

E-LETTER

Expansion Solutions Ranks Yuma a Top 5 Defense Community

In its latest publication, Expansion Solutions ranked Yuma as one of the “**Top 5 Communities for Defense Industry.**” The award was based upon a regions exceptional progress and potential within the development arena– by successfully recruiting, retaining, and assisting growing businesses.

This is the second award Yuma has received due to the presence of the U.S. Army Proving Ground and the U.S. Marine Installation. Together the two defense facilities account for a cumulative economic impact of approximately \$750 million annually. The extent of their presence is apparent in the thousands of foreign and domestic visitors that come to Yuma each year to train and test state of the art defense systems and technology.

Bi-National Update

The San Luis II Commercial Port of Entry, slated to open in September 2009, is now approximately 70% complete on the U.S. side. The Mexican government recently approved the environmental permitting associated with construction and construction is anticipated to begin shortly in San Luis R.C., Sonora.

When complete, the port will be equipped to expeditiously process 300-400 commercial trucks per day. The facilities will provide dock space to handle up to 18 trucks simultaneously in secondary inspection. The controlled access Area Service Highway (ASH) will connect Interstate-8 directly with the new port of entry. Construction of the ASH is already complete from I-8 south to County 14th street.

In tandem with the new port infrastructure construction, industrial space on both sides of the border has been planned for development. The City of San Luis is collaborating with area land owners and the community to incorporate strategic land use planning for the industrial and commercial corridor along Avenue E into their General Plan.

Monthly Stat Report

November 2008	Yuma	San Luis	Somerton	Wellton
Residential Permits	8 - \$1,533,074	NA	0- \$0	0 - \$0
Total Value of Permits	81- \$2,882,583	25- \$2,689,694	7- \$16,843	11 - \$37,278
Total City Tax Collections (10/08)	\$2,501,131	\$507,659	\$76,496	\$35,310

As we enter into a new year, the Greater Yuma Economic Development staff and board would like to thank our investors, stakeholders and entrusted public officials for supporting our efforts. We will continue to assist this region in obtaining high quality jobs and retaining the critical industries that drive our economy. We look forward to working with all of you in the 2009.

Happy New Year!!!

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