



YOLO COUNTY CHAPTER

California Grand Jurors' Association

email: cgjayolo@gmail.com

website: <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>

April 24, 2013

Yolo County Board of Supervisors
c/o Julie Dachtler, Deputy Clerk of the Board
625 Court Street, Room 204
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Board of Supervisors members,

I am writing to you as a Yolo County resident and President of the Yolo-CGJA, a chapter of the California Grand Jury Association, composed of Yolo County residents who are previous grand jury members. Our goals are to support the grand jury system and promote government accountability. One of our tasks is to follow up on prior grand jury recommendations.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors published responses to recommendations in the Yolo County Grand Jury report for the year 2009-10 indicating intent to take action. Although implementation might have occurred, the public at large and succeeding grand juries are not aware of it.

In its 2009-10 report, the Yolo County Grand Jury recommendation **10-01** was:

“Improve traffic enforcement and warning signage along SR 16 and casino feeder roads.”

Here is the response from the Board of Supervisors to recommendation **10-01**:

“The recommendations regarding feeder roads will be implemented.

The effects of casino traffic on County roads are a matter of ongoing review and analysis. Placement of signage is largely governed by state and federal guidelines and considered on a case-by-case basis by the Yolo County Department of Planning and Public Works. Traffic enforcement on County roads is performed by the Yolo County Sheriff's Department as conditions require and resources allow. *The County of Yolo will advocate for mitigation measures that address the impacts of proposed casino expansions on feeder roads in future negotiations.*” (italics added)

Recommendation **10-02** was:

“Continue to work with Caltrans and the YDWN to hasten plans for SR 16 relief between I-505 and Brooks, or identify alternate route(s) to alleviate traffic.”

Here is the response from Board to recommendation **10-02**:

“This recommendation is currently in the process of being implemented.

The County meets regularly with the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation) and Caltrans to discuss traffic-related impacts.”

Recommendation **10-06** was:

“The first priorities when mitigation funds become available again should be residents between I-505 and I-5 plus the City of Woodland, along with Valley communities that have not yet received attention.”

Here is the response from Board to recommendation **10-06**:

“This recommendation can be implemented to the extent it is consistent with the State compact

Section 10.8.1 of the amended State compact requires the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to prepare a Tribal Environmental Impact Report (TEIR) for a proposed casino project. The TEIR must clearly describe and identify all “direct and indirect significant effects on the off-reservation environment” of the proposed project and identify “feasible measures which could minimize significant adverse effects” The Board of Supervisors values all input related to distribution of mitigation funds and can consider the Grand Jury’s recommendation in future policy discussions. Per the 2002 intergovernmental agreement, the Board of Supervisors has the discretion to set policies and make final decisions on how current mitigation funds are allocated.”

Recommendation **10-07** was:

“When meetings resume, initiate taking minutes at Tribe-Council 2 x 2 meeting to ensure accountability and transparency.”

Here is the response from Board to recommendation **10-07**:

“While implementation of this recommendation requires negotiation with the sovereign entity, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, *the matter can be part of the future discussions.*
(italics added)

The County does publicly notice Tribe-County 2x2 and other 2x2 meetings. No formal actions are taken at these discussions, therefore minutes are not required. This is the case at all 2x2s..”

Supporting documentation is online at <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>, under the Specifics link.

Please provide us with a specific update on your responses to these grand jury recommendations.

We would appreciate your response by June 30, 2013. You can send your response electronically to: Barbara Sommer at [cgjayolo@gmail.com](mailto:cgayolo@gmail.com). Please note that we will share this letter and your response with the current 2012-13 Yolo County Grand Jury and the current presiding judge.

Sincerely,

Barbara Sommer
President, Yolo Chapter, CGJA
530.756.7553