

E-LETTER

GYEDC Hosts National Site Selectors

Recently, members from the Greater Yuma Economic Development staff hosted an audience of prominent site selectors at the CB Richard Ellis (Global leader commercial and real estate services) corporate offices in Phoenix for a familiarization tour. The event titled “ Why Yuma”, was an introduction of the region and our competitive advantages to the key decision-makers in the site selection industry. The presentation covered some of the stimulus behind our exponential growth over the course of the last few years, as well as major projections for the future. Guest speakers who spoke in testament to the potential and prosperity in the area included: Chris Camacho - President/CEO of GYEDC, Bob Holso - Senior Manager General Motors Proving Ground, Steve Bielewicz - President of Global Entertainment and Brian Frake - Westcor Development. Each individual provided a positive perspective on Yuma from different operating points of view.

In all, 125 Real Estate Developers and Brokers were invited to the first time event. Bob Holso (General Motors) spoke regarding their decision to locate in Yuma and why it was a great partnership between the Fortune 50 company and the county. Steve Billowitz from Global Entertainment explained to the audience why they identified Yuma as an ideal location for a new event center and Brian Frakes from Westcor (WDP Partners) Development spoke about their experience in developing the Palms. The attendance for the event was stellar and the level interest in our region from all attending parties was immense.

Monthly Stat Report

May 2008	Yuma	San Luis	Somerton	Wellton
Residential Permits	15 - \$2,275,201	5 - \$622,310	5 - \$392,423	0 - \$0
Total Value of Permits	141 - \$15,595,207	29- \$935,361	33 - \$983,588	14 - \$596,481
Total City Tax Collections (3/08)	\$3,178,057	\$337,371	\$94,727	\$96,806

GYEDC Attends MEXPORT

Beyond coalition building and planning, Greater Yuma Economic Development is actively engaged in strategically leveraging our community’s border location to our advantage to attract investment. In promotion of the Twin-Plant concept, GYEDC participated with a booth at the Mexport 2008 industrial trade show in Otay Mesa, California on May 8th. Mexport is an annual show focusing on the Southern California / Baja California Norte markets; particularly sourcing opportunities for Maquila operations.



Working collaboratively with economic development counterparts from San Luis, Río Colorado, Sonora, GYEDC distributed bi-national marketing materials and discussed the many advantages of operating in our region with attending companies. Key point of discussion included the new Commercial Port of Entry & ASH highway, the existing manufacturing base and the impressive operating cost savings we offer in comparison to the California/Tijuana region.

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