

# RCG ECONOMICS



LIED INSTITUTE FOR REAL ESTATE STUDIES

LEE BUSINESS SCHOOL

Las Vegas Anchored Retail Survey

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2014





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Re: Anchored Retail Real Estate Survey: 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2014

Dear Reader,

RCG Economics and the UNLV Lied Institute for Real Estate Studies are excited to produce the *Lied-RCG Commercial Real Estate Survey* ("the Survey") containing the most comprehensive, timely and accurate data and analysis on the Las Vegas Valley's industrial, speculative office and anchored retail markets.

RCG Economics has partnered with the Lied Institute to produce objective and independent quarterly surveys on the health and state of the commercial real estate market. RCG is a leader in real estate market research and analysis, including commercial real estate and economic forecasting. The Lied Institute seeks to advance real estate knowledge through research, student scholarship, certificate programs and community outreach activities.

The Survey is born of our commitment to excellence in serving those organizations requiring superior up-to-date market analysis and data to make key decisions. Developing this Private-Public Partnership to collect, analyze and release unbiased information is further proof of this commitment. Equally important, the data herein are collected as close as possible to the end of each quarter.

This survey documents historical and current market conditions at the Valley and submarket levels. The data contained within are organized and tracked by our in-house research analysts and economists to provide the best analysis of Las Vegas' commercial real estate markets. The survey contains a variety of meaningful market indicators, including:

- → Total existing inventory
- New and planned construction activity
- Vacancy and occupancy levels
- Net Absorption
- "Coupon" or quoted monthly rents

Further, our three commercial (industrial, office and retail) databases contain benchmark building data, by submarket, dating back to 1996. This information allows us to develop "custom" studies for our readers and clients. It is through this survey and our other services and products, that we remain the "Source for Decision Makers."

Regards,

John Restrepo RCG Economics Edward Coulson, Ph.D Lied Institute for Real Estate Studies-UNLV

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### LAS VEGAS ANCHORED RETAIL SURVEY

#### **SUMMARY**

The Las Vegas Valley's ("the Valley") anchored retail market1 inventory increased to 44.3 million square feet ("sf") in Q4, 2014 - there was one completion recorded during the quarter. We again see positive change in retail space demand. With a combined 38,600 sf, there have now been four straight quarters of net positive absorption. However, the vacancy rate increased to 11.4% this quarter from 11.0% last quarter, but is down from 11.7% this time last year. Average monthly asking rents decreased to \$1.10 per square foot ("psf") NNN2 in Q4; \$0.12 lower than the previous guarter and \$0.16 lower than Q4, 2013. There are 278,700 sf of forward-supply<sup>3</sup> space,

## Clark County Total\* Retail Jobs and Annual Growth: Dec-13 to Dec-14



Source: Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; calculated by RCG Economics.

comprised of two Community Centers that are under construction.

#### **RETAIL JOBS**

There were 112,400 jobs in the Clark County retail sector at the end of December 2014, accounting for 14% of total private sector jobs. This represents 3,900 (+3.6%) more jobs than were recorded in December 2013. General merchandise and clothing/accessories jobs rose by 3.1% (+1,300 jobs), but health Retail Employment

		<u>Oct</u>	•		<u>Nov</u>	•		<u>Dec</u>	
Industry Sector	2014	2013	% Ch.	2014	2013	% Ch.	2014	2013	% Ch.
Gen. Merch. & Cloth./Accessories	38,700	37,700	2.7%	42,000	41,300	1.7%	43,000	41,700	3.1%
Food & Bev. Stores	15,700	15,500	1.3%	15,900	15,600	1.9%	15,900	15,600	1.9%
Health & Personal Care Stores	6,900	6,600	4.5%	7,000	6,700	4.5%	7,100	6,700	6.0%
Other Stores <sup>4</sup>	45,900	42,500	8.0%	45,800	45,100	1.6%	46,400	44,500	4.3%
Total	107,200	102,300	4.8%	110,700	108,700	1.8%	112,400	108,500	3.6%

Source: Nevada Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation ("DETR").

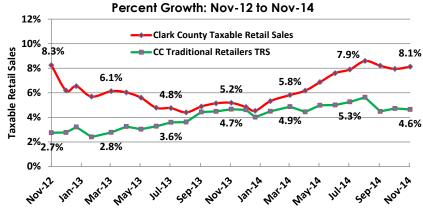
& personal care stores showed the strongest growth, increasing 6.0% (+400 jobs) in the last year. Total retail job growth between the third and fourth quarters was +6,400. Employment in the retail sector has been increasing on a year-over-year ("YOY") basis since May 2010 and has shown strong gains (+5.4%) during 2014.

#### TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

Clark County taxable sales continue to steadily climb. On a 12-month moving total basis, these sales reached \$36.2 billion in November, an 8.1% spike from November 2013. This brings the region's sales to around February 2008 levels, and very near to the December 2007 peak. Moreover, the average year-over-year growth over the last 36 months is 6.9%.

The three traditional retail sectors with the largest taxable sales growth, on an absolute basis, during the November 2013-November 2014 period, according to

## Clark County Total Taxable Retail Sales ("TRS") vs. Traditional Retailers TRS,



Source: Nevada Department of Taxation; calculated by RCG Economics.

#### ANCHORED RETAIL MARKET

Top 5 Traditional Retailers	Taxable Retail Sales	YoY Change	YoY % Change
Food Services and Drinking Places	\$724,679,168	\$25,961,385	3.7%
General Merchandise Stores	\$309,034,327	\$17,937,252	6.2%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies	\$96,285,627	\$8,483,517	9.7%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	\$51,758,106	\$6,747,775	15.0%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	\$114,643,454	\$5,434,429	5.0%

Source: Nevada Department of Taxation. Note: The reason the DETR and Taxation retail categories do not match

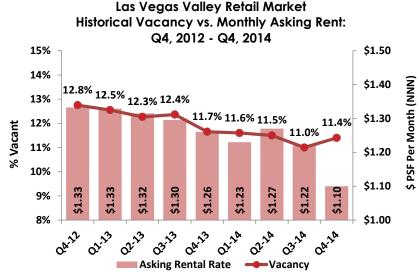
the Nevada Department of Taxation, were "food services and drinking places" (+\$26M, +3.7%), "general merchandise stores" (+\$18M, +6.2%) and "building material and garden equipment and supplies" (+\$8M, +9.7%). Solid growth in taxable sales among traditional retail outlets continued throughout 2014. Below is a table of the top five performing year-over-year traditional retailer types.

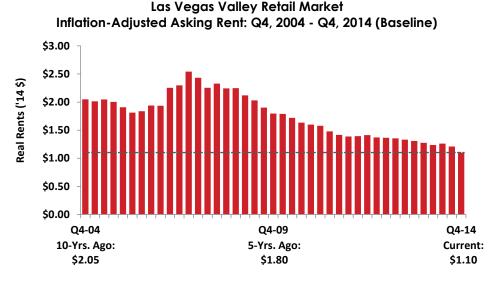
#### **VACANCY & RENTS**

The average valley-wide anchored retail vacancy rate increased to 11.4% in Q4, 2014. This is a 0.4 per-

centage-point increase from Q3, but a 0.3 percentage-point decrease from Q4, 2013. The average valley-wide anchored retail vacancy rate remains 3.9 percentage-points lower than the record high of 15.3% that occurred in Q2, 2011.

The highest submarket vacancies at the end of Q4 were University East (16.1%), West Central (13.8%) and North Las Vegas (13.0%). Only two submarkets had vacancy rates below 10%: Southwest (8.7%) and Northeast (6.1%). Relative to the previous quarter, vacancy rates decreased in two submarkets, rose in five and remained unchanged in one. The only improvements in Q4, 2014 were in the Henderson and North Las Vegas submarkets, which saw vacancy rates drop 2.0 and 0.6 percentage-points to 11.1% and 13.0%, respectively.





Vacancy improved in both Neighborhood and Power Centers during the fourth quarter. They combined for 457,800 sf of absorption. Power Centers now have the lowest overall vacancy rate among the three product types at 9.9%. The Community Center rate increased to 12.6% while Neighborhood Centers dropped to 10.8% at the end of Q4.

Monthly asking rents decreased in Q4 for the second consecutive quarterly decrease. Asking rents have fallen back to a new low, current: reaching \$1.10 psf in Q4 (calculat-\$1.10 ed on a NNN basis; not accounting

#### ANCHORED RETAIL MARKET

for any operating expenses). We would like to remind our readers that the rents we quote in our surveys are based on the space that is available in the open market. They do not necessarily reflect the health of the overall market.

The irony is that as the more desirable space is absorbed, leaving the less desirable space, rents tend to go down even with dropping vacancies. As long as the vacancy rate continues on its downward trend, and the retail real estate market improves, we expect to see new anchored retail development in next 12-18 months.

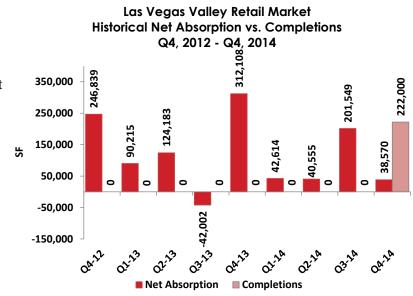
#### **DEMAND**

There was a total of 38,600 sf of total net absorption in Q4, 2014, 163,000 sf less than Q3's 201,500 sf

of total net absorption. The fourth quarter of 2013 also saw high total net absorption, as there were 312,100 sf of total net absorption in Q4, 2013.

Net absorption declined in the University East (-227,100 sf), Southwest (-82,700 sf), West Central (-14,300 sf), Northeast (-13,800 sf) and Downtown (-27,900 sf) submarkets this quarter. The remaining three submarkets recorded positive net absorption, led by the Northwest submarket with 200,300 sf.

Net absorption was also positive in both Neighborhood Centers (+147,300 sf) and Power Centers (+310,500 sf), more than offsetting the loss in Community Centers (-419,200 sf).

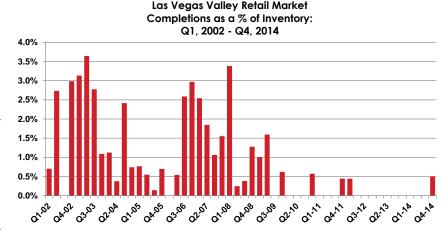


#### **SUPPLY**

One new anchored retail space was completed in the Valley during Q4, 2014. This was the first comple-

tion since Q1, 2012. Prior to Q4, 2014, there were only two quarters in 19 (since Q1, 2010) that saw new anchored retail space brought to market, and none within the last 10 quarters. The Valley's total anchored retail inventory is now at 44.3 million sf in 267 shopping centers.

There are two construction projects totaling 278,700 sf in the works. These are the 138,700-square-foot Green Valley Crossing in Henderson and the 140,000-square-foot Decatur @ Target shopping center in the Northwest.



From what we know today, we do not see

much new retail development taking place in early 2015. This will help the Valley's anchored retail market to continue to move toward the 10% stabilized vacancy rate. Our latest estimates indicate that this will happen in about five quarters (based on the average quarterly absorption rate of 178,000 sf over the last 10 years).

#### **FURTHER THOUGHTS**

Clark County's taxable retail sales climbed by 6.3 percent on a year-over-year basis in November 2014. On a year-over-year basis, taxable sales in Clark County have shown positive growth for the past twelve

#### ANCHORED RETAIL MARKET

months. DETR reported 112,400 total jobs in Clark County's retail sector in December 2014, 3.6 percent year-over-year growth (+3,900 jobs). If consumer spending continues to grow through 2015, expansion by existing retailers and new retail concepts will likely enter Southern Nevada.

Four things stand in the way of continued and even stronger improvement in taxable retail sales. The first is improvement in the residential market. Households that have been avoiding paying their mortgages may lose that unofficial boost to their income and their disposable income may suffer as a result.

In the short-run, the drop in gasoline prices has essentially given Southern Nevadans a "raise" and an increase in spending and savings power, but as these price cuts retrench, spending could be curtailed since consumers will have to return to depending on rising wages and incomes, which have been stagnant for some time when adjusted for inflation.

The second is the potential diversion of disposable income into health insurance, as required by the ACA. Neither is likely to put an end to the recovery, but both could act as headwinds. The third is stagnant wages after adjusting for inflation and the fourth is stagnant average hours worked per week.

If consumer spending remains strong, the outlook for the local retail market is positive. Retail employment is showing growth and vacancy has generally been declining since Q2, 2011. Rents continue to drop as well, and this should help stimulate demand for retail space.

**FOURTH QUARTER 2014** 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes all anchored retail Power Center, Community Center and Neighborhood Center properties with 40,000 or more of gross leasable area in the Las Vegas Valley.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All retail rents in this report are quoted on a monthly triple net (NNN) per square foot basis and does not include additional expenses such as taxes, insurance, maintenance, janitorial and utilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Forward-supply is a combination of space presently under construction in a quarter and space planned to begin construction within the next 4 quarters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Other stores" is made up of total retail less general merchandise/clothing, food & beverage stores and health & personal care stores.

#### RETAIL MARKET GLOSSARY

Retail properties tracked include shopping centers with at least 10,000 square feet of usable space. These centers have several different stores or tenants and are anchored by one or more large, national tenant (i.e., Best Buy, Target, and Smith's). Characteristics of buildings were used to define the appropriate classification of properties into subtypes, such as tenant mix, size and trade area. A property must exhibit one or more of the typical building characteristics to be considered a specific classification.

#### **Power Center**

Centers with a minimum of three, but usually five or more, anchor tenants that dominant in their categories

- •Size typically more than 250,000 square feet, but can be as small as 125,000 square feet; almost all units designed for large tenants
- •Customer-base is typically drawn from within a 15-mile trade area

#### **Community Center**

Centers with stores that sell consumer goods, in addition to convenience goods and personal services.

- •Typical anchor tenants include junior department stores and off-price/discount stores, and store that sell goods requiring comparison such as apparel and appliances; other tenants include drug stores and home improvement centers
- •Size typically between 100,000 and 300,000 square feet, but can be over 500,000 square feet
- •Customer-base is primarily within a five-mile trade area

#### **Neighborhood Center**

Center with stores that sell convenience goods (e.g., food, sundries and takeout food) and provide personal services (e.g., dry cleaning and hair/nail care) that meet the day-to-day living needs to the immediate area.

- •Typical anchor tenant is a supermarket
- •Size tends to be smaller than 100,000 square feet, but can range from 30,000 to 150,000 square feet
- •Customer-base is within a two- to three-mile trade area

### **Anchored Retail Market Matrix**

### Las Vegas, Nevada Fourth Quarter, 2014

SUBMARKETS										
TOTAL RETAIL MARKET	Downtown	Henderson	North Las Vegas	Northeast	Northwest	Southwest	University East	West Central	Totals	
Number of Properties	9	54	27	21	59	23	40	34	267	
Total Rentable SF	1,105,851	8,680,068	4,910,743	2,542,317	10,810,588	5,783,835	6,050,227	4,379,055	44,262,684	
Total Vacant SF	139,665	965,091	636,180	155,976	1,052,135	503,696	971,696	606,479	5,030,918	
Total Occupied SF	966,186	7,714,977	4,274,563	2,386,341	9,758,453	5,280,139	5,078,531	3,772,576	39,231,766	
Total Vacant (%)	12.6%	11.1%	13.0%	6.1%	9.7%	8.7%	16.1%	13.8%	11.4%	
Completions QTD	0	0	0	0	222,000	0	0	0	222,000	
Completions YOY	0	0	0	0	222,000	0	0	0	222,000	
Total Net Absorption QTD	-27,870	174,787	29,329	-13,835	200,287	-82,748	-227,092	-14,287	38,571	
Total Net Absorption YOY	16,072	199,289	-117,605	104,798	163,936	-45,394	-139,752	141,945	323,289	
Asking Rents (\$ PSF)	\$1.26	\$1.42	\$1.26	\$1.25	\$1.20	\$1.44	\$0.57	\$0.96	\$1.10	
Under Constuction SF	0	138,738	0	0	140,000	0	0	0	278,738	
Planned SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

POWER CENTERS	Downtown	Henderson	North Las Vegas	Northeast	Northwest	Southwest	University East	West Central	Totals
Number of Properties	0	8	2	0	7	1	3	3	24
Total Rentable SF	0	2,962,288	987,713	0	2,840,846	944,314	1,210,223	1,138,224	10,083,608
Total Vacant SF	0	579,079	0	0	91,321	7,200	183,719	140,785	1,002,104
Total Occupied SF	0	2,383,209	987,713	0	2,749,525	937,114	1,026,504	997,439	9,081,504
Total Vacant (%)	0.0%	19.5%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%	0.8%	15.2%	12.4%	9.9%
Completions QTD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Completions YOY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Net Absorption QTD	0	46,225	1,740	0	39,185	0	156,818	66,485	310,453
Total Net Absorption YOY	0	-62,152	8,493	0	28,166	40,611	-11,901	66,289	69,506
Asking Rents (\$ PSF)	\$0.00	\$1.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.13	\$1.50	\$1.26	\$1.31	\$1.47
Under Constuction SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Planned SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

COMMUNITY CENTERS	Downtown	Henderson	North Las Vegas	Northeast	Northwest	Southwest	University East	West Central	Totals
Number of Properties	5	21	10	8	20	9	19	15	107
Total Rentable SF	678,690	2,920,692	1,755,463	1,407,552	4,314,234	3,216,421	2,761,028	1,649,146	18,703,226
Total Vacant SF	106,054	178,173	213,575	95,418	413,572	386,704	635,409	323,720	2,352,625
Total Occupied SF	572,636	2,742,519	1,541,888	1,312,134	3,900,662	2,829,717	2,125,619	1,325,426	16,350,601
Total Vacant (%)	15.6%	6.1%	12.2%	6.8%	9.6%	12.0%	23.0%	19.6%	12.6%
Completions QTD	0	0	0	0	222,000	0	0	0	222,000
Completions YOY	0	0	0	0	222,000	0	0	0	222,000
Total Net Absorption QTD	-26,170	-10,159	16,796	-19,035	137,724	-74,841	-391,060	-52,479	-419,224
Total Net Absorption YOY	-42,509	128,430	-58,172	21,563	120,021	-103,406	-240,051	73,165	-100,959
Asking Rents (\$ PSF)	\$1.23	\$1.24	\$0.87	\$1.30	\$1.66	\$1.37	\$0.80	\$0.78	\$0.89
Under Constuction SF	0	138,738	0	0	140,000	0	0	0	278,738
Planned SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS	Downtown	Henderson	North Las Vegas	Northeast	Northwest	Southwest	University East	West Central	Totals
Number of Properties	4	25	15	13	32	13	18	16	136
Total Rentable SF	427,161	2,797,088	2,167,567	1,134,765	3,655,508	1,623,100	2,078,976	1,591,685	15,475,850
Total Vacant SF	33,611	207,839	422,605	60,558	547,242	109,792	152,568	141,974	1,676,189
Total Occupied SF	393,550	2,589,249	1,744,962	1,074,207	3,108,266	1,513,308	1,926,408	1,449,711	13,799,661
Total Vacant (%)	7.9%	7.4%	19.5%	5.3%	15.0%	6.8%	7.3%	8.9%	10.8%
Completions QTD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Completions YOY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Net Absorption QTD	-1,700	138,721	10,793	5,200	23,378	-7,907	7,150	-28,293	147,342
Total Net Absorption YOY	58,581	133,011	-67,926	83,235	15,749	17,401	112,200	2,491	354,742
Asking Rents (\$ PSF)	\$1.31	\$1.05	\$1.59	\$1.23	\$0.98	\$1.61	\$1.15	\$1.13	\$1.20
Under Constuction SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Planned SF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# LAS VEGAS VALLEY

## ANCHORED RETAIL SUBMARKET MAP

