



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Inland Empire/Colton Economic Base Colton Sales Tax Up
Sales tax receipts for April through June 2013 in Colton were 15.7% higher than the same quarter one year ago (April through June 2012). Actual sales activity was up 12.9% when reporting irregularities were factored out. Out of 25 cities in San Bernardino County, Colton ranked 2nd in sales activity by percentage increase. In comparison, in San Bernardino County and Southern California as a whole, sales and use tax receipts were up only by 5.2% over the same time period. (source: HdL Companies, April – June 2013 Sales Tax Update)

Unemployment Rates Down: San Bernardino County's December 2013 unemployment rate was 8.7%; down from 10.9% a year ago. California's unemployment rate as of December 2013 was 7.9%; while the United States unemployment rate was 6.7%. Colton's unemployment rate was 9.4% as of December 2013; down from 12.9% last year. (source: State of California Employment Development Department)



Family Dollar Breaks Ground (869 North Rancho Avenue): Family Dollar Stores has broken ground for the construction of their first location on the vacant lot directly across from Stater Bros, south of Mill Street along Rancho Avenue. A second store is being planned on the vacant lot west of, and adjacent to, PG Burgers along Valley Boulevard and 7th Street.

Family Dollar, based in Charlotte, N.C., is a national chain retailer expanding into the California marketplace which has projected annual sales of \$2 million to \$2.5 million at each store annually. With two locations in progress, the 0.75 percent annual sales tax could double the tax revenue (up to approximately \$50,000) for Colton.



Former Colton Piano Site (1405 West Valley Boulevard): The former Colton Piano site is being improved as a

multiple-unit medical building known as **DaVita Colton Ranch Dialysis**. The building is 30,672 square feet.

The Villa's – A 55+ Community: Construction is nearing completion on the 120 unit affordable senior housing project. As of January 15th, 80 units have been rented. February 1, 2014 is the anticipated move-in date.



Baker's Burgers (1620 West Valley Blvd.): Baker's Burgers – Drive Thru is nearing completion of their improvements, modernizing the existing restaurant. A Grand Re-Opening is anticipated in February 2014. The restaurant is adjacent to the Valero Gas Station.



Baker's remodeling will serve to complement the anticipated improvements to the adjacent Valero Gas Station as proposed by Valley-Orange Enterprises, LLC (a new service station/car wash and an approximate 7,000 square feet of commercial/retail).

Lineage Logistics (2063 Miguel Bustamante Parkway): Construction is underway for a 424,000 square foot cold-storage facility. Lineage Logistics, formerly Castle and Cooke, plans to restructure their operations, which will consolidate some of their cold storage space on Barton Road and expand into the Miguel Bustamante location. Ultimately, between 150 – 200 new jobs are expected to be created. The project is anticipated for completion in 2014.



Property Tax Revenues to Increase

Colton's assessed values are projected to increase by 2.0% during 2013-2014 over last year's increase of 2.5% as reported by HdL, Coren and Cone. This translates into an increase in property tax revenue to the City of Colton.

Median Home Prices Jump for Single Family Residential

Median home prices in Colton for the 2nd Quarter of 2013 were \$166,500 up from 2012 2nd Quarter by 19.8% with a median home price of \$139,000. Average home prices were \$179,768 in 2nd Quarter 2013, up from \$138,902 a year ago, representing a 29.4% increase in the average home price. Within San Bernardino County, median home prices jumped by 25.8% (\$239,014) for the same "year on year" period; while average home prices grew by 24.5% (\$195,000). (source: HdL Coren & Cone)

Foreclosures Drop Significantly

Foreclosure activity in Colton has dropped by 37.5% as of September 2013 with a total of 27 identified Notices of Default (10), Notices of Trustee's Sales file (10) and recorded Real Estate Owned by Lenders (7). This is a significant decrease from 72 total foreclosure activities from a year ago in September 2012. As of 4th Quarter 2013, Trustees Deeds recorded within San Bernardino County, as reported by DQNews, dropped by 55.1% on a "year on year" basis. (source: HdL Coren & Cone and DQNews.com)

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING

Engineering

- CDBG – Colton Avenue Sidewalk and Handicap Access Improvement Project – 100% complete.
- CDBG - Bordwell Avenue/Lincoln Elementary Bus Drop Off Project – Out for Bid.
- CBDG – Alley Paving Project – Out for Bid.
- South Colton Drainage Improvement Project – Bid opened on December 12, 2013, City Council award February 4, 2014.
- Randall Ave/Eucalyptus Ave. Safe Route to School Project – Construction Contract Executed/Notice to Proceed issued.
- Agua Mansa Sewer Force Main Project – 60% complete.

Parks Division

- Installed three poles and chain link at Pete Luque Center Drive way per service request.
- Repaired two backflow cages and installed two new backflows per service request in front of Pete Luque Center.
- Installed one backflow and cage at S. La Cadena
- Replaced 1,200 feet of irrigation wire for irrigation valves at Hunts lane that had been stolen by vandals.
- Parks staff planted 115 trees in parks and right of ways.
- Removed shrubs and trees from Colton Bike lane.

Streets Division

- Installing a small retaining wall/planter box on the backside of City Hall for water conversation plants.
- Repaired and/or replaced concrete in fifteen (15) locations throughout the City.
- Repaired and/or replaced asphalt in seventeen (17) locations throughout the City.
- Installed block wall for planter at City Hall.
- Poured sidewalk in Crystal Ridge.
- Installed wrought iron fence at City Hall.

WATER

Water Well 30 Construction

- Completed, waiting for Department of Health inspection for permit.

Water & Wastewater Master Plans

- Carollo Engineers – ongoing.

Water Rate Study -On-going

Distribution

- Repaired and/replaced seventeen (17) water services in various areas throughout the City.
- Cleaned Domecq elevated tank.
- Ultrasonic test of Well 26 completed.
- Ordered resin for well 24 perchlorate removal system.
- Replaced 6 fire hydrants throughout the City

Customer Service

- Calls received: 127
- Calls dispatched: 38
- Transferred to customer service: 42
- Counter assistance: 5

WASTEWATER

Agua Mansa Sewer Main Project

- Ongoing - approximately 75% completed.

Centrifuge Design

- Carollo Engineers – ongoing

Distribution/Operations

- Sewer collapse/sink hole in alley at 1262 N. Mt. Vernon - Flow restored, Section of sewer line replaced by EL-CO Contractors.
- Storm Water - La Loma/La Cadena, Crew responded to overwhelmed drainage pump.
- On 12-23-13 responded to power outage at Cadena Creek Mobil Home Park; pump station set up on portable generator until power was restored on the 12-24-13.
- Responded to sewer line break on Aqua Mansa, assisted in controlling sewage leak.

Plant (Colton Water Reclamation Facility)

- 12-10, 11 & 13 Colton and Loma Linda Fire Dept. personnel (six groups) came in for a tour of the plant.

- 12-12-13 New maintenance truck (#262) delivered for collections crew.
- 01-9-14 FCC radio license received for continued operation of Water/Wastewater SCADA radios, serving water wells and sewer lift stations.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

- Respond to customer calls 207
- (includes service connects, outage issues, and street light replacement)
- Low income customer assistance applications 60
- Transferred calls 167
- Walk in customers to the Electric Department 61

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

**Department of Justice (DOJ) Crime Statistics
Part One Crimes Comparison
November and December**

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Homicides	0	0
Rape	1	1
Robbery	15	7
Assault	48	44
Burglary	100	87
Larceny	164	163
Auto Theft	46	94
Arson	0	1

Patrol Activity Comparison November and December

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Calls for Service	6307	6515
Reports	1281	1309
Arrests	287	256
Citations	222	111

**Code Compliance/Animal Control
November and December**

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Code Compliance calls for Service	104	134
Animal Control Calls for Service	390	459



Old Fashioned Christmas

On December 18th, the Colton Public Library hosted its third annual Old Fashioned Christmas event. The library welcomed over 100 children and their families. Each child in attendance was invited into our winter wonderland for old fashioned carols and stories of lore. The young library patrons were visited by Santa who provided each child with a special gift. After their visit with Old St. Nick, everyone was invited into the community room for juice and cookies. The event was a festive success! As always the Friends of the Colton Public Library sponsored the event, and special thanks goes to the Eagle Real-estate Group for their generous contribution to the Friends of the Library.

