



The Jacob Journal

Happy Holidays from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

November/December 2005

An Alternative to Unbridled Casino Growth

Jacob Invited to Nation's Capital to Discuss Benefits of Casino Consolidation

Serving the Cities of:
El Cajon
La Mesa
Lemon Grove
Poway
Santee

Serving the communities of:
Agua Caliente
Allied Gardens
Alpine
Barrett
Blossom Valley
Bostonia
Boulevard
Campo
Canebrake
Casa de Oro
Crest

*Cuyamaca
Dehesa
Del Cerro
Descanso
Dulzura
Eucalyptus Hills
Fernbrook
Flinn Springs
Granite Hills
Grantville
Guatay
Harbison Canyon
Jacumba
Jamul
Julian
Lake Morena
Lakeside
Mount Helix
Pine Hills
Pine Valley
Potrero
Ramona
Rancho San Diego
Rolando
San Carlos
San Pasqual
Santa Ysabel
Shelter Valley
Spring Valley
Tecate
Tierra del Sol
Vallecitos
Wynola*

Serving the Indian Reservations of:
Barona
Campo
Cosmit
Cuyapaipe
Inaja
Jamul
La Posta
Manzanita
Mesa Grande
Santa Ysabel
Sycuan
Viejas

On November 9, Supervisor Jacob testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources where she expressed support for a new tool that aims to protect rural communities from large-scale casino development on tribal lands. She is pleased to share this summary of her testimony:

With nine existing Indian casinos and the possibility of as least five more, San Diego County has been called the Indian Gaming Capitol of the Nation.

For tribes, gaming has become a powerful tool for change. It's helped tribal members break free from decades of poverty and can lead to self sufficiency. For the community, gaming provides jobs, attracts tourists and adds fuel to our local economy.

These benefits, however, are not without a price.

Gaming has profoundly impacted nearby communities. From increased traffic and demands on law enforcement, to decreased groundwater and changes in community character, the unintended consequences of casino development are huge.

This is the story of how two tribes,

working in partnership with County officials and the State of California, developed a powerful new tool to lessen the impact of one future casino.

That tool, Casino Consolidation, respects gaming rights and tribal sovereignty. And, it can stem the scattering of additional large casinos throughout our picturesque backcountry.

About 30 miles from downtown San Diego, the 14,000 residents of Alpine enjoy a more peaceful way of life than in urban areas. They cherish their views of the county's scenic backcountry and deeply value open space.

Since 1991, the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians has operated a casino on its 1,600 acre reservation just north of

Interstate 8 in Alpine. The tribe has fostered a good relationship with Alpine residents and is a frequent sponsor of community events.

The tribe also enjoys a good relationship with County government and has helped bring firefighting resources to the area and is working to improve the access road to the casino.

Twenty miles northeast of Alpine, far off Interstate 8 in the remote Laguna Mountains lies the reservation of the Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians. The 4,100 acre reservation has no public utilities, no telephone service, no radio service, limited electricity, and no treatment system for wastewater or solid waste.

"What was an adversarial situation that sparked fear and conflict becomes a project representing communication and compromise."



Casino Consolidation.....Page 1
Casino Consolidation.....Page 2
Community Round Up.....Page 3
Get the Journal.....Page 4

Casino Consolidation
Continued on Page 2

Casino Consolidation
Continued from Page 1

More than 98 percent of the Ewiiapaayp reservation is rocky ridges and steep hillsides. Access to the reservation is via a 12-mile steeply-graded and poorly-maintained dirt road.

That geography was bad news for the Ewiiapaayp who, in 1999, signed a gaming compact with the State and wanted to experience the same economic success that gaming was bringing to Viejas and other tribes.

But, the Ewiiapaayp reservation would not accommodate a large casino, so the Ewiiapaayp tried another avenue. That avenue was a 10-acre parcel one mile west of the Viejas casino.

Twenty years ago, the land was placed in federal trust in the Ewiiapaayp name. The parcel was, and still is, the home of the Southern Indian Health Clinic, which serves seven tribes, including Viejas.

The tribe viewed the health clinic land as its best hope for the site of a future casino.

For six years, the Ewiiapaayp tried to get federal approval to build a casino on clinic land. For the Viejas and Ewiiapaayp tribes, it was a bitter legal battle that pitted tribe against tribe. Viejas opposed the proposal at every turn, and so did I along with others.

For Alpine and County

government, the uncertainty was unnerving. What might road access be like to a second large casino one mile west of Viejas? What about fire protection, emergency medical services and added crime? Would it be possible to mitigate all of the impacts and who would pay?

San Diego County grapples with these questions time and time again when it comes to the development of an Indian casino. That's why Casino Consolidation—in the form of the unprecedented prototype involving Viejas and Ewiiapaayp—is so important.

The two tribes, the Governor and County officials have all found a way to turn conflict into compromise by proposing to co-locate a Ewiiapaayp gaming facility on the Viejas reservation.

Here is what happens if the proposal is approved: The Ewiiapaayp will gain an

economic opportunity the tribe otherwise might not have. Viejas will receive a portion of the facility's revenue. Litigation between the two tribes will at last be put to rest.

Because newer gaming compacts negotiated by Governor Schwarzenegger require enforceable agreements between



Capital Idea: Supervisor Jacob told federal legislators that Casino Consolidation may help communities across the nation deal with large-scale development on Indian lands.

tribes and local government, the proposal gives the County a seat at the table to negotiate for mitigation measures. That's good news for Alpine.

Best of all, the proposal is voluntary. None of the parties is forced to act. What was an adversarial situation that sparked fear and conflict becomes a project representing communication and compromise.

The joint venture between Viejas and Ewiiapaayp is not the only place in San Diego County, or the Nation, where Casino Consolidation might be utilized.

As we speak, an Indian village is threatening to build a 30-story casino tower on about four acres of land in a tiny, rural corner of eastern San Diego County. The out-of-state gaming company bankrolling the monster tower could learn a lot from the creative minds behind the Viejas and Ewiiapaayp proposal. That the concept is inclusive and not hostile makes it even more promising.

“Best of all, the proposal is voluntary. None of the parties is forced to act.”

Community Round Up

RAMONA— The Ramona Chamber of Commerce works hard to boost the economy in the Valley of the Sun. Now, the County is helping give the Chamber's downtown office a boost of its own. About \$35,000 will help the Chamber pave its parking lot, replace an old storage facility and update the interior. Next time you're on your way to or through Ramona, you might see their spruced up digs.

ALPINE— Funding to build the new first class fire station in this mountain town didn't include the dollars to furnish the inside. So residents here did what they do best. They banded together to raise the money themselves. At a recent fundraiser, the community raked in \$22,000 for beds, couches and other household items. The County is impressed and, at the urging of Supervisor Jacob, is kicking in \$30,000 to help finish the job.



PINE VALLEY— The main drag of quaint Pine Valley is one of the stops along Old Highway 80, an intercontinental highway that once ran from San Diego to Savannah, Georgia.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Supervisor Jacob invites you to an informal coffee to share your thoughts and ideas.

Friday, January 27, 2006

8:30 AM

Michael's Grill

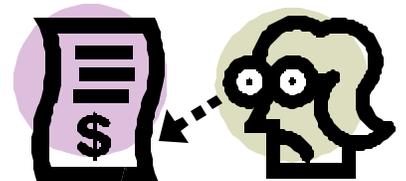
9621 Mission Gorge Road

Santee

In the 1970s, the route was replaced by Interstate 8, leaving once-bustling roadside businesses stranded in time. Today, a group of community leaders wants tourists and others to rediscover the past along Old Highway 80. Many of the route's landmarks, signs and businesses remain. The first step is to nail down an historic designation for the famed route. Supervisor Jacob is squarely onboard for this road trip!

Bracing for Higher Natural Gas Prices

Natural gas producers are struggling to meet demand for the fuel that America will use



to cook, heat water and heat homes this winter. Short-term shortages will undoubtedly lead to higher bills this winter.

San Diego Gas and Electric projects that a typical monthly residential bill will run \$150 to \$165 this winter, up from \$126 last year. Business customers can expect a 20 to 30 percent increase in their bills.

Seniors and low-income ratepayers should act now to prepare for higher bills.

The California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program provides a 20 percent discount on monthly gas and electric bills for qualifying households. Qualifications are based on the number of people living in the home and the total household income including wages and government benefits.

Also, SDG&E's Energy Team program provides no-cost energy-saving home improvements such as new energy-efficient appliances to those with limited incomes and seniors who meet specific income guidelines.

Applications for these programs can be downloaded from the SDG&E website: www.sdge.com, or call (800) 411-SDGE.

Get The Jacob Journal!

The Jacob Journal will be mailed to you on a regular basis by request only. If you like what you've read, fill out the form below and mail it back to us at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101 or fax it to us at (619) 696-7253. You can also sign up to receive the Jacob Journal on our website at www.diannejacob.com.

Name _____

Signature _____

Company _____

Mailing Address _____

City, Zip _____

Phone/e-mail _____

We hope to hear from you soon!

Nov/Dec

(619)531-5522

The Second District Staff

Geoff Patnoe

Chief of Staff

Caroline Braun

Senior Field Representative

Jeff Collins

Senior Policy Advisor

Erin Farris

Policy Advisor

Nathaniel J. Potter

Field Representative

Donna Sievert

Office Manager & Scheduler

Robert Spanbauer

Policy Advisor

Jennifer Stone

Communications Advisor

Adam Wilson

Policy Advisor

DIANNE JACOB

*Supervisor, Second District
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101*

*(619) 531-5522
(800) 852-7322 toll free
(619) 696-7253 fax*

*e-mail:
Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov*

*website:
www.diannejacob.com*