingredient for its cuisine or a new sport for its entertainment can also help a society under stress borrow solutions from another to its pressing problems—achieving a fusion which might not otherwise be possible without the tools provided by the network characteristic of globalization.

The purpose of this simulation is for participants to develop interdisciplinary solutions to these complex and involved issues related to the increasing globalization of the state of Arizona. In the final round, the executives of the Futures of Arizona Planning Committee will present the issues brought forth for the final recommendations of the concerned citizens. State and Federal lawmakers will use these recommendations to formulate future legislation.

Round 1 – 6:15-6:35:

In this round, all characters will meet in their groups based on their primary issue of concern: Water, Immigration, Transportation, Healthcare and Education. The goal of this round is to discuss the primary issues you have in your role profile, along with any solutions or concerns you may have. Look at this as a brainstorming session.

Round 2 – 6:35-6:55:

In this round, the entrepreneurs will be seated at booths in order to answer questions and discuss their proposals for Arizona's future. The goal of this round is to make connections with other concerned participants in order to better understand the issues at hand. This is mainly an information gathering and networking session.

Break – 6:55-7:10

Round 3 – 7:10-7:30

Return to the original groups in order to discuss the information you have gathered and your outlook on the issues that the entrepreneurs have presented, as well as any additional solutions or problems you may have in preparation for the planning session.

Round 4 – 7:30-8:15

This is a meeting of the Arizona Futures Planning Commission to discuss and vote on the proposals. Each issue will be brought up individually by its proponent to be discussed and voted on.

Profile: Blue Collar Worker

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You are 20 years old and have lived in Arizona all of your life. Your family owns a prominent construction company, which specializes in building environmental friendly custom homes. They built this business from nothing 25 years ago with much sacrifice. The last 10 years have really paid off due to the huge influx of people from all over the world. Your father is a firm believer that the best way to learn a business is from the bottom up – thus your blue-collar position in his company.

The specialty in your father's homes is an innovative water system, which will recycle 75% of the water used in the home. You have heard that there is a water system entrepreneur that is trying to get your father's system declared illegal because she is trying to take over the entire water system for the state and does not want any systems in homes that will conserve water. You are trying desperately to expose this entrepreneur for who she really is before it is too late.

Profile: Minute Man

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You are a 40-year old Hispanic man. Your family has lived in Arizona since before it was a state. You have worked very hard at doing everything right to be successful. The Federal Government is now hiring Minute Men as subcontractors to supplement border security patrols and you are working as a Minute Man to help patrol the border. During this time you have seen how badly the illegal immigrants are treated. You are trying to convince the US Government to relax the procedures that must be followed to become a legal citizen. You have access to videos of the beatings of many illegal immigrants by the border patrol. Therefore, you are using this information as leverage both to improve the conditions of border patrols and in your quest to update citizenship regulations.

Profile: Legal Mexican Immigrant

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You are a 30-year-old female Mexican immigrant. You work for a well-known childcare facility. You have worked for this facility for 15 years. You have heard the owners talking about a foreigner who is coming to town to talk to the state officials about privatizing the state water system. This childcare facility does not have the most modern amenities. You know that this new water system would require all of the toilets to be upgraded to the newest model available. It would be impossible for the owners because they are barely making a profit now. They have always been more interested in paying their child care workers high wages to ensure the best loving care for the children.

You are very well aware that this could mean the facility would have to shut down. You are talking to all the parents to let them know they must speak up about these concerns at the upcoming meeting or they may lose the best childcare facility available in the area.

Profile: Environmentalist

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You are 25 years old and have very strong convictions about pollution and the destruction that it can bring. You have seen that in Africa many people cannot afford water because it has been privatized and the owners are gouging the consumer. You are afraid that this may happen here because there are people coming in trying to get the same type of privatization packaged approved by the leaders of the state. You are trying to alert people to this situation so that we will not have the same issues as other countries.

You have always advocated for clean air but now everything you warned others about is coming to pass. People are now starting to take what you are saying seriously and are willing to listen. You have intense strategies about:

- Agricultural practices
- Fireplace burning

- Clean burning gasoline
- Dust control
- Diesel idling
- Vapor recovery at gas stations
- Alternative fuel vehicles
- Travel reduction programs
- Vehicles retrofit and repair programs
- Air pollution education

The biggest fight on your hands is convincing people the time has come to change their lifestyles- many still may not be willing to do so.

You will Co-chair the planning session in round 4.

Profile: Russian Immigrant

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You are a Russian Immigrant with an expired work visa. You emigrated 3 years ago from Moscow with your family and have been working as an alterations tailor at Macy's. Your children have been Americanized and are attending public schools. Your wife cleans houses. You make enough money to pay for the necessities of life for you and your family. You are on AHCCCS for health care and receive food stamps. You have to stay at your present job because they do not do rechecks on visas so you know you will be safe there. You feel like America is your home now and do not want to be sent back to Russia. No matter how bad it is in Arizona now, it is much better than living in Russia. You are here to convince the policy makers to have another blanket amnesty day.

Profile: School Principal

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You are the Principal of Central High School, in the center of Phoenix. With clogged streets and high costs of fuel, you have having trouble with getting students to school. Your students are told to bring bottled water from home because there is not enough clean drinking water to accommodate all of them. Enrollment has over-extended the capacity of the school and the strain of over crowding is taking its toll on students and teachers. Many of the students are children of illegal immigrants and are here today and gone tomorrow so you have a very difficult time of keeping track of them. Recently a teenage gang of Romanian dropouts (dressed in G-man suits and fedoras straight from the 40's) has taken over the local Starbucks, and has intimidated even the teachers, so that half your staff arrives caffeine-deprived for the day. On top of all of this you have been mandated by the State to create a curriculum for 9-12 to teach natural resource conservation to every student.

Profile: School Teacher

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You are a second grade school teacher at Curry Elementary School in Tempe. Your class size has just hit 45. Half of your class does not speak English. You have a mixture of American, Russian, Vietnamese, Iranian, Mexican and Chinese who don't speak English and have different cultural norms. You seldom start class on time because of traffic congestion. You find yourself devoting less and less time to teaching because of the time you spend in trying to manage class behavior.

Each year you find yourself spending more and more of your own money on school related expenses. You just have been informed that you need to provide masks for the kids when they go out for recess because the greater Phoenix area is under an extreme air pollution alert. You would like to stop teaching but you still really want to make a difference in the children's lives.

Profile: Police Officer

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You are a motorcycle cop who mostly works the I-10 freeway from the Mini-stack west to Buckeye. For the sake of your health, you have been forced to wear a gas mask while on duty because of the severe air pollution caused by the vehicles that sit on the freeway during the rush hours.

Emissions-testing is much more intense and expensive today than it was 10 years ago. Lower income families are finding it hard to comply. You have been told to arrest anyone without a valid emissions tag on their plates. You do not speak Spanish and find yourself trying to arrest people with whom you cannot communicate. Groups are accusing the police of singling out minorities for harassment over this issue. You're seeing a sharp increase in the number of cars registered in Mexico, and you wonder if it's a scam to avoid emissions-testing. Not only are you concerned about the law, you are worried about your health and safety.

Profile: Low Income Citizen on AHCCCS

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You are attending this meeting because AHCCCS (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System) refuses to pay for your kidney transplant that you need to live. You have not been unemployed long enough to qualify for the operation according to the rules of eligibility.

You ask anyone who will listen to your story for advice on how you can pay to get your transplant. You used to work in telephone customer service, with flexible hours which allowed you to take time off for dialysis. It was ideal for someone with limited physical abilities, but you lost your job and your insurance due to outsourcing by your company to India. You cannot find another job because without insurance, you have become too ill to work until you receive a kidney transplant. Plead your case to everyone, and especially if you find someone from the media.

Profile: Resident In The County Hospital ER

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You are a Canadian immigrant working at the county hospital in the emergency room. You are appalled at the healthcare system in the US. The hospital lacks equipment, staff and funding to provide basic services. You explain to anyone that will listen that Canada has a much better healthcare system and you want this system to be put implemented here in the US.

You work 80 hours a week. The ER frequently turns away patients due to overcrowding. You have horror stories of patients who waited too long to seek medical care because they did not have health insurance and no way to pay for a doctor. There has to be a better way of providing healthcare and you want your concerns voiced at the planning session.

Profile: Recent College Graduate

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You are a college graduate and have recently lost your job with Google. Your position as a software engineer was outsourced to a Korean company that will take over the IT operations.

You are frustrated that you owe \$75,000 in college loans but cannot get a job with your education. You owe money to everyone. You were forced into low-income housing after six months of unemployment. Avoid the Slum Lord if at all possible—you owe money to him, too. Your apartment has no water (the Slum Lord is stealing the water from your building and selling the water on the black market) and it is full of cockroaches.

Life is hell for you and you want to know why you cannot find a job with your expensive education and reverse this situation.

Profile: White Collar Worker

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You are a successful manager at a large food distributor and very active in your community. The Chamber of Commerce recently recognized you as “Businessman of the Year.” You are an American citizen of Middle Eastern descent with a million-dollar home in Scottsdale.

Your water was stopped due to an “administrative error” at the Municipal Water Department. You have been unable to resolve the problem and your family has gone without running water for two weeks. You’ve been buying drinking water at the store and siphoning water out of the pool for washing and to flush your toilets, but you need to find a new source of water since the Water Department seems unable to solve the problem.

You think the problems at the Water Department may have to do with your ethnicity, since you were arrested today on suspicion of stealing a neighbor’s water. You had to post \$100,000 bond to get out of jail to attend this meeting.

Profile: Water System Entrepreneur

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You are a businesswoman from France seeking to start a bottled water factory in Scottsdale. Your company recently discovered a new water source at the base of Camelback Mountain that you want to bottle (you own the land already). You are seeking approval to have the area rezoned from residential to industrial so you can build your automated processing factory on the land you purchased. You will ship the boutique bottled water internationally.

Your real reason to build on the land is to sell the water to Scottsdale residents that are unhappy with the Municipal Water Department. You know they will pay top dollar for water that is unlimited to residents. Your plan to bottle the water is a ruse to get approval to build a commercial factory on the land.

You are actively blocking a new invention that reduces water use.

Profile: Business Owner:

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You own a fairly profitable medium sized local business. You are concerned with issues about immigration because you have several Hispanic employees who you suspect of being illegal immigrants... these are however some of your hardest working unskilled laborers and they work for very competitively low wages. The taxes have been increasing over the last few years though and are starting to encroach on your pocketbook, so you have become concerned with not only the increasing taxes, but their causes. For example, the rise in healthcare costs that many seem to be blaming on the influx of illegal immigrants. Further, this expensive healthcare is something you are concerned about for yourself and your employees.

Note: you are a member of the council, and will sit on the board in Round 4—but we won't make you talk!

Profile: Security Agent

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You are a government official primarily concerned with state and national Homeland Security... although your job is classified so no one really knows what it is you do. You are here to represent concerns about the increased burden on security forces that the expanding infrastructure is placing on security staff, including additional man-hours and funding needed to maintain the status quo. The influx of legal and illegal immigrants is of concern to you and you worry about the increased transportation system being too large to be monitored safely. The water supply in private hands is also a concern to you because it would be harder to keep secure, especially with this large population now relying on a very limited supply.

Profile: Slum Lord

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You “provide low income housing”... yes... that’s the right way to put it. Obviously your tenants include many illegal immigrants, so your client base is being threatened by immigration restrictions. One of the ways you maintain your way of life is by trading immigrant work in exchange for housing. A step above indentured servitude, it does work out to the advantage of both you and the illegal immigrant. In addition to this you are becoming concerned about the water shortages, the limitations, and increased prices on water, as you are a major consumer of this resource. You are particularly concerned about limitations on water usage because you are stealing the water allocations from your tenants and anyone nearby to re-sell it for personal profit.

(By the way, the Recent College Graduate owes you back rent...)

Profile: Hospital Administrator Entrepreneur

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It's a constant battle between profit and saving lives. Your company, a Swiss and Chinese-owned healthcare conglomerate, buys troubled local hospitals and turns them into profit-making institutions. You want as few people on AHCCCS as possible to take your money, but you want to attract as many Medicare patients as possible, since the Federal government is a reliable payer. You want to hire the best doctors, but to pay them the lowest wages. You are concerned about immigrants and the poor mooching off the mandatory services you must offer, but at the same time, they are also a cheap labor source for you... Still, a hospital is no good if it's closed, and if there's no profit, there's no hospital.

Profile: Protester

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You are a 52-year-old former Grateful Dead follower and a hard line radical "Protester". Start in the water meeting and move to immigration, transportation, healthcare and education.

Your two main concerns: immigration and water shortage. Each problem affects the other. You want the state to restrict the use of well water (sink holes) and surface water (re-usage) and limit use for household and businesses. This would help stop both population growth and water shortage. With fewer Immigrants there would be more water available, less traffic and fewer healthcare issues

We should ship all aliens and naturalized citizens back to their home countries. Immigrants are taking jobs from Arizonans. We should strip legal Mexican aliens of their green cards and bus them to Mexico City, and tell the Russians go back to the Iron Curtain because they would not allow immigrants into their countries for years.

Profile: Transportation Entrepreneur

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You are a 48 year old former manager with the Department of Transportation of New York, but for 6 years you have worked for an Australian company which owns or leases toll roads in New York, Chicago, Frankfurt and Paris. The tolls maintain the roads and provide profits. One stipulation in each contract is that there is no limit on the amount of toll that can be charged.

You want to buy all or part of highways 101, 202, 303 and the I-10 in Arizona to help alleviate traffic problems and increase the use of mass transportation—buses or light rail. The U.S. cities that you have set tolls up in have shown an increase of 30% in the use of city transportation. Selling or leasing parts of the highway will reduce state budget for maintenance and expansion; these revenues can be used for inner-city transportation. Statistics to draw attention away from the per/person cost of tolls: 20% less traffic volume, 30% fewer accidents, 20% pollution reduction, school buses travel for free, and government vehicles pay 50%.

Profile: Border Patrol

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You are a Border Patrol Captain with 20 years experience. You always need help, whether it's manpower or some other way of hindering illegal aliens from crossing. You want the State and Federal governments to help with costs. You propose that Arizona, California, New Mexico, Texas and the Federal Government team up with the National Guard. Desert-training exercises would be coupled with patrolling the border.

You also propose building the GREAT WALL of America; with two 12-foot barbed-wire fences on each side, motion detectors and cameras on top of the wall. We should pay the illegal aliens to help build the Wall before we ship them south. And when we send them home, we should send them by plane to Mexico City or farther south so it will not be easy for them to make it back to the border.

You are very diplomatic in your approach

Profile: Member of the Media

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You are 40 years old and have been in the Media for 17 plus years. You have a column in the Republic newspaper and report for Channel 5.

Start in the Transportation meeting then move to Immigration, Water, Education and Healthcare.

Use open-ended question on all topics (these questions will help start each round)

- What does the future hold for the water supply?
- Is the State going to limit building permits to decrease water usage?
- How does the State plan to deal with population growth now and in the future?
- Are we going to increase restrictions on our borders?
- Is immigration really a problem?

- Is “AHCCCS healthcare” able to manage ever-growing need for medical care for those who cannot afford health insurance?
- Is the infrastructure of the State able to support the transportation problem? More people mean more cars on the roads. How do we keep up with this and what other alternative are there?

You can ad-lib with some of your own questions.

ARIZONA PLANNING SESSION

PRIMARY GROUP	NAME	ROLE ASSIGNMENT
Immigration		Business Owner
Immigration		Blue Collar Worker
Immigration		Minute Man
Immigration		Legal Mexican Immigrant
Health Care		Environmentalist
Immigration		Russian Immigrant
Education		School Principal
Education		School Teacher
Transportation		Police Officer
Health Care		Low income citizen on AHCCCS
Health Care		Resident in the county ER
Education		Recent College graduate
Transportation		White Collar worker
Water		Water system entrepreneur
Immigration		Security Agent
Water		Slum Lord
Health Care		Hospital Admin. Entrepreneur
Water		Protester
Transportation		Transportation Entrepreneur
Transportation		Member of the Media
Immigration		Border Patrol