

Goodbye Santa Ynez Valley, Hello Casino Town?

TOWN HALL MEETING

***Friday, August 26, 2011, 6:00 p.m.
Veteran's Hall, Solvang, CA***

The Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians (Chumash Casino Tribe) desires to have their 1,400 acres at Highways 154/246 ("Camp 4") taken into federal "trust." Land in federal "trust" is outside County planning and process and public participation. There would be no restrictions on density or development. The Tribe could build anything, including a second casino (as they envisioned with Fess Parker in 2005).

In 2009, our community completed the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan - a 10 year process. It was carefully crafted through studies, County expertise, and thousands of hours of public participation. The Community Plan provides the framework for development in the Santa Ynez Valley to ensure strong agricultural roots, protection of natural resources, air quality and water, and public safety, including on our two lane rural highways

If the 1,400 acres goes into federal trust the Community Plan is rendered meaningless. The 1,400 acres is the size of Solvang. The Chumash could build a new city.

By a 2008 Federal Judge's ruling on P.O.L.O.'s litigation, the Citizens of the Valley have now obtained "standing"-the right to be heard and considered-in the established BIA process. Because of this win by our community, the BIA process of taking land into trust is now at a standstill.

In an effort to bypass the now immobilized Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) process, the Chumash Tribe made the unusual move of requesting that Congressman Elton Gallegly sponsor legislation to put the 1,400 acres into trust, with no valley citizen input.

There is NO "standing" for the public in the congressional federal legislation fee-to-trust process!

Congressman Gallegly is willing to consider writing the Chumash Casino Tribe-requested legislation if he finds that the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Solvang also support this move.

We must let the County of Santa Barbara,
City of Solvang, and
Congressional Representatives know that
this is NOT the way to proceed!

***COME TO THE
TOWN HALL MEETING TO
HEAR A PANEL OF EXPERTS AND
LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP
THIS FROM HAPPENING.
SAVE THE DATE, AND
SAVE THE VALLEY!***

*Meeting and ad sponsored by Santa Ynez Valley
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