



# Status Report on Discussions with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians and Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Board of Supervisors Hearing  
February 7, 2017

## Recommended Actions:

- a. Receive report from staff
- b. Renew short-term advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee
- c. In addition to public meetings authorize Ad Hoc Subcommittee to discuss, not decide, with Tribe outside public meetings
- d. Receive report from CEO, following coordination with Ad Hoc Subcommittee, plans to discuss, not decide, with the Tribe under her existing authority in County Code section 2-71
- e. Determine pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review.

# Ad Hoc Subcommittee

## Established August 25, 2015

### **Purpose of Ad Hoc Subcommittee and Direction by the Board of Supervisors:**

*Engage the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians in discussions related to land use and financial matters of mutual concern that include but are not limited to the Waiver of Sovereign Immunity, Santa Ynez Valley properties of interest inclusive of the Camp 4, Mooney, Escobar and 350 acre "Triangle" properties and other general topics between the County and the Tribe as appropriate.*

# Summary

- Met with Tribe on nine occasions in public meetings between September 2015 to October 2016.
- Discussed:
  - Waiver of Sovereign Immunity
  - Term
  - Municipal Finance
  - Future Use of Land and Limits
    - Gaming
    - Williamson Act
    - Fee to Trust lands
- All meeting materials and correspondence has been posted to the County website.

# Background

- January 10, 2017 – Supervisors Hartmann & Williams appointed to serve on the short-term, advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee
- January 10, 2017 – Board directed County Counsel to initiate federal litigation if Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs affirmed Pacific Regional Director's decision
- January 19, 2017 –Assistant Secretary affirmed Pacific Regional Director's decision to take Camp 4 into trust & concluded adequate NEPA review
- January 28, 2017 – County Counsel filed in Federal District Court

# Next Steps

- Continue periodic open Subcommittee meetings with Tribal representatives; noticed consistent with the Brown Act. County and Tribal staff confer on agenda and materials prior to each open meeting.
- The Ad Hoc Subcommittee may:
  - Engage in direct discussions, but not decisions, with Tribe, outside of open, public meetings; and/or
  - Coordinate with CEO for staff to staff discussions with the Tribe, but not decisions, under existing intergovernmental relations authority in County Code.
- Any final Agreement between the County and Tribe must be approved by the Board of Supervisors and the Tribe.

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An aerial photograph of a vineyard. The rows of grapevines are arranged in a grid pattern, with a dirt path or road running through the center. A person is visible walking along the path. The background shows a hazy landscape with trees and distant hills under a bright sky. The foreground is filled with dry, brownish vegetation.

**Thank you**