



Annual Report

City of Driggs Vision

An appealing, vibrant, engaged city that attracts residents, visitors, and businesses by the quality of life it offers.

Mission

To protect and enhance the city's livability and economic well being for current and future generations through:

- Visionary leadership and responsible decision making
- Accountable and sustainable fiscal practice
- Involvement of the Community
- Efficient, effective, and responsive service to the public
- The development of a unique and beautiful city.

Mayor & City Council

- Hyrum Johnson, Mayor
- August Christensen
- Colin Dye
- Greer Jones
- Ralph Mossman



- Mayor's Welcome **P.1**
- Resort Tax **P.2**
- Financials **P.3**
- Community Development **P.4**
- Economic Development **P.5**
- Public Works **P.6**

Living the Dream in Driggs

A Message From Mayor Hyrum Johnson

We've heard a lot of talk about economic development here in Driggs and the county. Sure, it sounds great, but what does it really mean for you and me? **In a phrase it means life is good and getting better!**

Economic development refers to the policies put in place to improve an economy. Economic development is often confused with economic growth, which will often be a result of good economic development policy.

Economic growth refers to a rise in wages, property values, and business activity. It is a short-term narrow goal, and should be a result of long-term economic development efforts. Think back a couple of years in our valley. We had a quick spike in economic growth with the real estate boom. Wages and property values were high and business was brisk. But it couldn't last. It couldn't sustain itself. It was a train pushing a locomotive. Effective economic development policy must take a long-term view to avoid the train wreck which results from a short-sighted approach.

Lasting economic development requires long-term vision and planning. It focuses more heavily on improving the collective quality-of-life

for residents and businesses alike. Think of it as economics on a social level. If we improve the quality-of-life and the climate for business, then the economy can organically grow, and do so in a sustainable way.

The county-wide Economic Development Plan adopted by Teton County and all three cities in 2013 identified four key areas of focus. We have begun actively working toward these targets. Some results may show quickly, while others could take years to bear fruit.

Business Recruitment and Development

The City of Driggs, together with the Business Development Center, is actively marketing Driggs as a great place for small and niche businesses. We are courting several interested companies right now, and will continue to work to draw more.

We are also working on another business incubator in Driggs, which together with Eastern Idaho Technical College, will offer facilities and courses to help valley entrepreneurs start, strengthen, and grow businesses.

Con't on Pg 2

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Still Growing!

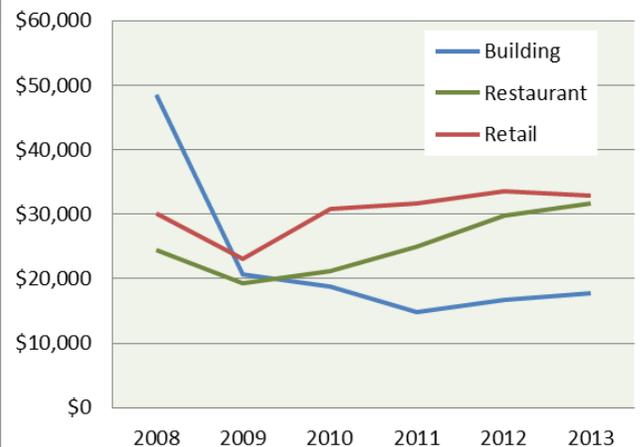
Fiscal year 2013 saw yet another year for healthy growth. Taxable sales in the city grew by 2.85% overall from the previous fiscal year. Building and restaurant sales increased, with a slight decrease in retail sales from 2012. Figure A shows the changes in sales tax revenue by sector, while Figure B shows the increase in sales tax revenue overall.

Non-Property Sales (i.e., Resort) Tax is used for the purposes of improving, maintaining, and beautifying roads and associated infrastructure. In 2013, many projects were completed with the use of these funds. Projects included, but were not limited to:

- maintaining, and fixing cracks and pot holes in city streets
- completing fog sealing on city streets
- crack sealing Booshway and Appaloosa Streets
- purchasing a traffic counter
- paving Cemetery Bridge
- replacing Buxton and Little Avenue water lines
- purchasing the flashing pedestrian sign at Creekside Meadows and Highway 33
- new LED lights for Creekside Meadows Subdivision
- design work from Harmony Design and Engineering for the Valley Centre pathway from Ross Avenue to King's.

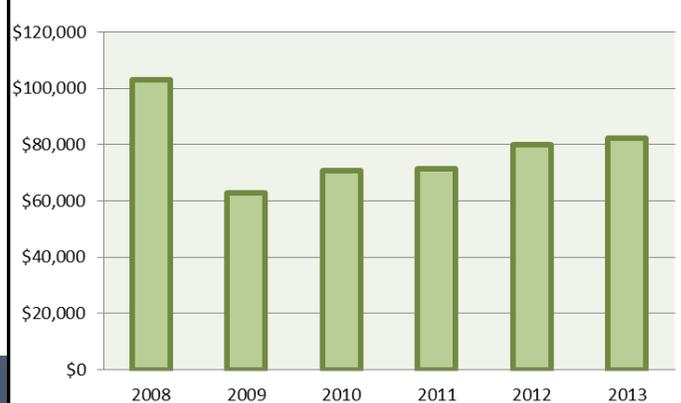
A)

Sales Tax Revenue by Sector



B)

Sales Tax Revenue



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Living the Dream

Physical Asset Development

Think better roads! Driggs continues to work to improve our roads and water and sewer systems. Last year we used Levy and Resort Tax funds to improve several of our streets. We will be doing more of the same this year, so keep your ears open for information on where and when these improvements will happen.

Tourism and Marketing

We are a tourist town in a tourist valley. Our economic success currently depends upon hungry stomachs, anxious ski legs, tired heads, and those crazy desires to fish, bike, paint, and ride, among other activities. Special events such as Snowscapes, Plein Air, and various races

and runs bring visitors from elsewhere, who spend their money in our local shops. If Driggs is a great place to live, people will enjoy visiting here as well.

Protect and Foster Lifestyle Community

These efforts mean making Driggs a better place to live for all. From music events to pedestrian and bicycle pathways; from Snowscapes to Shakespeare in the park; from the Teton Geotourism Center to parks; everything we do aims to improve life for our residents, visitors, and businesses alike.

So to conclude, what does economic development mean to you and me as citizens of Driggs? It means we can enjoy clean healthy air, earn a comfortable wage, and have time to spend with friends and family doing the things we love. Economic development in Driggs means *life is good and getting better.*

City of Driggs Financial History

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
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Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

General Fund							
Revenues	885,079	833,276	598,029	611,623	8,021,656	652,852	809,861
Expenditures	(707,809)	(483,176)	(371,252)	(492,887)	(7,831,612)	(529,725)	(792,729)
Transfers	(153,961)	(113,082)	(64,258)	(90,000)	(80,493)	(68,735)	-
Excess of revenues over (under) expenses	23,309	237,018	162,519	28,736	109,551	54,392	17,132
Fund Balance at beginning of year	1,305,082	1,068,064	905,545	876,809	767,258	712,866	695,734
Fund Balance at end of year	1,328,391	1,305,082	1,068,064	905,545	876,809	767,258	712,866
Road Fund							
Revenues	199,270	262,005	165,969	46,976	44,918	131,551	47,156
Expenditures	(281,457)	(616,665)	(220,311)	(115,906)	(136,258)	(210,959)	(54,839)
Transfers	153,961	113,082	64,258	90,000	127,652	287,735	71,326
Excess of revenues over (under) expenses	71,774	(241,578)	9,916	21,070	36,312	208,327	63,643
Fund Balance at beginning of year	(248,295)	(6,715)	(16,631)	(37,701)	(74,013)	(282,340)	(345,983)
Fund Balance at end of year	(176,521)	(248,293)	(6,715)	(16,631)	(37,701)	(74,013)	(282,340)
Airport Fund							
Revenues	461,327	950,996	248,611	1,966,356	5,628,959	208,497	448,657
Expenditures	(453,516)	(914,568)	(183,719)	(1,608,116)	(6,015,549)	(123,808)	(444,076)
Excess of revenues over (under) expenses	7,811	36,428	64,892	358,240	(386,590)	84,689	4,581
Fund Balance at beginning of year	212,567	176,138	111,246	(246,994)	139,596	54,907	50,326
Fund Balance at end of year	220,378	212,566	176,138	111,246	(246,994)	139,596	54,907
Resort Tax Fund							
Revenues	274,196	224,686	183,315	193,647	215,174	288,391	276,514
Expenditures	(189,426)	(170,748)	(287,058)	(170,507)	(54,529)	(20,575)	(809,179)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	(47,159)	387,104	(71,326)
Excess of revenues over (under) expenses	84,770	53,938	(103,743)	23,140	113,486	654,920	(603,991)
Fund Balance at beginning of year	245,905	191,969	295,712	272,572	159,086	(495,834)	108,157
Fund Balance at end of year	330,675	245,907	191,969	295,712	272,572	159,086	(495,834)
Other Governmental Funds							
Revenues	42,168	39,909	77,673	135,816	348,481	409,017	131,137
Expenditures	(49,808)	(36,726)	(126,846)	(61,970)	(332,755)	(137,955)	(49,064)
Transfers	-	-	-	(43,101)	320,000	(606,104)	-
Excess of revenues over (under) expenses	(7,640)	3,183	(49,173)	30,745	335,726	(335,042)	82,073
Fund Balance at beginning of year	167,459	164,276	213,448	182,703	(153,023)	182,019	99,946
Fund Balance at end of year	159,819	167,459	164,275	213,448	182,703	(153,023)	182,019
Total Governmental Funds							
Fund Balance at end of year	1,862,742	1,682,721	1,593,731	1,509,320	1,047,389	838,904	171,618



Community and Economic Development: It's All About Quality of Life

The year 2013 saw much activity throughout the City of Driggs, thanks to sound and sustainable planning and development efforts. As a result, several exciting projects are on the way, some in the planning phase and others coming to fruition. Following are highlights from 2013.

Community Development

The design phase was completed for the **Driggs City Center Plaza and Teton GeoTourism Center**, which led to a groundbreaking event for both facilities on January 6, 2014. The Teton GeoTourism Center will open its doors in August 2014 and begin its function as a major visitor attraction and marketing venue for destinations and businesses along the Teton Scenic Byway. The new City Center Plaza will contain a permanent installation of public art and continue to support our successful events such as the Farmers Market, SnowScapes, Driggs Plein Air Festival, Shakespeare in the Park, and Driggs Harvest Festival.

Design was also completed for the **Valley Centre Pathway**, scheduled for construction in Summer 2014, which will connect Valley Centre subdivision with the Middle School and High School.

A \$200,000 grant application to the Community Choices for Idaho Program of the Idaho Transportation Department was

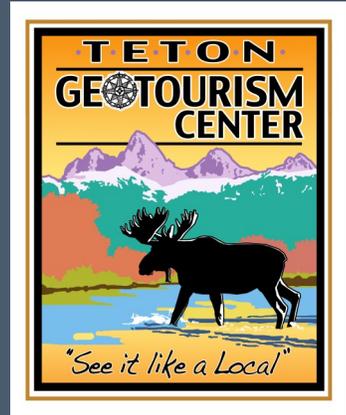
successful. These funds will go toward **reconstruction of West Little Avenue**, from Main Street to the Huntsman Springs pathway in Summer 2015.

Grant funding was also secured for continued operation of the **Grand Targhee Shuttle** from December to April. The shuttle's stop was moved to the northwest corner of the Community Center building to accommodate construction of the Teton GeoTourism Center. The shuttle stop will be improved in 2014 as part of the **Driggs Transit Center project**, which will construct a passenger waiting facility and 100-space park-and-ride lot.

Driggs spearheaded the ongoing **Teton County Recreation Master Plan** effort, which will provide a needs analysis, facility and program recommendations, and funding options for parks and recreation throughout the county. A draft of the plan came out in February 2014.

The city issued a building permit to the **Teton Rock Gym** for construction of a climbing wall facility in the Driggs Community Center. This facility is expected to open in Summer 2014. The city also **completed changing rooms** to support the Teton Rock Gym as well as the existing tenants: Teton Indoor Sports Academy and Yama Judo.

The Office of Community Development works to build facilities and programs to improve the economy and quality of life for our residents.



Don't miss the Ribbon Cutting for the new Plaza and GeoTourism Center in Driggs. Look for the time and date at :

www.driggs.govoffice.com or call City Hall at (208) 354-2362.



DRIGGS CITY CENTER PLAZA

Dig Driggs!

Workforce Training Center (with EITC): Design work began in March, with expected completion date of summer 2015.

Kitchen Incubator: The city is working with Slow Food in the Tetons and others on the design criteria for a commercial kitchen, which may be rented by the hour. Design phase began in March.

Farmers Market: Every Friday, June-Sept, in city plaza.

First Friday Art Walks: Live music, free refreshments, April-October.

Driggs Digs Plein Air: A multi-day event taking place the last week of July and into August, when artists from all over the country participate in the Plein Air competitions: Paint Outs, Workshops, Demonstrations, Quick Draws, and City Gallery events.



Economic Development

The city began implementing the Teton County **Economic Development Plan** in 2013 and helped secure a county-wide **Economic Development Coordinator**, Brian McDermott, housed at the Teton Valley Business Development Center at 57 S. Main Street.

A new tenant, Sabine Soft Furnishings, was added to the **Driggs Industrial Building**, and a grant application was submitted to the Idaho Department of Commerce for improvements to the last vacant suite that would make it suitable for a food or beverage processing facility.

The city worked with the Downtown Driggs Community Association, Valley Advocates for Responsible Development, and the Sonoran Institute to produce the **“Dig Driggs” business recruitment brochure**. A tandem website is being constructed that will allow interested entrepreneurs to see all that our city has to offer as well as identify specific opportunities and ask questions about business development or relocation.

The city is also working with The Development Company and Eastern Idaho Technical College on the conversion of the “Old Ford Garage” into a **business incubator facility and workforce training center**. The center is currently being designed by Plan One Architects.

Planning & Building

This past year the Planning & Zoning Department focused on the goal of improving efficiency and clarity in all processes.

Projects included:

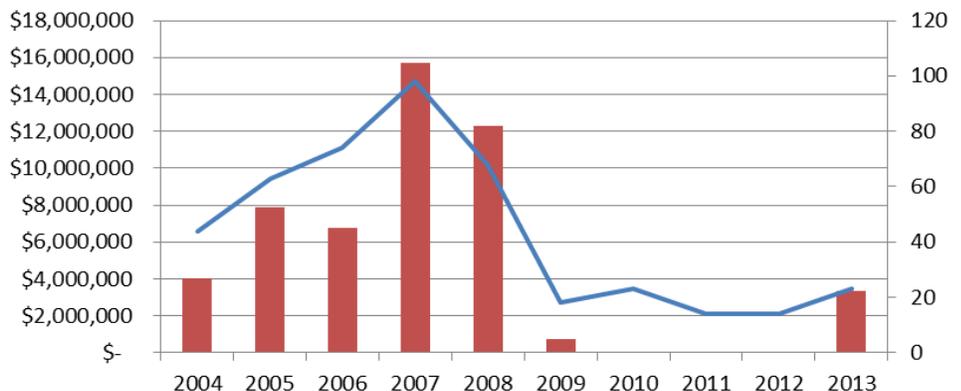
- Publishing more information than ever on the city website, including agendas and meeting actions, full staff reports, FAQs, and regular updates to major P&Z projects and pending ordinances.
- Posting permits and application forms on the city’s website.
- Simplifying application forms and public hearing notices.
- Informing the public of happenings at Council meetings, city projects, and community events through Facebook.

We are now reaching almost 200 people through Facebook and our website receives around 2,500 unique visitors monthly.

These improvements aim to make it easier for residents and businesses to develop their property, pursue changes, and understand options available to them. Considering the return of planning and building activity in Driggs, the city hopes that continuing this approach will be of benefit to all.

Plans for 2014 are to present a **Form-Based zoning code** for public comment, which would replace the city’s current zoning ordinances in favor of a code that focuses on the physical form of development and less on land uses. At the same time, updating the city’s **Comprehensive Plan** is underway to reflect today’s goals. A continued focus on removing barriers to good development and supporting an attractive downtown will remain a top priority.

Building Valuation & Number of Building Permits 2005-2013





Driggs continues to work to improve our roads and water/sewer systems. Last year, Levy and Resort Tax funds were used to improve several of our streets.

Public Works

The Public Works Department continued to keep our roads, parks, and water services safe and accessible for residents and businesses in 2013. Maintaining, improving, and ensuring the long-term viability of our infrastructure is vital to keeping our community competitive economically and making Driggs a great place to live, work, and grow. Some of the highlights from 2013 include:

Road Projects

Thanks to funds from the county and road levy, Public Works staff was able to provide preventive maintenance and repairs to city roads. The **Micro Seal** and **Fog Seal** projects were completed with 2013 levy funds, thereby extending the life of our roads and saving tax dollars in maintenance and repairs. A breakdown of the completed street projects include:

Micro Seal Projects: \$38,376

- 1st St., from Ross to Short St.
- Little Ave., from Main St. to 1st St.

Fog Seal Projects: \$52,682

- Creekside subdivision
- Little Ave., from 1st St. to Cottonwood Corner
- Shoshoni Plains subdivision
- Half of Gemstone subdivision
- Primrose St.

Pathway Project

The City of Driggs contributed **\$2,400** from its Road Fund for the Driggs-to-Victor pathway repairs project, which was completed by Teton County's R&B Department.

Reconstruction Projects

- Cemetery Bridge: **\$27,674**, paid for with Resort Tax funds.
- Street lighting: funded by the Road Fund and a Fall River rebate program.
- Retro fit the street lights in Creekside subdivision to energy efficient lighting: **\$12,339**, paid with Resort Tax fund

Water Projects

In keeping with the city's plan to replace at least one block of water main and service lines every year, in 2013, Public works replaced :

- Buxton Ave waterline from Main to Front St., **\$62,920**, paid with Resort Tax funds.
- To help prevent frozen water lines on E. Little Ave., and Main St. to 1st St, Public Works lowered the main line below frost level: **\$39,502**, paid with Resort tax funds.

Wastewater Projects

The Teton Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant startup took place in November of 2013. The project is on schedule to be complete in 2014.

Parks

Shoshoni Plains Phase 4 Park Project: **\$55,219**. Landscaping was paid from the city's general Parks Fund, to be repaid from the sale of two townhome lots in Shoshoni Plains. The remainder of the park has been divided into individual projects to be completed in coming years as funds are available.



The City of Driggs Public Works Department is offering guided tours of the new Teton Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. To request a tour, please contact Driggs City Hall at (208) 354-2362.