



# City Hall Weekly Highlights

## November 19, 2015

---

*To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members*

*From: City Departments*

### **CITY MANAGER:**

**Norco's County Library Picks New Home:** This week I was informed by the County Director of Library Services that after a second round of soliciting Request for Proposals for a new location, that they have selected a new location to house the County Library in Norco. The library will be housed at a 10,500 square feet space that is currently vacant at the new Town and Country Center on Hamner Avenue and Town and Country Drive near the Norco Post Office. This new location will allow the library to expand on their already successful Teen and Youth Collection as well as their Summer Reading Program. They are expecting to move into their new location following tenant improvements expected to be completed by late Spring or early Summer of 2016.

**Sales Tax Revenue Update:** Staff met with HDL, City's sales tax consultants to review City sales tax revenue performance for the quarter ended June 30, 2015. Even though this sales tax data provides information that has been previously reported at high level as part of the year-end budget-actual report for FY 2015, it provides an opportunity for staff to drill down into the details at merchant level. This information is useful in assessing how the key sales tax generators and major industry groups are performing for the City. While City overall sales tax numbers grew by 8.8% when compared to the same quarter in 2014, it is important to note that the City experienced a decline of 11.5% in sales tax from Fuel and Service Stations industry group which is the second largest group for sales tax generation in the City. This decrease was due to the decline in fuel and gasoline prices. Fortunately, this decline was offset by a 19.0% increase in sales tax from Autos and Transportation Group which generates the most sales tax revenue for the City of Norco. Even though gasoline prices have stayed low during the first several months of FY 2015-2016 our preliminary sales tax receipt information, at very high level, is running about 11% higher than the same time the previous fiscal year. Both of our sales tax per capita and overall sales tax growth continues to outpace the county and state averages. For more information, please see attached City of Norco Sales Tax Update.

**Property Tax Revenue Update:** During the week, staff also met with HDL to review the data for the City's property tax revenue projection for FY 2015-2016. For FY 2015-2016, the City experienced a net taxable value increase of 5.5% on the tax roll which is the same as the countywide increase of 5.5%. The increase in taxable net value was largely attributable to Proposition 13 inflation adjustment and new commercial construction added to the tax roll. The bad news on the FY 2015-2016 property tax assessed value data is that the median price of Single Family Residence sold in the City for the first 8 months of 2015 fell by 0.22% to \$447,000 compared to the same time last year. The median price on a countywide basis grew by 5.5%. For more information, please see the attached 2015/16 Property Tax Summary.

# Q2 2015



# City of Norco Sales Tax *Update*

Third Quarter Receipts for Second Quarter Sales (April - June 2015)

## Norco In Brief

Norco's receipts from April through June were 8.8% above the second sales period in 2014.

Continued strong sales of autos and RVs boosted the autos and transportation group, which was also aided by new dealerships. The correction of a misallocated payment that depressed the comparative quarter was mainly responsible for the gain in lumber/building materials; the sector also posted higher sales.

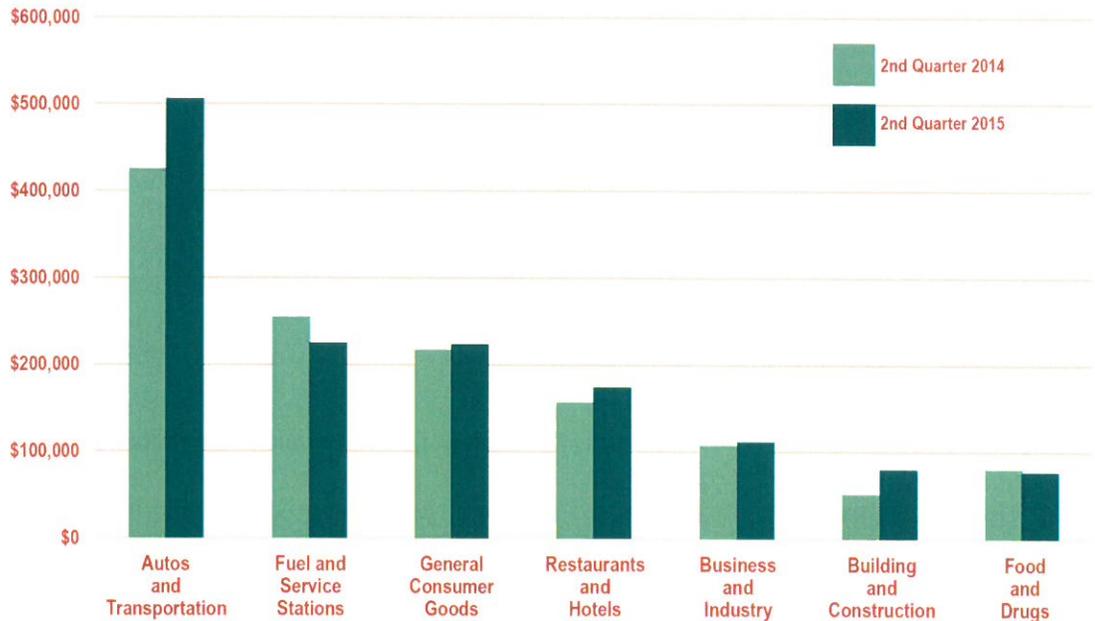
Increased sales from all restaurant types and a newly opened casual dining eatery lifted the restaurant and hotel group. Mixed results from various categories produced modest net gains in general consumer goods and business and industry.

The city's allocation from the countywide use tax pool increased 13.9% during the quarter.

The gains were partially offset by continued lower gas prices that depressed service stations returns and a payment aberration and business closeout in drug stores.

Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Riverside County grew 2.3% over the comparable time period; the Southern California region was up 3.2%.

## SALES TAX BY MAJOR BUSINESS GROUP



### TOP 25 PRODUCERS

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

7 Eleven	Norco Shell
All In Auto Sales	Norco Truck Center
Allied Building Products	Quick Crete
Arco AM PM	Scala Auto Group
Browning Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram	Stater Bros
Car Champs	Target
Chevron	Tesoro Refining & Marketing
E Z Up	Thrifty Gas
Floor & Decor	Tilly's Marine
Hemborg Ford	Tractor Supply
Hobby Lobby	United Oil
In N Out Burgers	Valero Gas
	Winco Foods

### REVENUE COMPARISON

One Quarter – Fiscal Year To Date

	2014-15	2015-16
Point-of-Sale	\$1,290,698	\$1,396,656
County Pool	138,702	157,953
State Pool	971	1,158
<b>Gross Receipts</b>	<b>\$1,430,371</b>	<b>\$1,555,767</b>
Less Triple Flip*	\$(357,593)	\$(388,942)

\*Reimbursed from county compensation fund

**Statewide Sales Tax Trends**

Excluding accounting aberrations, the local one cent share of statewide sales occurring April through June was 3.4% higher than the comparable quarter of 2014.

Receipts from the countywide use tax allocation pools accounted for the largest portion of the increase reflecting a continuing shift in consumer preferences from brick and mortar stores to online shopping for merchandise shipped from out of state.

Sales and leases of new cars continued to post impressive gains as did contractor supplies and restaurants. Overall gains were offset by a 17.1% decline in receipts from service stations and petroleum related industries.

**The Remaining Fiscal Year**

The state's unemployment rate continues to decline and real disposable income is expected to grow 2.5% to 3.0% in the second half of 2015. This improvement in incomes coupled with easy credit conditions should stimulate an increase in housing starts as well as capital investment in equipment, alternate energy and technology.

The auto industry is anticipating continuing strong sales until tapering to more sustainable levels in 2016-2017. Building and construction, the only retail segment yet to return to pre-recession levels, is gaining momentum in several regions and is expected to account for 10% of sales tax growth in the second half of the fiscal year.

Restaurant sales continue to rise although there are some concerns that the strong dollar may impact sales in areas that cater to tourists from abroad. Gains from consumer goods are expected to be modest with the strong dollar cutting prices of imported goods and an ongoing shift in consumer spending from tangible goods to services, entertainment and other non-taxable purchases.

Gasoline prices remain well below the previous year due to a worldwide glut

of oil. Barring unexpected supply or refinery disruptions, prices are expected to trend lower through the first half of 2015-16 but begin rebounding in the second half.

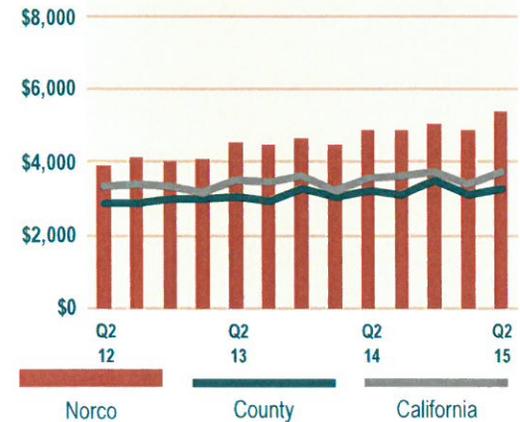
**Internet Sales Tax Proposal**

HR 2775 (The Remote Transaction Parity Act) is a new proposal by Representative Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah) authorizing states to require remote sellers without physical presence in their state to collect state and local sales tax from in-state buyers.

The bill currently has 52 sponsors and attempts to address objections to elements of the Marketplace Fairness Act that preceded it. The proposal provides for a three year phase in for small businesses, prohibits auditing remote sellers with annual sales under \$5 million, and requires states to provide software to enable remote sellers to collect and remit their tax.

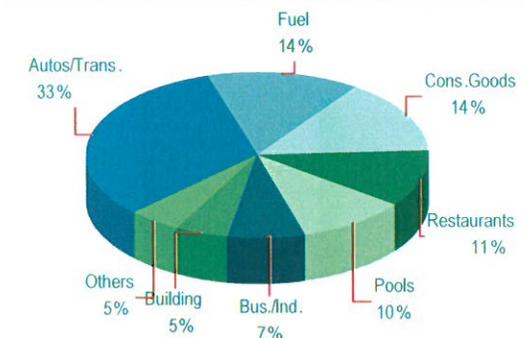
The Board of Equalization estimates that local governments in California currently lose approximately \$44 per capita in uncollected sales and use tax on e-commerce purchases.

**SALES PER CAPITA**



**REVENUE BY BUSINESS GROUP**

Norco This Quarter



**NORCO TOP 15 BUSINESS TYPES**

Business Type	<i>*In thousands of dollars</i>			
	Norco	County	HdL State	
	Q2 '15*	Change	Change	Change
Auto Repair Shops	28.5	6.8%	11.7%	7.2%
Automotive Supply Stores	23.8	-4.6%	3.5%	5.5%
Casual Dining	43.1	29.5%	11.6%	6.5%
Discount Dept Stores	—	CONFIDENTIAL	-1.2%	0.0%
Fast-Casual Restaurants	25.4	22.4%	8.1%	10.0%
Garden/Agricultural Supplies	30.5	-7.3%	-0.6%	7.5%
Grocery Stores Liquor	—	CONFIDENTIAL	7.3%	3.4%
Home Furnishings	59.3	5.3%	6.9%	7.4%
Lumber/Building Materials	69.0	99.1%	5.6%	4.5%
New Motor Vehicle Dealers	—	CONFIDENTIAL	11.2%	9.3%
Quick-Service Restaurants	100.0	5.6%	11.9%	9.1%
Service Stations	225.0	-11.5%	-10.0%	-11.7%
Specialty Stores	38.8	10.7%	-6.3%	5.4%
Trailers/RVs	23.0	26.4%	22.4%	19.1%
Used Automotive Dealers	127.1	18.8%	8.1%	14.7%
<b>Total All Accounts</b>	<b>1,396.7</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
<b>County &amp; State Pool Allocation</b>	<b>159.1</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>11.8%</b>
<b>Gross Receipts</b>	<b>1,555.8</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>



# NORCO

## 2015/16 PROPERTY TAX SUMMARY



The City of Norco experienced a net taxable value increase of 5.5% for the 2015/16 tax roll, which mirrored the increase experienced countywide at 5.5%. The assessed value increase between 2014/15 and 2015/16 was \$151 million. The change attributed to the 1.998% Proposition 13 inflation adjustment was \$38.0 million, which accounted for 25% of all growth experienced in the city.

In 2012 Parkridge Avenue 517 Corporation purchased a vacant property at 517 West Avenue. New construction has added \$2.3 million of value, and the parcel is now categorized as commercial. Excel Corona added improvement to their commercial property at 3441 Hamner Avenue, contributing \$2.2 million of secured value growth.

The recent purchase of a commercial property at 2641 Hamner Avenue by Ad And Dd LLC reduced the assessed value by \$773,179.

The annual proposition 13 inflation adjustment for real property is not expected to reach two percent for 2015-16. If so, it would be the third year in a row when the inflation adjustment is less than two percent.

In most areas, the housing market has inched back towards normalcy in 2015 with more owner occupied sales and less distressed and investor purchases. Median sale prices for real estate have continued to increase steadily year over year while the numbers of sale transactions remains healthy with some expected seasonal dips. In some areas the current median has surpassed the median at the height of the real estate bubble. The median sale price of a single family home in Norco from January through August 2015 was \$447,000. This represents a \$1,000 (-0.2%) decrease in median sale price from 2014.

Year	SFR Sales	Median Price	% Change
2009	355	\$350,000	
2010	334	\$330,000	-5.71%
2011	298	\$330,750	0.23%
2012	325	\$325,000	-1.74%
2013	306	\$368,500	13.38%
2014	269	\$448,000	21.57%
2015	179	\$447,000	-0.22%

### 2015/16 Tax Shift Summary

ERAF I & II	\$-846,172
VLFAA (est.)	\$2,245,248
Triple Flip	Expired

### Top 10 Property Owners

Owner	Net Taxable Value	% of Total	Use Type
1. NORCO CORONA ASSOCIATES	\$18,247,632	0.63%	Commercial
2. YIHUA INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT	\$15,214,572	0.52%	Commercial
3. TARGET CORPORATION	\$14,965,473	0.52%	Commercial
4. H AND H PROPERTIES	\$14,821,967	0.51%	Residential
5. WINCO FOODS LLC	\$10,649,878	0.37%	Commercial
6. RBE NORCO HIDDEN VALLEY LLC	\$10,164,245	0.35%	Commercial
7. 1900 PROPERTIES	\$10,008,471	0.35%	Industrial
8. GRAYBURN PROPERTIES INC	\$9,146,550	0.32%	Industrial
9. COPPERFIELD INVESTMENT AND DEV CO	\$9,045,394	0.31%	Vacant
10. EXCEL CORONA	\$8,345,109	0.29%	Commercial
<b>Top Ten Total</b>	<b>\$120,609,291</b>	<b>4.16%</b>	

# Real Estate Trends

## Home Sales

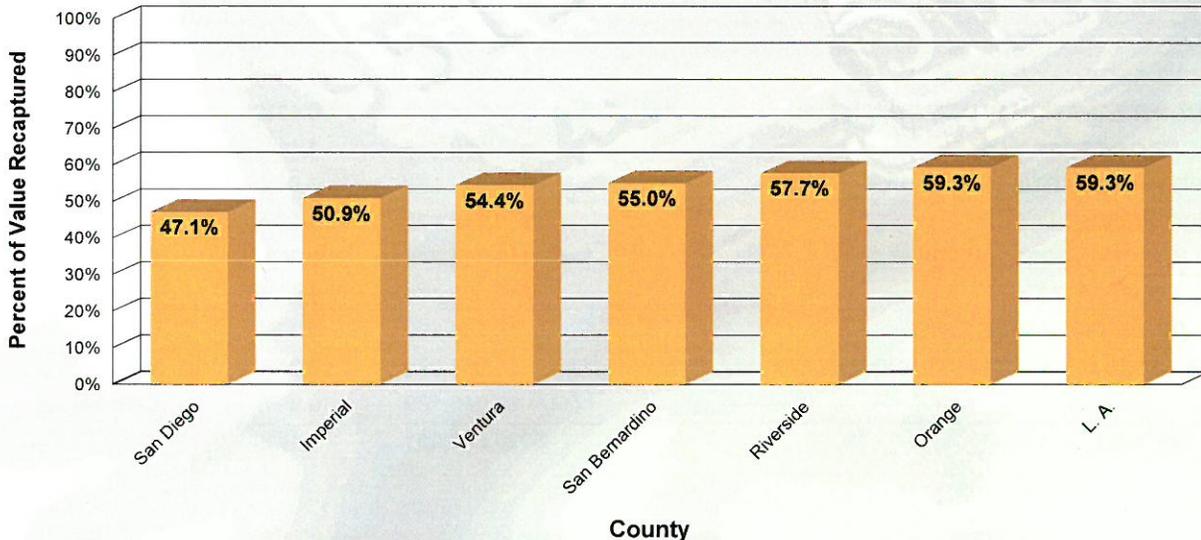
Home sales continue to rebound in many parts of the State but at a slower pace than last year. This is mainly due to inventory and affordability constraints. The reported median price of an existing, single family detached home in California during June 2015 was \$489,560. This was a 7.0 percent increase from \$457,700 in June 2014.

All Homes	Units Sold June-2014	Units Sold June-2015	% Change	Median Price June-2014	Median Price June-2015	% Change
Imperial County	115	155	34.78%	\$190,000	\$185,000	-2.63%
L. A. County	6,911	8,171	18.23%	\$460,000	\$500,000	8.70%
Orange County	3,319	3,831	15.43%	\$600,000	\$629,500	4.92%
Riverside County	3,463	4,073	17.61%	\$298,500	\$315,000	5.53%
San Bernardino County	2,353	2,774	17.89%	\$240,000	\$268,750	11.98%
San Diego County	3,698	4,467	20.80%	\$450,000	\$476,000	5.78%
Ventura County	891	1,062	19.19%	\$470,000	\$517,800	10.17%

## Pool of Prop 8 Reduced Property Values Restored Through 2014-15

Residential properties throughout California received value reductions to lower market rate values between 2008 and 2012. The reductions by Assessors for these properties reflected Proposition 8 declines in real estate values when the "Great Recession" impacted sale prices and the numbers of units selling. Beginning in 2013, most county assessors started reviewing properties that had received reductions in large numbers and restoring values as market values moved upward. In many communities we have started seeing median sale prices reported in 2015 that are exceeding those seen in 2006 or 2007 during in the peak of the real estate bubble. In several counties, the values restored in 2015-16 may be the last measurable Prop 8 increases to "boost" residential values for properties that experienced declines. Other counties may see one or two more years of restorations before returning to the more typical year over year changes resulting from the annual CPI adjustment, transferred properties, and new construction additions. **In Norco 56.8% properties awaiting recapturing in 2012-13 have been fully reinstated.**

### Estimated Percentage of Prop 8 Value Restored Since 2012-13



**SCE Circle City Project:** Southern California Edison (SCE) will begin contacting residents (door-to-door) in the affected parts of the City this week to educate them on their Circle City Project. The Circle City Project is a proposal by the SCE to upgrade electrical infrastructure in the Cities of Norco, Corona and Eastvale to improve the reliability of their services. The project includes the construction of a substation in Corona and replacement of transmission lines in Norco and the other cities. SCE expects to file a formal application for the project with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) before the end of this year. The area of the City of Norco affected will be around Corydon and River Road. During the door-to-door outreach effort, SCE will provide residents with project summary flyer. For more information, please contact SCE at (866) 464-2005 option1 or visit their website at [www.sce.com/circlecity](http://www.sce.com/circlecity).

### **CITY CLERK:**

**Planning Commission Recruitment:** Monday, November 23, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. is the deadline to submit applications for the one unscheduled vacancy on the Planning Commission. Requirements to serve on the Commission are: must be a permanent resident of Norco; be a citizen of the United States; be at least 18 years of age; never have been convicted of a felony; and must take the Oath of Office.

The Norco City Council will consider and make the appointment to the Planning Commission at its regular meeting on December 2, 2015. Persons wishing to serve on the Planning Commission should contact the City Clerk's Office at (951) 270-5617.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

**SilverLakes:** Staff is proceeding with its research on the local economic impact of SilverLakes, building relationships with 15-20 key businesses that can regularly report on business performance, ultimately assisting all businesses in preparing for large SilverLakes crowds expected in 2016. Initial results indicate that revenue for October 2015 is ranging from 5.3% to 21.6% higher than October 2014, with most establishments registering a year-over-year increase of approximately 15%.

**Housing:** A competitive bidding process has been completed on four (4) home repair projects, making way for construction to begin. These homeowners qualified for grants and/or zero-interest loans for home repairs, with their eligibility based on household income. This program is particularly well suited for improvements such as a new roof, upgraded electrical panel or plumbing repairs. For additional information on any of Norco's housing programs, residents should call (909) 261-2770 or drop by City Hall for an application.

**Hospitality Industry:** Marriott International's tentative agreement to acquire Starwood Hotels & Resorts (whose brands include Sheraton, Westin, Four Points, Aloft, and W) has potential implications for Norco. Not only does it highlight the ongoing boom in the American hotel industry, but makes Marriott the most dominant operator, with about 30 different brands. And because

Marriott has a tendency to cluster its properties, this merger may provide more opportunities for communities like Norco, where one Marriott-operated property is already demonstrating strong performance.

### **FISCAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES:**

**Bill Processing:** Staff mailed out 2,060 utility bills to Group 2 customers. Staff also mailed out 235 delinquent notices to Group 1 utility customers that had not paid their bill on time. On Tuesday, a courtesy door tag was hung at the door of customers that were delinquent in Group 3 by Public Works notifying 95 customers that if they did not pay on Tuesday, their water services would be shut off on Wednesday. By Wednesday, 7 customer's water was shut off for nonpayment; 4 customer's water services were restored and 3 remained shut off.

**Business License and Cash Receipts:** There were 18 new business license applications and 10 renewal Business license applications during the week. Staff processed a combined total of 2,014 cash receipts from the building counter, Parks and Recreation, utility customers and other miscellaneous accounts receivables totaling \$501,763.

**Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable:** A total of 13 miscellaneous accounts receivable invoices were sent to individuals/agencies totaling \$602,748. Miscellaneous accounts receivable invoices are sent to bill for EMS services, hydrant meter billing, damage to City property, encroachment permits, loan payments, trash billing to California Rehabilitation Center and any other services provided by the City other than utility billing and business licenses.

### **PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES:**



**Volunteers Needed:** Staff is recruiting volunteers for the Horsetown Parade of Lights and Christmas Festival pre-event set-up and for day of event festivities. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services at 951-270-5635. Christmas wreaths which hang on street lights on Sixth Street have been fluffed and restrung with new lights by volunteers. Wreaths will be installed Friday.

**New Hire:** Interviews were held to fill the vacant Special Events and Volunteer Specialist position in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. Katrina Enriquez was hired to fill this position. Help us in welcoming Katrina to the team while we wish Janna Noyes good luck in her new endeavors!



**U.N.I.T.Y. Meeting:** Staff attended the United Neighbors Involving Today's Youth (U.N.I.T.Y.) meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at the Corona Library.

**Senior Services:** Seniors on the Move started their Christmas shopping early with an excursion to Ontario Mills Shopping and Dining on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 9:30 a.m.



**“The Gift of Kindness” Thanksgiving Luncheon** was held on Thursday, November 19, 2015 from 12:00p.m. – 2:00p.m. A big THANK YOU to Century 21 Gold for supplying the turkeys, the American Legion for cooking the turkeys, Norco Lions Club for all the delicious side dishes, cooking, plating and serving and the Norco Rotary for serving! The seniors are very thankful of your support and kindness! Seniors in attendance had the opportunity to help fill the “Thankful Tree” with what they are thankful for!

**Wee People Playschool** is celebrating Harvest Week this week in preparation for Thanksgiving. Activities include making a tissue paper turkey, a fingerprint corn on the cob and an Indian hat. The children have also been preparing placemats that include what they are thankful for and an adorable handprint turkey. Staff will laminate them and the children will use them during their thanksgiving feast which is being held on Tuesday, November 24 and Wednesday, November 25 at 12pm. The children will be wearing their handmade Native American Headdresses, singing Thanksgiving songs and enjoying a yummy turkey feast!

**Fall Kidz Camp:** Registrations are taking place for Fall Kidz Camp and Winter Kidz Camps for children ages 5-12 years old. During these weekly sessions, kids have the opportunity to meet new friends and have fun with exciting activities, crafts and games while on break from school. For more information regarding this program please call (951) 371-5357.

### **George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center**

- George A. Ingalls Veteran's Memorial Plaza is OPEN daily from 10 a.m. - dusk.
- Staff and volunteers prepared the complex for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Riverside County Sheriff K-9 Trials held on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> for international agency competition which 25 plus agencies were represented. On Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> the public attended a FREE safety fair and observed some K-9 completion. Approximately 1500 were in attendance. Also our local hotels benefited with 40 plus rooms occupied for the event.
- Open Recreational Riding was held November 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at Clark Arena 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Community barrel race is cancelled for private event and will resume after Thanksgiving, Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Moreno Arena
- On Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> are private events at the arena and Nellie Weaver Hall.
- The Ocean View Australian dog club will be hosting a two day dog show at Pikes Peak Park, Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> & November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> the National Police Rodeo Association will host their event at Moreno arena and Orange Coast Rhodesian Ridgebacks will host a puppy match at Pikes Peak Park.
- Saddle Sore Riders will be hosting a Turkey Ride staging from George Ingalls, Parking Lot 3.

**Parks and Building Maintenance Services:** In preparation for the Veterans Day ceremony, Staff cleaned the facility, assisted with set up and built a fire pit for the flag burning portion of the program.



- The flags were lowered at all City buildings this week to honor the lives lost in the attacks in Paris, France.
- Valley Cities Fence started to install new trail fence in LMD 4 as required in the trail fence replacement project.

- At Fire Station 47, staff repaired 2 of 3 parking lot lights and provided them with filters for air conditioners. There was also a water leak in the gym room ceiling as the result of a pinhole in the copper line which was repaired.
- Fixed pressure washer for Animal control.
- At Ingalls Park, staff welded the scraper box and replaced and adjusted sandbags.

## **Public Works**

### **Potable Meter Repairs:**

- 4322 Temescal – replaced leaking meter gaskets
- 4508 Hillside – repaired packing on isolation valve inside meter box.

### **Potable Service Line Repairs:**

- 3533 Temescal – Using a combination of vacuum excavation and traditional excavation techniques staff responded to a reported leak in the street area. Once the leak had been excavated staff determined that the existing 1” galvanized service line was in an unrepairable condition and required replacement. Staff replaced the full street crossing with 35 feet of one inch type K copper tube and brass fittings.
- 3460 Vine – replaced leaking 1” poly service lateral with new type K copper service tube.

### **Potable Mainline Repairs:**

- 2334 Alhambra – vacuum excavated and repaired leaking 6” steel water main

### **Potable System Samples:**

- Between January 1, 2015 and November 17, 2015 on staff State certified Water Treatment Operators have pulled and sent for outside lab analysis in excess of 5,800 routine system tests to continually ensure the quality of the water being served to Norco’s residents.

### **Potable Pump Station and Reservoir Maintenance:**

- Ridge Ranch booster station – cleaned and resealed the register assembly on the production meter

### **Backflow Inspections:**

- Five Guys Burgers and Fries – verified 2 devices
- Fairfield Inn – verified 3 backflow devices

### **Collection System Maintenance:**

- 2683 Vine – call from resident regarding clogged sewer line, advised resident that general cleaning is the resident’s responsibility
- 404 Seventh – staff responded to a call of a crushed sewer lateral at the property line. Upon arrival there was apparent evidence of recent block wall construction at the point of breakage. The resident was advised to contact their contractor for repairs
- On Sunday 11/15/2015 Operations on call staff responded to a SCADA system alarm advising of a “NO POWER” condition at the Norco Drive sewer pump station. Onsite the responding staff member did confirm the station was without Edison power. Edison staff members on scene did confirm a wide area outage had been caused by failed underground Edison mainline cables. Due to the critical nature of the sewage pumping

station to maintain sanitary control of the sewage system in that area Operations staff members did transport and install a towable emergency backup generator to the site and connect it thru the emergency power transfer switch. The on-call operator did confirm the operation of the system while on emergency backup power as well as conducted inspections of the local sewer system. The station was maintained on backup power for approximately 40 hours until Tuesday 11/17/2015 at approximately 1 PM when standard Edison system power was restored and the emergency generator was removed.

**Graffiti/Debris Sites:**

- Removed two bags of trash dumped next to the CDA connection station
- 3848 Corona – removed three couches dumped at road edge
- 643 Sixth – removed couch and recliner dumped in the trail
- 2625 Vine - Cleared sand from drainage area to improve flow

**Weed Abatement:**

- Sixth Street from Pedley to Corona - Cleared weeds and debris from the trail and parkway area in preparation for the upcoming Holiday parade

**DG/Misc Aggregate:**

- 370-388 Seventh – filled ruts in the trail using two tons of decomposed granite

**Trail Fencing:**

- Across from 2766 Broken Lance - Removed 6 sections of trail fence due to termite infestation
- 2810 Reservoir – relocated mailboxes to improve postal carrier access after installation of trail fencing as part of the capital trail improvement project.
- 2897 Shadow Canyon – replaced broken end post
- The Norco Horsemen’s Association hosted their fifth trail fence repair party this week with the replacement of 17 fence rails along Corona from Sixth to Seventh Street. No posts were replaced this time as the City had run out of them and has since placed an order for new ones. It is estimated it could take up to four weeks for delivery. In the meantime, NHA will continue to identify and work on trail fencing by replacing trail rails. Those participating on the fence repair this week were Bonnie Slager, Sharon Chandler, Ann Zerlin, and Bill Naylor.



**Tree Trimming:**

- 4411 Valley View -- Trimmed back privately owned trees to improve stop sign visibility

**Special Notes:**

- As a result of a wide spread system power outage, on 11/15/2015 on-call staff placed stop sign and barricades at the following intersections to maintain traffic control:
  - Hamner at Sixth
  - Hamner at Alhambra
  - Hamner at Chaparral Center
- On Temescal, north of First, striping will be done on the street. It will be included with a paving slurry project which will be scheduled in the very near future.

**Engineering**

**Bluff Street & Western Avenue Water Improvements:** The City has issued a Notice to Proceed for the project for November 16<sup>th</sup>. The contractor has begun potholing for existing utilities on Bluff Street. The contractor will begin construction at the intersection of Bluff Street and River Road. Project includes approximately 4,000 linear feet of 6", 10", 12" and 16" waterline that will replace the aging water distribution system in Bluff Street & Western Avenue.

**Third Street Project:** The contractor will be finishing the striping improvements along Third Street this week. There will also be several minor storm drain improvements being placed at individual properties to accommodate existing drain pipes that convey runoff from private properties onto Third Street. The project is anticipated to be completed within a week.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND BUILDING DIVISION:**

**Approved Special Events:**

- 10-12-15 to 12-10-15: Promotional ad sign, 120 Hidden Valley Parkway
- 10-14-15 to 12-13-15: Promotional ad sign, 110 Hidden Valley Parkway
- 9-1-15 to 6-1-16: Temporary food preparation and service modulars (SilverLakes)
- 11-29-15: Car show with Santa, 3521 Hamner Avenue
- 11-27-15 to 11-29-15: Holiday Craft Fair, Hillside Tree Farm, 3475 Hillside Ave.
- 12-12-15: Radio station remote broadcast (KKGO & KFRG), 960 Sixth St.

**Planning:**

Applications Submitted:		
Conditional Use Permits:	1	(0 commercial, 1 residential)
Entertainment Permits:	1	(Renewal)
Site Plans:	1	(0 commercial, 1 residential)

**Other Highlight Activity:**

- Three meetings with potential developers with interest in Norco regarding location options and potential issues.

**Building Division:**

Permit Applications Submitted:	12	(1 commercial, 11 residential)
Building Permits Issued:	17	(4 commercial, 13 residential)
Valuation of Construction:		\$ 360,896.00
Building Fees Collected:		\$ 9,110.36
Field Inspections:	29	

**Code Enforcement:**

2015 Total Cases:	297
Open Cases:	88
New Cases:	5
Citations Issued:	3
Closed Cases:	6
Yard Sale Sign Removal:	17

- Assisted Sheriff's Department regarding an indoor marijuana grown house that also has building code violations.

**NORCO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:**



**2015 Thanksgiving Seat Belt Campaign - The Best Way to Survive Your Thanksgiving Drive: *Buckle Up America – Every Trip, Every Time.***

**Whether you're traveling across town or across the country, it's always essential to wear your seat belt.**

- Thanksgiving weekend, millions of Americans will hit the roads, eager to spend time with family and friends. It's one of the busiest travel times of the year, and unfortunately that means the potential for more crashes.

- The United States Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is reminding everyone that seat belts save lives. Buckling up gives you the best defense against injury or death in a crash.
- In 2013, there were 21,132 passenger vehicle occupants (in passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, or SUVs) killed in traffic crashes in the United States. Almost half (49%) of those who were killed were not wearing seat belts.
- NHTSA estimates that seat belts saved the lives of 12,584 passenger vehicle occupants age 5 and older in 2013. But if *everyone* had worn their seat belts on every trip that year, an additional 2,800 lives could have been saved.
- The facts don't lie: when you wear your seat belt as a front-seat occupant of a passenger car, your risk of fatal injury goes down by 45 percent. For light-truck occupants, that risk is reduced by 60 percent.

**Make this Thanksgiving different from years past.**

- During the Thanksgiving holiday weekend in 2013 (6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27, to 5:59 a.m. on Monday, December 2), there were 301 people killed in traffic crashes across the nation.

- Tragically, 58 percent of those killed were not buckled up, representing a slight increase in seat belt use compared to the same weekend in 2012, when 61 percent of those killed in traffic crashes were unrestrained.
- Statistically, nighttime is deadlier than daytime in terms of seat belt use. Over the 2013 Thanksgiving weekend, 64 percent of passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes at night were unbuckled, compared to 48 percent during the day.
- Nighttime belt use improved from the year before (2012), when 70 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in nighttime crashes were unbelted. However, the percentage of passenger vehicle occupants killed in daytime crashes who were unbelted rose slightly from 47 percent in 2012 to 48 percent in 2013.
- Young people continue to be overrepresented in fatal crashes and seat belt nonuse. Among the passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2013, occupants ages 21-24 were unrestrained at a rate of 55 percent, with occupants 16-20 following close behind at a rate of 50-percent unrestrained.
- Males are more likely than females to be unrestrained in fatal crashes. Fifty-four percent of the male passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2013 were unrestrained, compared with 41 percent for females.
- If you're ejected from a vehicle in a crash, odds are that you will not survive. In 2013, almost 8 out of 10 (79%) of the people totally ejected from vehicles in crashes were killed. Wearing your seat belt is the most effective way to prevent ejection; only 1 percent of occupants wearing seat belts were ejected in crashes, compared to 31 percent of those who were unrestrained.

Surviving your Thanksgiving drive this year—and making it to next Thanksgiving—can be as simple as buckling up. In the last decade, seat belts saved the lives of more 100,000 people in the United States. Those people are thankful they wore their seat belts. Won't you wear yours? *Buckle Up America – Every Trip, Every Time.* Drive safely this Thanksgiving. For more information, please visit [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

**Riverside County 2016 Homeless Count Coming to Norco, January 2016:** The Norco Sheriff's Office will be assisting the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services to help identify anyone who is homeless, in the City of Norco. This program is set to take place during January 2016. In addition to gathering information necessary for the survey, deputies, city, and county staff will work on providing resource and aid information to the homeless. There are additional benefits and programs available to our homeless veterans, whom we will also work on locating and identifying. Though this program is conducted annually, the Norco Sheriff's Office continues to work with the local homeless population year round, in an attempt to provide them with resources and aid.

The Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count is a count and survey of Riverside County's sheltered and unsheltered homeless population. Riverside County's Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), in partnership with Riverside County's Continuum of Care, is required to conduct this biannual count in late January. The Continuum of Care (CoC) is a network of private- and public-

sector homeless service providers, designed to promote community-wide planning and the strategic use of resources to address homelessness.

What is the Riverside County Point-in-Time Homeless Count? The Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey is a one-day street-based and service-based count and subpopulation survey of sheltered and unsheltered individuals to identify how many people in Riverside County are homeless and their subpopulation characteristics on a given day.

How can I learn more about the Point-in-Time Homeless Count? For more information about the Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey please send an email to [RivCoPIT@RiversideDPSS.org](mailto:RivCoPIT@RiversideDPSS.org) or call (951) 358-3384.

More information can be found at this link: <http://riversidehomelesscounts.com/index.html>



**Marijuana Cultivation Investigation and Arrest:** On Friday, November 13, 2015, about 9:00 a.m., the Riverside County Sheriff's Department Special Investigation Bureau (SIB), along with the Norco Sheriff's Office, served a search warrant in the 1400 block of Harness Lane, in the city of Norco. The search warrant service revealed a large scale, indoor marijuana grow operation at a residence. At the location, a significant number of marijuana plants were found and recovered in various stages of growth.

The suspect was identified as Ye Ming Zhou, age 42, a resident of West Covina. Zhou was arrested at the location and booked at the Robert Presley Detention Center for charges related to marijuana cultivation and the theft of electricity.

The Sheriff's Department remains committed to enforcing the law in Riverside County, and will continue to deploy resources and personnel, as needed, to investigate reports of illegal marijuana cultivation. The City of Norco, Code Enforcement Officer, is conducting follow-up investigation into additional city code violations found at the location. If you suspect a residence in your neighborhood is being used for illegal marijuana cultivation you can send a tip using the Sheriff's **CrimeTips** online form.

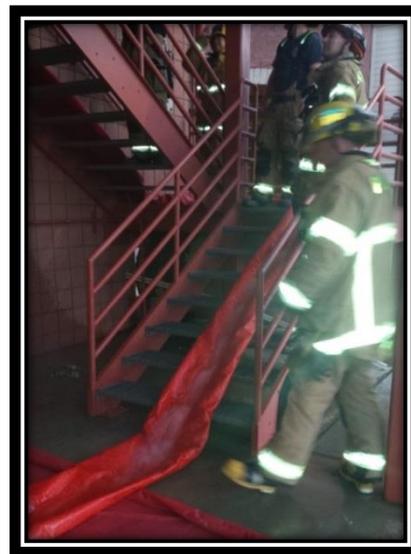
### **FIRE DEPARTMENT / CAL FIRE:**

**Sandbags:** Fire staff continues to distribute sand bags to city residence; more than 200 sand bags were provided to city residence this week.

**CERT:** CERT team members met with Captain Wetherholt for training on 11/16/15 at Station 47.

**Volunteer Reserve Firefighters:** Station 47 hosted training for the Cal Fire/ Riverside County Volunteer Reserve Firefighters on 11/14/15.

**Training:** Multi-Company drills were held at Norco Fire Station #47, which consisted of various water salvage techniques and drills. The drills covered multiple methods for evacuating water from a structure



for property preservation. Training on these techniques would be beneficial in the event of a broken water line, fire sprinkler or other interior flooding incidents like those sometimes experienced from severe downpours in El Niño like conditions.

**Tour:** Firefighters from Stations 47, 57, and 13 had an opportunity to tour the Naval Surface Warfare Center this week. Fire Staff toured the grounds and discussed general operations and pre-fire planning, including fire protection systems, water supplies, and access points.

<b>Response Activity – Norco</b>	
<b>Incidents Reported for 11/12/2015 - 11/18/2015 and Norco City</b>	
False Alarm	4
Medical	29
Other Fire	1
Public Service Assist	2
Traffic Collision	4
<b>Incident Total:</b>	<b>40</b>

<b>Riverside County Fire - Norco</b>	
<b>Weekly Activity Report</b>	
<b>11/12/15 - 11/18/15</b>	
	CITY
<b>Activity Totals</b>	<b>Norco</b>
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>TOTAL NORCO</b>
All Plan Reviews	5
<b>INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>Norco</b>
Annuals	5
New Construction	4
Re-inspections	4
Title 19 Inspections	2
Business License Review	
C of O's	
Weed Abatement	
<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>MEETINGS &amp; OTHER</b>	<b>Norco</b>
Meeting	2
Training	
Special Inspections/Events	