



Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

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BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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March 21, 2014

Mr. Steve Lavagnino, Chairman
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Santa Ynez Reservation Improvements

Dear Mr. Lavagnino:

I am writing to provide you and the Board advance notice on improvement projects we are considering on our reservation. Once we determine the specific scope of our reservation improvements, we will provide the Board with an official notice pursuant to section 10.8 of the tribal-State Compact.

A few of the improvements we are considering include:

- Adding 215 rooms to our Chumash Casino Resort Hotel
- Widening the gaming floor by approximately 60,000 sq. ft.
- Adding a new parking garage for 750 vehicles
- Improving our Food & Beverage facilities – including possibly adding a significant food court and an upgraded buffet

When the Chumash Casino Resort hotel was built in 2004, it was dramatically downsized during the tribal environmental review process. While we were trying to address the concerns of the community, we did ourselves a disservice by building a hotel much smaller than the market dictated. As a result, we are now faced with the problem of not having enough rooms to accommodate all the guests at our gaming facility and not enough rooms to address the potential growth in the market. The improvements we are considering would address these issues.

We are in the process of taking the first steps in planning improvements on our reservation property. Once we get further along in the process, a new tribal environmental process will be initiated with both the County of Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez Valley neighbors.

We intend to share our plans and will be providing the county and the community with periodic updates as we move forward on this project.

Sincerely,

Vincent Armenta
Tribal Chairman