CITY OF FOWLER SALES TAX UPDATE 3Q 2022 (JULY - SEPTEMBER)





Measure N TOTAL: \$557,777 15.5%



CITY OF FOWLER HIGHLIGHTS

Fowler's receipts from July through September were 20.1% above the third sales period in 2021. Excluding reporting adjustments, actual receipts for the period were up 31.6%.

Results this period bely the fact that the economy is starting to slow following last year's rapid expansion. The minor declines in restaurant and general consumer goods sales activity give hints to this changing environment.

Fortunately, the business-industry group landed a pair of onetime tax allocations related to equipment sold to local industry and a taxpayer who had stopped reporting previously appears to be reporting once again. Meanwhile, spending on transportation needs also grew this period.

Results for the fuel-service station group seem to indicate that local outlets are being bypassed in favor of others in the

Measure N's results also reflect several onetime transactions and growth in construction spending beyond the rate of inflation.

Net of adjustments, taxable sales for all of Fresno County grew 3.7% over the comparable time period while those of the San Joaquin Valley were up 6.4%.



TOP 25 PRODUCERS

Amerigas Propane

Arco AM PM

Big Tex Trailers

Borga Steel Buildings &

Components

Central States Industrial

Equipment

Daumar Corporation

Dollar General

Family Motors

Freedom Forever Procurement

Gee Manufacturing

Johnny Quik

McDonald's

Mid Valley Packaging & Supply

Packline Technologies

Pape Machinery

PBM Supply &

Manufacturing

R & R Truck & Trailer

Repair

Rdo Contrusction Equipment Co

Shell

Shop N Go

Sierra Auto Center

Taco Bell

Textrail Trailer Parts

Voortman USA

HdL[®] Companies



STATEWIDE RESULTS

Local one cent sales and use tax for sales occurring July through September was 8% higher than the same quarter one year ago after adjusting for accounting anomalies and back payments from previous quarters. These returns mark another strong period of growth for the California spending economy.

Even as the Federal Reserve Board continued ramping up interest rates in an effort to curb the larger concern of inflation, consumers maintained purchases on multiple fronts, especially automobiles. Surprisingly, new car dealers experienced 10% gains over the comparable period in 2021. Limited inventory and demand for higher mileage vehicles including electric and hybrid models helped support growth. In addition, the increased cost of used vehicles has pushed many into the new vehicle market; in contrast, sales of recreation vehicles and auto leasing activity remained soft.

For Californians, the summer of 2022 had the highest gas prices on record; subsequently fuel and service stations receipts jumped 21%. Commuters and summer travel remained steady, yet overall consumption still trails pre-pandemic levels by approximately 13%. Although the Russia-Ukraine conflict initially caused a dramatic shift in global crude oil markets, prices have begun to pull back closer to historical norms.

Restaurants experienced a strong uptick as increased menu prices, consistent desire to dine out and strong tourism contributed to this favorable news. Just as important, theme parks, leisure-entertainment venues and hotels pushed positive momentum back to 2019 levels. With tightening profit margins and sustained labor concerns, future improvement could be slowed compared to the last two years.

Busy contractors and plumbing-electrical

suppliers boosted the building-construction sector. Solid residential and commercial housing prices persisted despite recent interest rate hikes. Tenant improvements further support spending activity as businesses assess future office needs. With statewide new housing requirements and federal infrastructure funding on the horizon, current forecasts stay optimistic.

Steady investment in capital equipment coupled with the overall increased price of goods enhanced both business-industry and countywide use tax pool allocations.

For the second straight quarter, fuel sales linked to discount department stores propped up general consumer goods results. Otherwise, retailers experienced flat to decreased receipts as many apparel categories, home furnishings and sporting goods struggled to keep pace with the prior year. As consumers balanced summer opportunities and higher prices, in-store shopping appears to have taken a temporary back seat.

Sustained price increases and interest rate hikes certainly have consumers contemplating where to spend their dollars. However, historically low statewide unemployment rates and the recovery of the national stock markets from declines earlier this year leave modest optimism heading into 2023.



