

STRENGTHS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CITY OF COVINA SINCE THE APRIL 3, 2013 STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

Brainstormed List of Perceptions

- Progress on collective bargaining agreements
- Completed negotiations with three employee bargaining units
- Completed more than \$4 million in water capital improvements, including a new reservoir
- Working with the Police Dept., the city put on a successful National Night Out
- Citywide fees are now listed on the website and also on a handout
- Updated the Intranet
- Successful summer evening entertainment series; over 18,000 attended
- Received a \$15,000 grant from the California State Library for library books
- Reorganized historical documents to preserve them forever
- We receive a lot of positive public comments about the downtown
- Hired a new building official who is implementing a lot of customer-friendly changes
- Police Chief completed initial research regarding placing cameras in the downtown and in schools
- Our sewer project won "Project of the Year" by the Southern California chapter of APWA
- We have a balanced budget
- Opened: Bread and Barley, Red (restaurant), O Sweet Mercy (yogurt), El Pavo, Party Warehouse, Alostia Brewery, Fallas, Avery-Dennison
- Received an award for our CAFR (consolidated annual financial statement) by GFOA
- Completed two public safety town hall meetings
- Had our first annual Mexican Independence Day Celebration, "El Grito," at Jalapa Park
- Instituted a business license tax audit/amnesty program
- MUNIS is getting ready to relaunch
- Adopted a ban on medical marijuana dispensaries
- Successful audit for FY 2011-2012
- Retained a new broker for our employee benefits with an anticipated savings of \$50,000-\$75,000
- Completed staff training on how to respond to public safety incidents at public parks and facilities
- Concluded the RFP process for a city attorney
- Set Nov. 4, 2013 as our "go live" date for our social media program, beginning with Facebook and Twitter
- Council entered into a joint powers agreement (JPA) for a UHF-based interoperational radio system; it allows Covina to communicate with LA County law enforcement agencies
- Implemented a Fall Swim Program
- Worked in concert with non-profit organization, 2911, for back-to-school backpacks for children in need
- We were able to prevent a couple bad marijuana bills from being passed at the state level
- Development of Cougar Park and adjacent property owned by the school district; challenges have been worked out well to benefit the community
- Timely completion of state and federal financial reports
- Police Chief received an emergency response vehicle free from the military
- Covina 2 is under construction and moving forward
- Implemented a new catalog computer system for the library
- Opened an upgraded CNG station that more than tripled our revenue
- Participated in the "California Shake Out" by opening our emergency operation center and making sure it functions correctly
- Had a productive meeting with the LA County Fire Chief to address two important issues: the timing of how they notify us about costs for the following year, and information they provide regarding cost of supplying service
- Successful summer Swing Band entertainment event
- Several new businesses have opened in the downtown
- Many people who have visited Covina are blown away with what we've got; they make lots of positive comments

- Completed and dedicated a Police Memorial in front of our police station
- Helped discourage underage drinking by passing a Social Host Ordinance
- Relationship with CDMA (Covina Downtown Merchants Assn) has improved greatly
- Made progress shutting down the Redevelopment Agency by resolving real estate claims with the State of California Dept. of Finance
- Adopted a Social Media Policy
- Covina spearheaded a realignment resolution for the State of California with the League of California Cities which was passed
- We had a a great Thunder Fest event downtown
- Had the 5th Annual Dare to Care fundraiser with Citrus Valley Health Partners, which raised \$43,000

Snider and Associates