

June 1, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Marilyn Robinson, Associate Director  
Drachman Institute  
College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture  
The University of Arizona  
520.626.5293  
520.626.4614 (direct)  
[marilynr@u.arizona.edu](mailto:marilynr@u.arizona.edu)

The Roy P. Drachman Institute in the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at The University of Arizona is pleased to introduce “Housing + Transportation Affordability in Tucson Metropolitan Area, Pima County, and Pinal County,” a report developed by the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT), Chicago.

This work provides information on the combined housing and transportation (H+T) costs in the Tucson Metro Area, Pima and Pinal Counties, demonstrating that these two household expenses are closely linked. While housing away from the urban core tends to be newer and larger and often less costly, transportation needs make car ownership a necessity and typically increase travel-related expenses. In contrast, the report shows how both housing and transportation costs are lower in compact neighborhoods within the urban core. Housing in these neighborhoods is often smaller and older, but residents can more easily get to jobs, shopping, and amenities by transit and walking.

The report also illustrates how, as the Tucson Metropolitan Area and Pima and Pinal Counties continue to grow, they have the opportunity to develop in such a way that residents can reduce the environmental impacts of travel, while also reducing household transportation costs.

Scott Bernstein, in partnership with the Brookings Institution, developed the Housing + Transportation Affordability Index and is responsible for the Tucson/Pima/Pinal report as well as this work in 55 metropolitan areas nationwide. He is founder and president of the Center for Neighborhood Technology (<http://cnt.org>).

Scott will be in Tucson this Thursday and Friday, June 4 and 5. He will be part of a panel at a meeting of the Pinal Partnership in Florence on Friday morning, June 5, arranged by Shannon Scutari, the Governor's Policy Director for Growth and Infrastructure under both Janet Napolitano and Jan Brewer.

In April, CNT was recognized as one of only eight organizations around the world to receive the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Award for Creative and Effective Institutions. The report for Tucson, Pima and Pinal Counties is available on the Drachman web site ([www.drachmaninstitute.org](http://www.drachmaninstitute.org)) and the interactive maps are available at the CNT web site <http://htaindex.cnt.org>.