

Camp 4 Milestones and Timeline of Interaction with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

October 2, 2005 – A Santa Ynez Valley News story appears entitled “Chumash, Parker plan is dropped”. The plan was a partnership to construct 500 luxury homes, a resort hotel, two championship golf courses and an equestrian center on 745 acres of the “Camp 4” property then owned by Fess Parker but planned to be developed under “Indian sovereignty laws” in order to “skirt local land-use restrictions on the property.”

2007-2008 – Opposition to Fee-to-Trust is stated repeatedly by candidate Farr during campaign for Third District County Supervisor.

2008 – Governor Schwarzenegger vetoes legislation for the Santa Ynez Water District ID#1 in part due to the high level of community controversy and concern over new powers it conferred on the water district to “contract with any public agency or tribal government for a water supply.”

September 2009 – Supervisor Farr meets with Chairman Armenta to discuss the Tribe’s goal of constructing a new gas station.

November 2009 – Tribe’s application for new gas station deemed complete by County.

March 2010 – G. Yates consultant report on an “Assessment of Groundwater Availability on the Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation” prepared for the Tribe.

April 5, 2010 - Santa Ynez Valley News story reporting that the Chumash Tribe had purchased Camp 4 from the estate of Fess Parker.

May 2010 –Supervisor Farr’s office assists Tribe on storage of a Tomol at Lake Cachuma.

August 2010 – Supervisor Farr meets with Tribal representatives at the casino to do a site visit and discuss their request for an expanded liquor license.

October 2010 – Supervisor Farr sponsors a Resolution of Recognition for the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Foundation.

October 27, 2010 – Supervisor Farr attends Chumash Foundation Dinner.

December 2010 – January 2011 – Tribe asks Congressman Gallegly to carry legislation to put Camp 4 directly in to a Fee to Trust status and bypass the BIA process. No notification of this request by Tribe to the County.

March 3, 2011 – Supervisor Farr writes letter to Congressman Gallegly telling him of longstanding opposition to fee-to-trust and detailing the reasons why. Chairman Armenta was copied on the letter.

March 2011 – Supervisor Farr meets with Chairman Armenta and Sam Cohen to discuss letter to Congressman Gallegly and their efforts at finding a sponsor for fee-to-trust legislation.

June 1, 2011 – Tribe sends County a copy of a template for a Cooperative Agreement for Camp 4. The Cooperative Agreement described the proposed development as “tribal housing opportunities and to operate Tribal economic development projects”. The amount proposed under the “Payment in Lieu of Taxes” section was left blank. Any monies received by the county through the Special Distribution Fund were to be used to offset any agreed upon payments. (Although the SDF is designed to mitigate current impacts from the casino operation and the Cooperative Agreement is supposed to help offset new impacts from proposed development if Camp 4 is taken into Trust.) The Tribe granted a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to County only and the County in return “shall support the fee to trust annexation of the Property to the Reservation by federal legislation, the administrative process by federal agencies or any other possible way in existence now or in the future.” The Agreement expired on December 30, 2020.

June 23, 2011 – Supervisor Farr attends a reception hosted by the Tribe for the State Senate Republican Caucus at Root 246.

September 8, 2011 – Supervisor Farr’s Op-Ed printed in the Santa Ynez Valley News stating opposition to Fee to Trust. A copy was sent to the Tribe when it was submitted.

December 8, 2011 – Supervisor Farr’s second Op-Ed in opposition to Fee to Trust for Camp 4 appears in the Santa Ynez Valley News detailing the potential loss of tax revenues from the property if developed under various scenarios. A copy was sent to the Tribe when it was submitted.

December 2011 – Tribe’s gas station project given final approval.

December 19, 2011 – Supervisor Farr meets with Chairman Armenta in the Santa Barbara office.

January 2012 – Supervisor Farr sends a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Sacramento requesting to be notified of any fee to trust applications or National Environmental Impact Report processes initiated by the Santa Ynez Chumash and asked that this request be kept on file.

April 16, 2012 – Supervisor Farr sends a letter to Congressman Don Young detailing reasons for opposing fee-to-trust on the Camp 4 property. Chairman Armenta was copied on the letter.

August 2012 – CEO’s office sends a letter providing comments for inclusion in the record of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee Oversight Hearing of August 2, 2012. Regarding the Cooperative Agreement, the CEO wrote “Given the parameters of the federal fee-to-trust process, it is premature to initiate an agreement prior to

submittal of a formal application from the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. This was stated to the tribal representative following receipt of the agreement. Furthermore, it is my belief, this proposal is lacking specific details on development plans for the 1,400 acres and the resulting impacts upon which both parties could thoughtfully consider or discuss appropriate mitigation.”

October 15, 2012 – Supervisor Farr sends letter to Congressman Young providing comments on the discussion at the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee Oversight Hearing on Indian Lands. Chairman Armenta was copied on the letter.

January 9, 2013 – Supervisor Farr meets with representatives of Tribe to learn about their housing scenarios for Camp 4 to be presented later at a community meeting.

January 21, 2013 – Supervisor Farr attended the community meeting hosted by the Tribe at the Hotel Corque to present their housing scenarios for Camp 4.

March 6, 2013 – Tribe sends letter to Supervisor Carbajal requesting to re-start a government-to-government dialogue about the fee-to-trust process.

March 27, 2013 – Tribal Resolution approved by the Chumash Business Council on a 4-0 vote and submits an application to the BIA for a Tribal Land Consolidation and Acquisition Plan (TCA) – County not notified by either Tribe or BIA.

June 17, 2013 – TCA approved by Amy Deutschk, Regional Director, at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region. County not notified by either Tribe or BIA.

June 2013 – Supervisor Farr assisted Tribe with setting up a meeting with County Counsel to discuss the Indian Child Welfare Act.

July 12, 2013 – BIA receives Chumash Tribe’s application for Fee-to-Trust for Camp 4 property. County not notified by Tribe or BIA.

July – August 2013 – Supervisor Farr assisted Sheriff’s department and Tribe on contract language for additional law enforcement staffing on reservation.

August 7, 2013- Tribe sends letter to Chair Carbajal to confirm 8/20/13 hearing and acknowledge that they have officially filed an administrative fee-to-trust application in addition to its legislative efforts.

August 8, 2013 – County receives request for non-renewal of Williamson Act contract on Camp 4 from Tribe.

Summer 2013 – “LexisNexis” article entitled “Reservation and Quantification of Indian Groundwater Rights in California” released which states that the article will “lay out arguments the Santa Ynez Chumash Band of Indians could use to secure a right to groundwater ...”.