

CITY OF CALEXICO AGENDA REPORT

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico, California, requesting the Governor approve the Manzanita Casino in the City of Calexico.

AGENDA DATE: May 4, 2010

PREPARED BY: Armando G. Villa, Assistant City Manager



APPROVED FOR AGENDA BY: Victor M. Carrillo, City Manager

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (Prior action/information)

For the past five years, The City of Calexico has been successfully working with the Manzanita Tribe towards the establishment of a Casino within the City of Calexico. Presently the Manzanita Tribe has submitted an application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to take the tribe's land in the City of Calexico into trust for gaming purposes. The City and the Manzanita Tribe are currently awaiting a decision by Governor Schwarzenegger on the approval of the Manzanita Tribe's BIA trust application.

Due to the April 4, 2010 earthquake, which impacted Calexico's economy, causing damage to vital public infrastructure, increasing an already high unemployment, it is requested that the Council consider submitting the attached resolution to the Governor in support of the Casino in order to assist in improving the existing and future economic environment of the City.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that City Council approve a resolution requesting Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to approve the Manzanita Casino Project in the City of Calexico.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Resolution.

Agenda Item No. ____

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RESOLUTION NO. 2010-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR APPROVE
THE MANZANITA CASINO IN THE CITY OF CALEXICO.**

WHEREAS, the Manzanita Tribe (“Tribe”) has acquired land within the City and seeks to have that land put into trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (“BIA”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a favorable vote by the citizens of the City in June 2005, the City and the Tribe seek to work together to mitigate impacts that a casino may have; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2006, the City and the Tribe entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for the mitigation of impacts from a casino in the City; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2009, the City certified the environmental impact report for a proposed casino in the City and approved the land use entitlements to allow the construction of a casino; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the Tribe’s trust application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs pursuant to Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (“IGRA”) to take the Tribe’s land in the City of Calexico into trust for gaming purposes because a gaming establishment on the land would be in the best interest of the Tribe and would not be detrimental to the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2010, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck the City of Calexico and has damaged vital public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the earthquake also damaged various private properties and businesses within the City and has caused the loss of vital jobs in the City; and

WHEREAS, prior to the earthquake, the unemployment rate in the City was extraordinarily high and the earthquake has further damaged the economy; and

WHEREAS, the City is in urgent need of job creation and development that will improve the economy in the City and will support the City’s general fund; and

WHEREAS, the casino will create badly needed jobs and will provide a new source of revenue for the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Council finds that the above-listed recitals are true and correct.

SECTION 2. The Council requests that the Governor of the State of California take all actions necessary to approve the Manzanita Tribe's BIA trust application and to approve any necessary compact amendments to allow the Manzanita Tribe to operate a casino in the City of Calexico.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Calexico at the regular meeting this 4th day of May, 2010.

DAVID B. OUZAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

LOURDES CORDOVA, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JENNIFER M. LYON, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
CITY OF CALEXICO) ss.
COUNTY OF IMPERIAL)