# OC Citizens' Report



## **December 18, 2012**

## About the OC Citizens' Report

The Auditor-Controller Department is proud to present you with its 10th Annual OC Citizens' Report for the fiscal year (FY) ended June 30, 2012. 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 2011-12 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR is a more detailed and complete financial presentation prepared in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and was audited by the County's independent auditors, receiving an unqualified (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 <a href="http://ac.ocgov.com/info/financial">http://ac.ocgov.com/info/financial</a>.

## Financial Highlights for FY 2011-12

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 assets, as well as its operations. The fund statements provide a short-term perspective of an 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 2011-12:

- Total net assets decreased by \$25 million, or 1% as compared to last year.
- Long-term debt decreased by \$153 million, or 22% as compared to last year.
- The County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$1.7 billion, a decrease of \$73 million, or more than 4% as compared to last year.
- General Fund revenues and other financing sources ended the year 20% below budget.
- General Fund expenditures and other financing uses ended the year 24% below budget.

## **Board of Supervisors**

Janet Nguyen, 1st District John M. W. Moorlach, 2nd District Bill Campbell, 3rd District Shawn Nelson, 4th District Patricia C. Bates, 5th District

## Chief Deputy Auditor–Controller

Jan E. Grimes, CPA

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It is my pleasure to present to you the OC Citizens' Report for fiscal year 2011-12. During this year, the economy in Orange County showed measured signs of recovery. Orange County's unemployment rate improved, decreasing by almost 1% and is the lowest of the Southern California Counties, the State of California, and the National rates. Housing prices have increased 6% over the past year, moving the median home sales price to \$445,000 and exceeding the price in all surrounding counties. As a reference point, Orange County is the 3rd most populous County in the State and ranks sixth in the Nation.

In November 2012, Californians passed Proposition 30, which provided sales and income tax increases to avert significant trigger cuts to education. Additionally, the State eliminated Redevelopment Agencies statewide. As the wind down of the Redevelopment Agencies is still in progress, the ongoing financial impact of these changes is not yet fully known. Although Proposition 30 will bring new revenues to the State, other State revenues are coming in under budget and spending levels are high. In the coming months, we will see the Governor's proposed State Budget for FY 2013-14 and will identify whether there remain any further cost reductions to Orange County programs due to the State's fiscal affairs. In addition to the uncertainty of the State's budget, there are several significant financial issues at the County level. The State of California has filed a lawsuit against the County of Orange to recapture Vehicle License Fee Adjustment Amount (VLFAA) revenues. This suit is expected to go to court in January 2013. At risk is around \$70 million dollars of general fund revenues. Additionally, there are uncertainties around the full cost of implementing the realignment of certain public safety, health, and human services programs enacted by the State last year and Federal health care reform, both of which continue to put pressure on the County Budget.

In order to address identified budget issues and prepare for the continued uncertainty of the State and local economy, the County has implemented a number of budget reductions. The County began an early trending down of non-mandated spending and programs in late 2007, followed by targeted cuts in FY 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, and a mid-year reduction in 2011-12. This resulted in 2%, 8%, 5%, and 5% decreases in baseline discretionary spending limits, respectively. The mid-year reduction in FY 2011-12 was made in direct response to the VLFAA challenges. After four consecutive years of budget reductions, the County was able to adopt a structurally balanced budget for FY 2012-13; however, there remain many uncertainties on the horizon. In the fund financial statements for FY 2011-12, expenditures outpaced revenues in governmental funds due, in large part, to the extraordinary loss of \$113 million related to the elimination of the Orange County Development Agency in accordance with the statewide elimination of redevelopment agencies. This resulted in a decrease to fund balances of \$73 million. Early action that began in 2007 has been critical to ensuring baseline services are met and that the County continues to experience financial stability. The County will continue to proactively address fiscal challenges collaboratively with departments by carefully monitoring programs and financial operations to ensure that the County continues to provide outstanding cost-effective regional public services.

Effective January 31, 2012, the Elected Auditor-Controller left Orange County to serve as the Sonoma County Auditor-Controller/ Treasurer-Tax Collector. Since that time the Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller has served as the interim Auditor-Controller as provided for in State law. The Orange County Board of Supervisors has the authority and responsibility to appoint a replacement to fulfill the remainder of the Auditor-Controller's elected term ending January 5, 2015.

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

Sincerely,

Ju & Shines

Jan E. Grimes, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller

# **COUNTY OVERVIEW**

# **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



## John M. W. Moorlach Chairman, 2nd District Supervisor (714) 834-3220, John.Moorlach@ocgov.com

Buena Park (portions of), Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley (portions of), Huntington Beach, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Seal Beach, Stanton



## Shawn Nelson Vice-Chairman, 4th District Supervisor (714) 834-3440, Shawn.Nelson@ocgov.com

Anaheim (portions of), Brea, Buena Park (portions of), Fullerton, La Habra, Placentia



Janet Nguyen 1st District Supervisor (714) 834-3110, Janet.Nguyen@ocgov.com

Fountain Valley (portions of), Garden Grove, Santa Ana, Westminster



Bill Campbell 3rd District Supervisor (714) 834-3330 Bill.Campbell@ocgov.com

Anaheim (portions of), Irvine (portions of), Orange, Tustin, Villa Park, Yorba Linda

MISSION STATEMENT "Making Orange County a safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to live, work, and play, today and for generations to come, by providing outstanding, cost-effective regional public services."



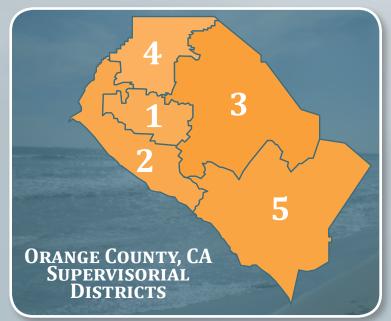
Patricia C. Bates 5th District Supervisor (714) 834-3550, Pat.Bates@ocgov.com

Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Irvine (portions of), Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano

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 eighteen 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 & social services; child support services; clerk-recorder; coroner & forensic services; district attorney; elections & voter registration; environmental/regulatory health; flood control & transportation; harbors, beaches & parks; disaster preparedness; indigent medical services; julk & juvenile facilities; juvenile justice commission; landfills & solid waste disposal; law enforcement; probationary supervision; public assistance; public defender/alternate defense; public & mental health services; senior services; tax assessment; collection & appeals; veterans services; libraries; animal control; and weights & measures. Visit the County of Orange website at <u>http://ocgov.com</u> 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 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 7.7% in 2012 compared to 9.0% in 2011. Second, job growth is expected to improve in 2012 compared to 2011 (1.8%



for 2012 compared to 1.2% for 2011). Third, median home prices are expected to increase by 2.9% in 2012 relative to a decrease of 2.8% in 2011. 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 6.0% is expected in 2012 relative to the 6.9% increase in 2011.

#### COMPARISON OF COUNTY EMPLOYEES PER 1,000 CITIZENS



Orange County ranks as the third most populous county in the State of California with a population of 3,055,792 (at January 1, 2012), an increase of 0.9% when compared with the previous year. As of June 30, 2012, Orange County employed an estimated 5.6 employees per 1,000 citizens, which provides a measure of service levels to citizens.

**COMPARISON OF MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME** 



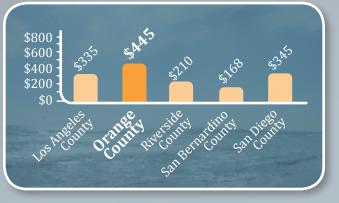
The median family income for 2012 in Orange County was \$85,300, which is higher than surrounding counties and the nation. The growth of median family income for 2012 relative to 2011 increased by 1.31%, while the statewide increase was 1.42%. Both are above the nationwide increase of 1.25%.

## **COMPARISON OF UNEMPLOYMENT RATES**



The unemployment rate in Orange County continues to be below that of all surrounding counties. The County's unemployment rate in 2012 was 7.7%, compared to the nationwide rate of 8.1%. This represents a slight decrease from the prior year's rate of 9.0%. The County's job growth is expected to increase by 1.8% in 2012, resulting in approximately 24,135 more jobs relative to 2011.

#### **COMPARISON OF MEDIAN HOME SALES PRICE (IN THOUSANDS)**



The median price for new and existing homes was \$445,000 in 2012, representing a 6.0% increase relative to 2011. The median sales price in Orange County continues to exceed all surrounding counties.

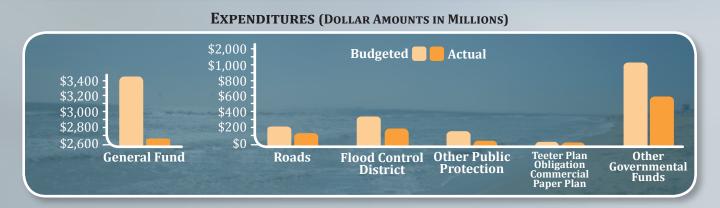
The County's budget and accounting records for governmental funds are reported on a modified accrual basis, which presents the shortterm perspective of the County's financial activities. The fiscal year begins on July 1. Revenues are budgeted in the amount expected to be received or as they are applicable 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 2011-12 were \$3.7 billion, or 17% below budget and expenditures were \$3.6 billion, or 32% below budget.

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

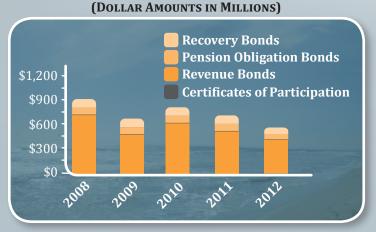


#### **REVENUES (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN MILLIONS)**



## **County Debt**

At June 30, 2012, the County's outstanding long-term debt totaled \$546 million, excluding capital lease obligations, compensated absences and other liabilities. During the year, the County's outstanding bond obligations decreased by 22%, which is attributable to the retirement of \$139 million of bond obligations, including \$69 million of bankruptcy related debt, the addition of \$34 million in revenue bonds, and the transfer of \$47 million of Orange County Development Agency (OCDA) Tax Allocation Refunding Bonds to the OCDA Successor Agency. The accompanying chart shows a five year comparison of the County's long-term debt.

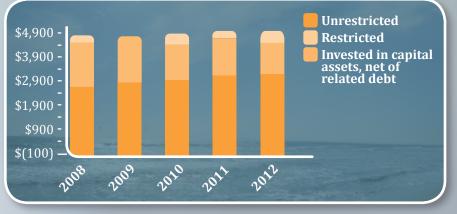


The Statement of Net Assets presents the County's financial position from a long-term perspective. It reports all of the County's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the County's financial position is improving or deteriorating.

## STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN MILLIONS)

	Fiscal Years								
	2012		2011		Change				
ASSETS									
Current and other assets	\$	3,617	\$	3,872	(7)%				
Capital assets		3,513		3,483	1%				
Total assets		7,130		7,355	(3)%				
LIABILITIES									
Long-term liabilities	\$	1,365	\$	1,489	(8)%				
Other liabilities		771		847	(9)%				
Total liabilities		2,136		2,336	(9)%				
NET ASSETS									
Invested in capital assets,		3,275		3,218	2%				
net of related debt									
Restricted		1,331		1,561	(15)%				
Unrestricted		388		240	62%				
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$	4,994	\$	5,019	(1)%				

## Five Year Comparison of Net Assets (Dollar Amounts in Millions)



## **Capital Assets**

At June 30, 2012, the County's assets totaled \$7.1 billion. Approximately \$3.6 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.

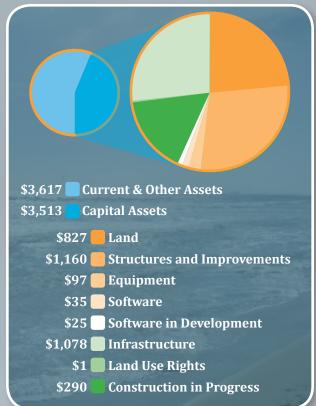
## **Net Asset Components**

The largest component of the County's net assets, about 66% or \$3.2 billion, was invested 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.

\$1.3 billion or 27% of the County's net assets are 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 assets is unrestricted net assets. Unrestricted net assets are resources that can be used to meet ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Unrestricted net assets totaled \$388 million, compared to \$240 million in FY 2010-11.

#### CAPITAL ASSETS (Dollar Amounts in Millions)



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, 2012, the County's revenues for the year totaled \$3.51 billion, a decrease of \$146 million from the previous year while expenses, including an extraordinary loss, totaled \$3.53 billion, an increase of \$104 million from last year's total expenses. The significant decrease in revenues is primarily a result of a decrease in capital grants and contributions of \$133 million due mainly to the donation of 20,000 acres of open space land to OC Parks from the Irvine Company occuring in FY 2010-11. Expenses increased primarily due to an increase in salaries and employee benefits, services and

(Dollar Amounts in Millions)										
Figuel Vegne Ending June 20	2012	2014	2010	2009	2008					
Fiscal Years Ending June 30	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008					
Powenuos (by Source)										
Revenues (by Source) Program Revenues:										
Charges for Services	\$751	\$ 795	\$ 718	\$ 750	\$ 751					
Operating Grants &	\$/31	\$ / 90	φ/10	\$7 <b>J</b> U	\$/3I					
Contributions	1,801	1,707	1,743	1,642	1,736					
Capital Grants &	1,001	1,/0/	1,743	1,074	1,/30					
Contributions	44	177	25	101	61					
General Revenues:	44	1//	23	101	01					
Property Taxes	487	492	476	457	462					
Property Taxes in Lieu of	707	774	170	137	702					
Motor Vehicle License Fees	304	228	230	233	224					
Other Taxes	44	220 84	230 93	233 94	84					
Grants & Contributions	TT	- 04			- 04					
Not Restricted to Specific										
Programs	9	27	10	28	24					
State Allocations of Motor	,	21	10	20	24					
Vehicle License Fees	3	50	47	50	55					
Other General Revenues	66	95	79	81	127					
Total Revenues	3,509	3,655	3,421	3,436	3,524					
Total Revenues	5,507	5,055	0,121	0,100	5,524					
Expenses (by Function)										
General Government	162	224	165	268	264					
Public Protection	1,232	1,175	1,161		1,164					
Public Ways & Facilities	144	136	120	109	132					
Health & Sanitation	594	586	579	593	576					
Public Assistance	930	931	931	899	863					
Education	41	40	41	41	38					
Recreation & Cultural		10			00					
Services	103	102	91	82	75					
Interest in Long-Term Debt		54	54	60	76					
Airport	107	88	92	92	87					
Waste Management	95	94	85	79	102					
Total Expenses	3,465	3,430	3,319	3,454	3,377					
Special Items	2,103	-			(7)					
Dissolution of OCDA	(69)									
Increase/(Decrease) in	(0))									
Net Assets	(25)	225	102	(18)	140					
Net Assets - Beginning of		and the second								
the Year, as Restated	5,019	4,794	4,693	4,673	4,545					
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 4,994	\$5,019	\$4,795	\$4,655	\$4,685					
CONTRACTOR OF A DESCRIPTION OF A DESCRIP		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,					

#### CHANGES OF NET ASSETS - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN MILLIONS)

supplies contracts, and professional services expenses for public protection, public ways and facilities, and health and sanitation. The dissolution of the Orange County Development Agency (OCDA), pursuant to ABX1 26, contributed to the decrease in the net assets of the County as well, resulting in an extraordinary loss of \$69 million. On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court issued an opinion in California Redevelopment Association (CRA) v. Matosantos, upholding the constitutionality of ABX1 26, eliminating Redevelopment Agencies (RDA's) statewide effective February 1, 2012. Under ABX1 26, a successor agency was created for each dissolved RDA, including OCDA, and was charged with winding down the dissolved RDA's operations. The overall effect of operations was a decrease in net assets of \$25 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.

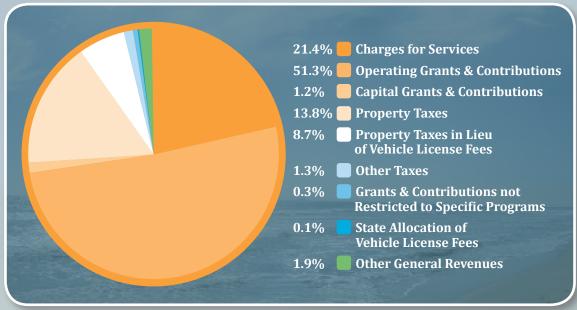
General Revenues are taxes and other items, such as unrestricted interest revenue not reported as program revenues.

## **Expenses**

Expenses are classified by function.

- General Government includes expenses incurred for 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.
- Public Protection consists of Flood Control, Sheriff-Coroner, District Attorney, Probation, Trial Courts, Sheriff Court Operations, Grand Jury, Child Support Services, Public Defender and Alternate Defense.

\*Readers wanting more detailed financial information should refer to the County's FY 2011-2012 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) available at the Auditor-Controller's website at: <u>http://ac.ocgov.com/info/</u> financial.



#### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM:

## **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.

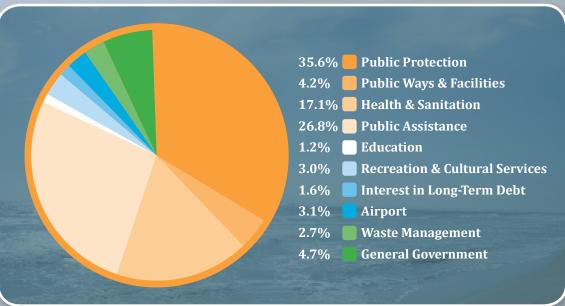
• **Public Assistance** consists of Social Services and Housing and Community Services.

• **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 aviationrelated 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:

## 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 69.8% as of December 31, 2010, to 67.0% as of December 31, 2011.



#### ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS FOR YEARS ENDED DEC. 31 (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN MILLIONS)

Property tax is a major source of revenue for local government in California. In FY 2011-12, \$5.9 billion in property tax was allocated 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 on the right shows the trend in assessed value over six fiscal years. Economic conditions have depressed assessed values resulting in a decreasing rate of growth and an actual decrease in 2009-10. Assessed value decreased again in 2010-11, but by only .5%. With improved economic and market conditions, 2011-12 assessed value improved, increasing by 0.95%, and increasing by 1.92% for 2012-13. Orange County's total assessment roll for 2012-13 is valued at \$428.4 billion.

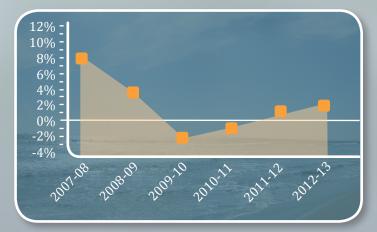
In 2012, legislation was passed and upheld by the California Supreme Court, which dissolved redevelopment agencies (RDAs). The RDA Dissolution Act requires the winding down of redevelopment activities. Incremental property tax that had been apportioned to RDAs is now apportioned to Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds (RPTTFs). Those monies are subsequently distributed to successor agencies to satisfy enforceable obligations of the former RDA, and any residual balance is distributed to affected taxing entities in the former redevelopment project area boundaries.



#### **COUNTY GENERAL FUND SHARE OF PROPERTY TAXES PER CAPITA**

Amounts exclude property taxes in lieu of motor vehicle license fees \* Represents FY 2010-11 Data.





#### WHERE THE TYPICAL ORANGE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR GOES...



## What We've Done for You Lately

**1.** Completed construction of the Health Care Agency's new Mental Health Campus in the City of Orange, which consists of a wellness center, crisis residential center, as well as an education and training center.

**2.** The Alcohol, Tobacco, & Other Drug Prevention program achieved successes in decreasing the tobacco use rates among students attending the schools being served by the program.

**3.** Collected and distributed over \$181 million in child support payments.

**4.** Served 8.6 million passengers at John Wayne Airport.

**5.** Opened Terminal and Parking Structure C at John Wayne Airport in 2011, providing new facilities and services to passengers that include six gates, security screening checkpoints, concessions, and 2,200 additional parking spaces.

**6.** Expanded the size of O'Neil Regional Park through a donation of 400 acres of land from Rancho Mission Viejo, LLC.

**7.** Teamed with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and local law enforcement to open the Orange County Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory in the fight against cybercrime.

**8.** From 2010 to 2012, more than 9,000 Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees were booked into County facilities, housed and later returned to federal custody for appropriate action.

**9.** Increased the chances of reuniting lost dogs and their owners with the Dog License Amnesty Program, a period during which past due fees and penalties were waved and 3,500 dog licenses were issued in just the first few days.



HEALTH CARE AGENCY MENTAL HEALTH CAMPUS RIBBON CUTTING Source: http://ocgov.com/gov/bos/



New Terminal C at John Wayne Airport Source: http://www.ocair.com

**10.** Implemented a new cashiering system and expanded the public service counter at the Treasurer's Santa Ana Civic Center location from 3 to 10 stations to process all forms of property tax payments.

**11.** Doubled the number of digital materials available for checkout at OC Public Libraries branches from 3,636 in 2010 to 8,073 in 2011.

**12.** Obtained approval from the Board of Supervisors to reorganize existing departments into OC Infrastructure, achieving a cost savings of approximately \$14.5 million.

**13.** There are now over 35 County social media sites and a social media directory on the County internet listing all of the County's uses of social media.

**14.** Provided an independent avenue for the public to express concerns or complaints about law enforcement personnel through the Office of Independent Review.

**15.** Completed a year-long project to streamline the process for obtaining birth certificates in Orange County, providing nearly 85,000 copies in just one calendar year.

## Auditor-Controller County of Orange 12 Civic Center Plaza Santa Ana, CA 92702 www.ac.ocgov.com



## What We've Done for You Lately (Continued)

**16.** Saved customers about 5 million driving miles by opening a convenient south Orange County Clerk-Recorder branch office, which has served more than 160,000 visitors and married nearly 9,000 couples since opening.

**17.** Launched a custom internet portal for overseas and military voters that allow voters to download, print and vote their ballots, print return envelopes and review answers to frequently asked questions.

**18.** Matched nearly 41,000 individuals with volunteer opportunities inside our agencies and departments in one fiscal year at an estimated \$19 million in avoided costs for County government.

**19.** Broke ground on a new landfill gas-to-energy generating plant at the Olinda Alpha Landfill in Brea that will produce an anticipated 31 megawatts of electricity once completed.

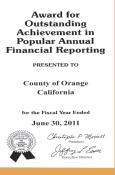
**20.** Opened a new Customs facility for international arrivals at John Wayne Airport from destinations in Mexico. John Wayne Airport also features non-stop international service to Vancouver and Calgary, Canada.



## **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, 2011. 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.

South County Clerk-Recorder Branch Office Source: http://ocrecorder.com

**21.** Launched a Smart Phone application to allow residents of unincorporated Orange County to report potholes, graffiti and other repair issues directly to OC Public Works.

**22.** Prosecuted more than 70,000 cases a year, with a felony conviction rate of over 90%.

**23.** Entered into a contract for the implementation of a new internet content management system which will improve the County's efforts to make information readily available to the public through the internet.

**24.** Approximately 181,000 of 300,000 properties reviewed had their taxable values reduced or kept the same as last year (no increase).

**25.** Conducted Community Clean-Up Days in Midway City and in an unincorporated area near Stanton to promote safer, cleaner and healthier communities.

The following sources were used to compile this report: Economic & Business Review, Chapman University, June 2012; DataQuick Information System; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department; California Employee Development Department; California Association of Realtors; California Department of Finance; California State Controller's Office; OC Facts and Figures 2012; County of Orange 2011-12 Fourth Quarter Budget Report; County of San Diego Adopted Operational Plan, 2011-12 to 2012-13; County of Los Angeles 2011-12 Final Budget; San Bernardino County 2011-12 Final Budget; Riverside County Final Budget 2011-12; Orange County Business Council; County of Orange 2011-12 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; County of Orange, 50 Things We Have Done for You Lately; Orange County Website at <a href="http://ocgov.com">http://ocgov.com</a>; PAFR Designed by Peter Dibble, Volunteer Graphic Artist.