January 16, 2014

About the OC Citizens’ Report

The Auditor-Controller Department is proud to present you with its 11th Annual OC Citizens’ Report for the fiscal year (FY) ended June 30, 2013. This report provides an overview of the County’s financial condition and a brief analysis of where the County revenues come from and where those dollars are spent. It also provides an outline of trends in the local economy and how our economy compares to neighboring counties, the state and the nation.

Most of the information in this report is drawn from the financial information appearing in the FY 2012-13 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR is a more detailed and complete financial presentation prepared in conformance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and was audited by the County’s independent auditors, receiving an unmodified (clean) opinion. While the financial data in the OC Citizens’ Report conforms with GAAP, the statistical, economic and demographic data are taken from various sources and are not GAAP-basis data. Both the CAFR and the OC Citizens’ Report are available for viewing at the Auditor-Controller’s website at http://ac.ocgov.com/info/financial.

Financial Highlights for FY 2012-13

The County prepares two sets of financial statements that measure its finances differently. The government-wide statements present a long-term perspective of the County’s assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position, as well as its operations. The fund statements provide a short-term perspective of individual fund’s assets, liabilities, and fund balance, which represents the excess of what the County owns over what the County owes, as well as the resources flowing in and out during the fiscal year. The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County.

Here are highlights of the County’s financial activities during FY 2012-13:

- Total net position increased by $110 million, or 2% as compared to last year.
- Long-term debt decreased by $37 million, or 5% as compared to last year.
- The County’s governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of $1.9 billion, an increase of $181 million, or 11% as compared to last year.
- General Fund revenues and other financing sources (inflows other than regular revenues) ended the year 3% below budget.
- General Fund expenditures and other financing uses (outflows other than regular expenditures) ended the year 8% below budget.

In This Issue

Auditor-Controller’s Message .......... 2
County Overview .......................... 3
Demographics & Economy ................. 4
Budgetary Highlights .......................... 5
Statement of Net Position ..................... 6
Statement of Activities ........................ 7
Retirement Plan ..................................... 9
Your Property Tax Dollars ............. 10
Accomplishments ................................. 11
It is my pleasure to present to you the OC Citizens’ Report for fiscal year 2012-13. During this year, Orange County continued to out-perform national and state economic growth, with the unemployment rate at 6.2% and expected job growth of 2.3%. The housing market experienced sharp growth, with median home prices increasing more than 25% and foreclosures decreasing. The median home price rose to $560,000, the highest of any of the surrounding Counties. These positive economic indicators show a continued strengthening of the local economy. Orange County is the third most populous county in the state, and ranks sixth in the nation.

The Governor’s proposed budget for FY 2014-15 reflects a budget surplus for the first time in a decade. The passage of Proposition 30, growth in the economy and in jobs, and a rise in capital gains related to the stock market have positioned the State to begin some modest budget restorations, and present the opportunity to begin dealing with a significant amount of long term liabilities. In 2013, the State of California and the County settled their dispute over Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount (VLFAA) revenues through the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 701. The state will allocate $53 million to reset the issue and give the county six years to repay the debt. Orange County will now get a formula-based disbursement of VLFAA funds like all other counties, which will provide for future revenue growth.

The local economic growth coupled with clarity over the County’s future revenues from the State have positioned the County to maintain the current budget without further cuts, and will likely provide for some measured growth in the future. The County has been holding the line on expenditure growth in order to balance expenditures with revenues. General Fund reserve levels today are slightly below the target of two months operating revenues, based on GFOA recommended practices. Over the next six years the County will have to repay $150 million to the State of California under the AB701 provisions, which will significantly impact the County’s reserves and will require continued constraint in expenditure growth to ensure retention of minimal reserves. It will be imperative to rebuild reserves to an acceptable level over the short term.

The County has been proactive in building reserves and decreasing expenditure levels to balance to decreased revenue levels over the past five years. These strong management practices, along with a recovering local economy led to a recent upgrade to the County’s creditworthiness by national rating agency Standard & Poor’s. The County’s issuer credit rating went to ‘AA’ from ‘AA-’, while its rating on outstanding general obligation debt went to ‘AA-’ from A+. The new ratings are within S&P’s “high quality” range.

I hope that you find this report both useful and informative.

Sincerely,

Jan E. Grimes, CPA
Auditor-Controller
The County of Orange is a charter county that is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors who represent districts that are each approximately equal in population. The Supervisorial Districts map shows the boundaries of the County and the areas governed by each member of the Board.

A County Executive Officer oversees nineteen County Departments, and elected department heads oversee seven County Departments. The Auditor-Controller is one of the seven elected County officials. The County provides a full range of services countywide, which include affordable housing; airport; child protection and social services; child support services; clerk-recorder; coroner and forensic services; district attorney; elections and voter registration; environmental/regulatory health; flood control and transportation; harbors, beaches and parks; disaster preparedness; indigent medical services; jails and juvenile facilities; juvenile justice commission; landfills and solid waste disposal; law enforcement; probationary supervision; public assistance; public defender/alternate defense; public and mental health services; senior services; tax assessment, collection and appeals; veterans services; libraries; animal control; and weights and measures. Visit the County of Orange website at http://ocgov.com for additional information about the County and to access available services.

Orange County’s economy continues to out-perform local surrounding counties, the state and national economies (in annual percentage growth), and in fact, ranks higher (in absolute growth rate dollars) than the economies of the majority of the world’s countries. Internal indicators show a continued slow but steady recovery of the local economy. First, unemployment rates are expected to decrease to 6.2% in 2013 compared to 7.7% in 2012. Second, job growth is expected to remain steady at 2.3% in 2013. Third, median home prices are expected to increase by 25.8% in 2013 relative to 6.0% in 2012. The only economic indicator where this trend of improvement is not consistent is in terms of expected sales tax receipts, where a slight change in the increase of 5.9% is expected in 2013 relative to the 6.3% increase in 2012.
Demographics and Economy

Orange County ranks as the third most populous county in the State of California with a population of 3,081,804 (at January 1, 2013), an increase of 0.8% when compared with the previous year. As of June 30, 2013, Orange County employed an estimated 5.7 employees per 1,000 citizens, which provides a measure of service levels to citizens.

The median family income for 2013 in Orange County is expected to be $84,100, which is higher than surrounding counties and the nation. The growth of median family income for 2013 relative to 2012 decreased by 1.41%, while the statewide decrease was 2.52%. Both are above the nationwide decrease of 0.92%.

The unemployment rate in Orange County continues to be below that of all surrounding counties. The County’s unemployment rate in 2013 was 6.2%, compared to the nationwide rate of 7.3%. This represents a slight decrease from the prior year’s rate of 7.7%. The County’s job growth is expected to increase by 2.3% in 2013, resulting in approximately 31,857 new jobs relative to 2012.

The median price for new and existing homes was $560,000 in 2013, representing a 25.8% increase relative to 2012. The median sales price in Orange County continues to exceed all surrounding counties.

The median family income for 2013 in Orange County is expected to be $84,100, which is higher than surrounding counties and the nation. The growth of median family income for 2013 relative to 2012 decreased by 1.41%, while the statewide decrease was 2.52%. Both are above the nationwide decrease of 0.92%.

The unemployment rate in Orange County continues to be below that of all surrounding counties. The County’s unemployment rate in 2013 was 6.2%, compared to the nationwide rate of 7.3%. This represents a slight decrease from the prior year’s rate of 7.7%. The County’s job growth is expected to increase by 2.3% in 2013, resulting in approximately 31,857 new jobs relative to 2012.

The median price for new and existing homes was $560,000 in 2013, representing a 25.8% increase relative to 2012. The median sales price in Orange County continues to exceed all surrounding counties.
The County’s budget and accounting records for governmental funds are reported on a modified accrual basis, which presents the short-term perspective of the County’s financial activities. The fiscal year begins on July 1. Revenues are budgeted in the amount expected to be received or as they are applicable to the fiscal year. Expenditures are budgeted at an amount sufficient for 12 months if they are ongoing and in their full amount if they are one-time items. The Board of Supervisors adopts the budget which becomes the spending plan for County departments. Actual revenues and expenditures are monitored during the year and reported to the Board of Supervisors on a quarterly basis. The budget may be modified based on these quarterly reports to reflect new assumptions or events.

For governmental funds, revenues for FY 2012-13 were $4.2 billion, or 5% below budget and expenditures were $4.2 billion or 21% below budget.

The tables below show the budgeted revenues and expenditures compared to actual results for all governmental funds.

**County Debt and Bond Ratings**

At June 30, 2013, the County’s outstanding long-term debt totaled $633 million, excluding capital lease obligations, compensated absences and other liabilities. During the year, the County’s outstanding bond obligations decreased by 5%, which is attributable to the retirement of $109 million of bond obligations, including $35 million of bankruptcy related debt, and the addition of $58 million in Teeter Plan Notes. The accompanying chart shows a five year comparison of the County’s long-term debt.

Additionally, the County has maintained its issuer ratings of Aa1 from Moody’s Investors Services and Standard and Poor’s upgraded its issuer ratings to AA; currently Fitch Ratings does not provide issuer ratings. On February 1, 2013, the County issued its three-year tax-exempt Teeter Plan Notes, which are not rated.
The Statement of Net Position presents the County's financial position from a long-term perspective. It reports all of the County's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the County's financial position is improving or deteriorating.

**Statement of Net Position (Dollar Amounts in Millions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current and Other Assets</td>
<td>$3,770</td>
<td>$3,617</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Assets</td>
<td>$3,502</td>
<td>$3,513</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$7,272</td>
<td>$7,130</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Liabilities</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Liabilities</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>(20)%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>2,101</td>
<td>2,136</td>
<td>(2)%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET POSITION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Investment in Capital Assets</td>
<td>3,152</td>
<td>3,275</td>
<td>(4)%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>1,487</td>
<td>1,331</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET POSITION</strong></td>
<td>$5,171</td>
<td>$4,994</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Five Year Comparison of Net Position (Dollar Amounts in Millions)**

Capital Assets

At June 30, 2013, the County’s assets totaled $7.3 billion. Approximately $3.8 billion represent current and other assets while $3.5 billion are capital assets. Capital assets include land, structures and improvements, equipment, infrastructure, and intangible assets that are used to provide services to the citizens of Orange County. Capital assets are reported at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

**Net Position Components**

The largest component of the County’s net position, about 61% or $3.2 billion, was net investment in capital assets, less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. Even though the County’s investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate the County’s debt, and so the resources needed to pay these liabilities must be provided from other resources.

$1.5 billion or 29% of the County’s net position is restricted. Restricted means that these resources are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. External restrictions include those imposed by grantors, contributors, laws/regulations of other governments, or restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provision or legislation, including those passed by the County itself.

The final component of net position is unrestricted net position. Unrestricted net position is a resource that can be used to meet ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Unrestricted net position totaled $532 million, compared to $388 million in FY 2011-12.
This section reports the fiscal year’s financial activities from a long-term perspective. It is designed to provide a summary of the financial health and stability of the County. Information contained within this section should provide the reader with a general understanding of how available resources are used to provide services.

As of June 30, 2013, the County’s revenues for the year, including an extraordinary gain totaled $3.69 billion, an increase of $178 million from the previous year while expenses totaled $3.58 billion, an increase of $43 million from last year’s total expenses and extraordinary loss. The significant increase in revenues is primarily a result of an increase in operating grants and contributions of $104 million due to an increase in revenues for the Low Income Health Program and Mental Health Services Act and an increase in realignment revenue.

Expenses increased primarily due to an increase of $32 million for public protection due to an increase in salaries and employee benefits for the Sheriff Department due to the new contract with the City of Yorba Linda and capital asset disposition due to the write-off of the Yorba Linda Spur since the County does not own the Santa Ana River Interceptor Line. The overall effect of operations was an increase in net position of $110 million.

Revenues

Revenues are classified by source. Program Revenues are derived directly from the program itself or from parties outside the County’s taxpayers or citizenry.

- Operating Grants and Contributions are monies received from parties outside the County and are generally restricted to one or more specific programs.
- Charges for Services are revenues that arise from charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from the goods, services, or privileges provided.
- Capital Grants and Contributions are monies received for capital purposes, to purchase, construct, or renovate capital assets associated with a specific program.

General Revenues are taxes and other items, such as unrestricted interest revenue not reported as program revenues.

Expenses

Expenses are classified by function.

- General Government includes expenses incurred by the Board of Supervisors, Clerk of the Board, Assessor, Auditor-Controller, County Executive Office, County Counsel, Clerk-Recorder, Human Resources, Internal Audit, Performance Audit, Registrar of Voters, and Treasurer-Tax Collector.

**Readers wanting more detailed financial information should refer to the County’s FY 2012-13 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) available at the Auditor-Controller’s website at: http://ac.ocgov.com/info/financial.**
**Statement of Activities (Continued)**

### Where the Money Comes From:

- 20.4% Charges for Services
- 51.7% Operating Grants & Contributions
- 1.8% Capital Grants & Contributions
- 12.8% Property Taxes
- 8.4% Property Taxes in Lieu of Motor Vehicle License Fees
- 3.0% Other Taxes
- 0.1% Grants & Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs
- 0.1% State Allocation of Motor Vehicle License Fees
- 1.7% Other General Revenues

### Expenses

- **Public Ways and Facilities** consists of repairs and maintenance of public roads and parking facilities under the OC Public Works Department.
- **Health and Sanitation** includes indigent medical services, public health care and emergency medical service programs, and environmental health services.
- **Public Assistance** consists of a variety of social services and housing and community services.
- **Education** reflects the operating costs of providing library services, as well as building public libraries.
- **Recreation and Cultural Services** represents the operating and capital asset related expenses for the harbors, beaches and parks.
- **Interest on Long-Term Debt** accounts for indirect expense of interest paid on general long-term debt incurred by the governmental functions.
- **Airport** accounts for major construction and self-supporting aviation-related activities at John Wayne Airport.
- **Waste Management** accounts for the operation, expansion, and closing of existing landfills and the opening of new landfills.

### Where the Money Goes:

- 35.3% Public Protection
- 3.9% Public Ways & Facilities
- 17.4% Health & Sanitation
- 26.4% Public Assistance
- 0.9% Interest on Long-Term Debt
- 2.8% Recreation & Cultural Services
- 1.0% Education
- 3.4% Airport
- 2.7% Waste Management
- 6.2% General Government
Pension

The County of Orange is typical of most state and local entities in that we provide a pension plan with defined benefits and partially paid retiree medical benefits for our employees. In addition to supporting a secure retirement for our employees, these benefits are an important component of the total compensation package the County offers to attract and retain the skilled workforce needed to protect and promote the general welfare of our citizens. Accounting standards issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) require state and local governments to report their liabilities for future pension costs and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) such as retiree medical benefits. Also, in order to comply with these accounting standards, the County utilizes actuarial valuations to get estimates of the value of plan assets using assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future.

For pension benefits, substantially all County employees participate in the Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS), an independent, defined-benefit retirement plan governed by the Board of Retirement, which is independent of the County Board of Supervisors. The OCERS Board supervises the investment of OCERS assets and the distribution of benefits to retired employees. The OCERS Board also determines the annual required contribution (ARC) of the County to fund the pension benefits. The ARC consists primarily of two components: the normal cost (future cost of benefits earned in the current year) and the amortized portion of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL). The UAAL represents the amount of obligation for prior service that is not covered by plan assets. Plan assets are restricted in a trust and can only be used to pay plan benefits. The County’s funding policy is to fully fund the ARC which is combined with employee contributions and investment income in order to provide its members with full benefits. The Schedule of Funding Progress presents multi-year trend information on the funding status of the Pension Plan. Over the past year, OCERS funding ratio decreased from 67.03% in December 31, 2011, to 62.52% as of December 31, 2012. A schedule of funding progress for OCERS is shown below and is also included in the Required Supplementary Section of the OCERS CAFR located at http://www.ocers.org.

![Orange County Employee’s Retirement System Schedule of Funding Progress for Years Ended Dec. 31](image-url)
Property tax is a major source of revenue for local government in California. In FY 2012-13, $5.4 billion in property tax was distributed to county government, cities, schools, redevelopment trust funds and special districts in Orange County. County government relies on property tax as the main source of revenue to pay for county-wide services.

Changes in assessed value have a corresponding impact on property tax assessments. The chart below shows the trend in assessed value over the past five years. With improving economic and market conditions, assessed value has steadily improved, increasing by 3.43% for 2013-14. Orange County’s total assessment roll for 2013-14 is valued at $447.7 billion.

The Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Dissolution Act passed and upheld in 2012, requires the winding down of redevelopment activities. Incremental property tax that had been apportioned to RDAs is now apportioned to Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds (RPTTFs). Those monies are subsequently distributed to successor agencies to satisfy enforceable obligations of the former RDA. Any residual balances of the RPTTFs are required to be distributed to affected taxing entities within the former redevelopment project area boundaries. Unencumbered non-housing and housing funds of the former RDAs were also required to be distributed to affected taxing entities within the former redevelopment project area boundaries.
What We’ve Done for You Lately

1. Expanded the Child Support Community Resource Center into a new 7,000 sq. ft. facility staffed with 11 employees that have since matched more than 9,700 customers with food, medical, clothing, shelter, and legal resources.

2. Provided over 23,000 influenza vaccinations in a variety of settings including special community events, supermarkets, family resource centers and County jails.

3. Launched a redesigned website, www.ocgov.com, which includes a fresh new look, enhanced features, and streamlined navigation to improve the visitor experience.


5. Found forever homes for more than 10,000 animals.

6. Conducted two underwater clean up events at Dana Point Harbor utilizing volunteer scuba divers and community participants to collect items such as marine toilet, personal electronics, skateboards, bicycles, and other refuse from the water weighing a total of more than 4,500 lbs.

7. Provided recreational opportunities for more than 12 million visitors at OC Parks 60,000 acres of parkland, open space, and shoreline.

8. Launched a new behavioral health information and referral line to link people and providers to services offered through the Behavioral Health System including mental health; drug and alcohol; and prevention and early intervention services.

9. Provided a convenient way to pay property taxes on-line, with over 50% of property tax payments now received electronically through the Treasurer’s website at http://ocgov.com/octaxbill.

10. Provided legal representation in over 77,000 cases annually for those unable to afford a lawyer in criminal, juvenile, mental health and dependency matters.

11. Provided early intervention, assessment and treatment services to over 3,100 juveniles by utilizing almost $9 million in State funding for Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act programs.

12. Provided medical care and services for almost 52,000 low-income adults through the Medical Services Initiative.

13. Worked closely with community leaders, educators and students through the Health Care Agency’s Tobacco Use Prevention Program (TUPP) to help youth make informed decisions and to counter the influence that smoking in movies has on youth.

14. Developed the new Global Entry kiosk at John Wayne Airport expediting Customs and Border Protection (CBP) processing, reducing wait times, and benefiting travelers arriving from international destinations and the local business community.

15. Hosted a Safe Communities Meeting where parents, children and experts shared their experience with bullying, its warning signs, how to help, and available resources.
What We've Done for You Lately (Continued)

16. Provided employment and training services to over 100,000 customers through the One-Stop Centers and exceeded all Federal performance measures for One-Stop Centers and Youth Programs.

17. Opened Orange County’s first Adopt and Shop store. Located on the lower level of The Shops at Mission Viejo, this unique pet store only adopts out animals from local shelters.

18. Assisted a monthly average of over 130,000 low income children in Orange County with the food they need for good health through the administration of the CalFresh (or Food Stamps) program.

19. Ensured access to needed medical services for a monthly average of over 146,000 adults who were eligible for the Medi-Cal program.

20. Enhanced the quality of life for thousands of seniors by providing 124,533 Non-Emergency Medical Transportation trips and 1,032,981 home delivered meals to frail and homebound older adults throughout Orange County.

21. Operated a jail system that houses an average of 65,000 inmates a year.

22. Hosted SCORE (nationwide nonprofit organization dedicated to the formation, growth, and success of small businesses) workshops at OC Public Libraries branches with more than 1,600 small business owners in attendance.

23. Registered 32,402 kids, teens, and adults for OC Public Libraries’ Summer Reading Program.

24. Worked closely with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department in its review of 20 designated “critical incidents,” including deputy-involved shootings, in-custody deaths, and significant use of force, which resulted in numerous changes in policy and training in an effort to improve future performance.

25. Launched the Adopt a Channel Program to promote community involvement in and stewardship of our waterways in order to prevent trash from reaching Orange County Beaches.

Outstanding Achievement Award

The Government Finance Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has given an Award of Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Reporting to Orange County, California for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. The award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is good for one year. The published report must reflect the program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

The following sources were used to compile this report: Economic & Business Review, Chapman University, June 2013; DataQuick Information System; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department; State of California, Employee Development Department; California Department of Finance; Facts and Figures 2013; County of Orange 2013-14 Recommended Budget; County of San Diego Adopted Operational Plan, 2013-14 to 2014-15; County of Los Angeles 2013-14 Recommended Budget; San Bernardino County 2013-14 Adopted Budget; Riverside County Recommended Budget 2013-14; County of Orange 2012-13 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; County of Orange, 50 Things We Have Done for You Lately; Orange County Website at http://ocgov.com.

PAFR Designed by Peter Dibble, Volunteer Graphic Artist; Photography Courtesy of: OC Parks