

The Hon. Tony Strickland
State Assembly 37th District
221 Daily Drive Suite 7
Camarillo, CA 93010 Fax 484-0853

656 Douglas Ave .
Oxnard, CA 93030
April 22, 2001

Dear Mr. Strickland:

We need your help to convince the Secretary of the Interior, Gale A Norton, to not approve taking newly acquired land in Oxnard into trust for a small indian tribe from northern California to enable them to establish a huge casino and other projects in Oxnard together with Paragon Gaming a limited liability corporation in Las Vegas. If she should do this then we will need your help to convince Governor Davis to not approve a Tribal-State compact for any gambling group in Oxnard or neighboring communities. Paragon Gaming, a limited liability corporation in Las Vegas, Nev. is proposing to buy land in Oxnard for the Greenville Rancheria of Maidu Indians to build a 150,000 sq. ft. gambling casino with 2000 slot machines and 175 table games, a full-service 250 room hotel, many restaurants, lounges, showrooms, retail stores, etc. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors unanimously opposed the same proposal in early March in the Channel Islands Harbor, which is in the City of Oxnard, but under the control of the Supervisors. Now Paragon wants it close to our new high school that will open in the fall, across from a long established chapel, a junior high school, an elementary school, and a new large residential development.

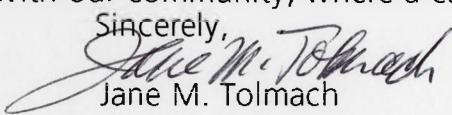
Several years ago a big gambling casino was proposed for the same area in Oxnard. Our very diverse community united in tremendous opposition to big time gambling in Oxnard and the project was denied. Everyone in Oxnard was opposed to it. Oxnarders do not want big time gambling. (See the enclosed newspaper clipping). This time the opposition is even greater to big time gambling. Last time the Ventura County Star editorially said "Go for it". This time they have opposed it in both locations. All the diverse religious organizations unite on this issue with plans for discussions at services about gambling among other activities. The neighborhoods, business and industrial groups, minority groups, all the community activists and those we have never seen or heard before are actively organizing and are outraged that the proposal is being brought to Oxnard.

People in Ventura County found it easy to support Indian Casinos in the election because there are no tribes with land here. We are an urban area with a very large low income population, not where a casino should be!

You know how crowded Highway 101 is in Ventura County with traffic bumper to bumper morning and evening. Fridays going north and Sundays south are impossible. The casino would be between Rice and Rose next to 101.

Please urge Secretary Norton to not Place this newly acquired land in Oxnard in trust for indians who have no relationship with our community, where a casino is opposed.

Sincerely,


Jane M. Tolmach

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