



Tohono O'odham Nation Office of the Chairman & Vice Chairwoman

COMPASSION FAITH TRADITION RESPECT
T-I:BDAG 'AMJED S-WOHOCUDA HIMDAG PI:K 'ELID

Ned Norris, Jr.
Chairman

Wavalene M. Romero
Vice Chairwoman



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Smith, (520) 321-1111

CITY OF GLENDALE SUPPORTS WEST VALLEY RESORT *Four West Valley Cities Now Support the Project*

SELLS, Ariz. – On Tuesday, July 15, 2014, a majority of the Glendale City Council approved a resolution to officially support the Tohono O'odham Nation's West Valley Resort project, rescinding its earlier opposition. The move is the result of months of productive discussions between the City and the Nation.

The City of Glendale represents the fourth West Valley community to pass a formal resolution in favor of the Nation's project; the Cities of Peoria, Tolleson, and Surprise previously passed unanimous resolutions of support. Support for the project in the West Valley continues to grow as the primary opposition continues to come from two wealthy East Valley tribes and their supporters.

The Glendale City Council meeting was necessitated by the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee's upcoming July 23 hearing on Indian gaming issues, which is currently scheduled to include a discussion of issues relating to H.R. 1410. This legislation would arbitrarily rewrite the federal law that authorizes the Nation to pursue economic development on its West Valley property, which was recently taken into trust by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The City of Glendale passed a resolution opposing H.R. 1410 last March. In so doing, the City recognized that H.R. 1410 would prevent the Nation from creating thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in annual economic impacts in the West Valley. By unilaterally rewriting a tribal settlement agreement, the bill would also set a dangerous precedent for tribes across the United States.

Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Ned Norris, Jr. said, *"The Nation applauds the City of Glendale's decision to support our major economic development project. We look forward to working with Glendale and all of the local communities to create opportunity across the West Valley."*

The Tohono O'odham Nation is a federally-recognized Indian tribe, with existing reservation lands in Maricopa County, Pinal County, and Pima County, Arizona. The West Valley Resort will be located at 95th and Northern avenues and will generate more than 3,000 new, permanent jobs and more than \$300 million in annual economic impact. For more information, visit www.westvalleyopportunity.com.

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