

Latest Casino Update – August 2018 New Alarming Facts!

Summary/highlights below.

FULL supporting documents are attached.

1. Negative feedback from Kern County Planning Office regarding their response to the TEIR. Letter from County to City. City Staff kept the letter hidden from City Council, the press, and public.
2. Negative feedback from Kern County Sheriff's Office regarding their response to the TEIR based on research from THREE other counties that have casinos. City Staff kept the letter hidden from the City Council, the press, and the public.
3. Despite the fact that the Tribe has vehemently and publicly stated from the beginning that recreational marijuana sales were never their intent in Ridgecrest and yet Chief Gholson has changed his tune at recent Council meetings. In addition, Tribal recreational marijuana sales are now CONFIRMED in Death Valley. (Ridgecrest will, most likely be next – pot at front gates of our proud Navy base.)
4. Ridgecrest ministers are now strongly opposing the casino. 100% of all local denominations have strong statements (Nationally/Internationally) on the Internet strongly opposing gambling and all related activities. Now, many local ministers are voicing their opinions. (Letter from the ministers attached.)
5. For the second election in a row (2016 AND now 2018), pro-casino council members vote to keep the casino off of the November ballot for ALL to decide, denying the citizens a voice and a vote – AGAIN!
6. Developers/Tribe aggressively attempt to secure water rights via initiating a one-sided first amendment to the MSA allowing them unprecedented groundwater drilling rights when our water table is in critical over-draft by 30%.

1. Negative feedback from Kern County Planning Department regarding their response to the TEIR. Letter from County to City. City Staff kept the letter hidden from City Council, the press, and public. (Letter from Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP Director.)

It was just recently discovered that Kern County previously sent out an official response to the Tribal Environmental Impact Report (TEIR) to the City via a formal letter dated **January 30, 2018**. The letter includes significant **negative** feedback regarding the casino. The letter was also sent to numerous officials and other agencies. Upon receiving this letter, the staff should have immediately forwarded this to all City Council members as well as to the press as a matter of public transparency. The “hidden” letter is now attached for public review. Highlights are summarized below:

Highlights from Kern County Planning Department. Comments on TEIR.

January 30, 2018. Sent from Lorelei Oviatt, AICP Director, Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department County letter to the City of RC and numerous other agencies.

1. **“The water analysis fails to comply with full disclosure of impacts for the public, fails to provide facts to support conclusions and is**

inadequate under general direction given in all Compacts for preparation of a TEIR.”

2. “The County takes exception to the preparation of this TEIR without a completed Compact which would include the specific requirements for the TEIR. Without such guidance, the sufficiency and adequacy of the document is difficult to evaluate.”
3. “The draft TEIR provides a cursory overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and states “the sustainability agency for the area has not yet been finalized.” This statement is untrue.”
4. “Further, the environmental setting fails to convey the serious and critical overdraft conditions present in the basin for groundwater. Simply asserting that water will be provided by the IWV water district fails to comply with CEQA..... the project has the potential to impact off-reservation development basin-wide and has not been discussed or any mitigation proposed to reduce that impact.”

“The analysis of Fire Protection fails to distinguish the City of Ridgecrest....the assertion that the MOU with the City of Ridgecrest covers the requirements and potential impacts of service increases to the Kern County Fire Department is inaccurate...It is unclear what authority the County Fire Marshall has on the reservation site or what fire codes will be implemented for the hotel, conference center or any restaurants...”

5. “Further the analysis does not discuss the jail system....no provisions for funding has been identified or discussed.” (Note: The jail and related costs are addressed below via data provided by an attached memorandum from the Kern County Sheriff’s Office.)

2. Negative feedback from Kern County Sheriff’s Office regarding their response to the TEIR based on research from THREE other counties that have casinos. City Staff kept the letter hidden from the City Council, the press, and the public.

In addition, as part of the official county TEIR response, the Sheriff’s office also weighed in heavily and **negatively** via a memo dated January 30, 2018. This data was compiled from three other Sheriff offices, indicating that we would see a significant increase in DUI/Alcohol related crimes, sexual assaults, prostitution, robberies, vehicle burglaries, vandalisms, and trespassing. The “hidden” memo is now attached for public review.

Highlights from Kern County Sheriff’s Office Memorandum. Comments on TEIR Jan 17, 2018

Prepared by Lieutenant Michael DeLeon

- **Scope:** “The total build-out on the facility would be 87,000 to 102,000 sf. To put this into perspective, Bakersfield’s Rabobank Arena, Theatre, and Convention Center complex boasts approximately 70,000 sf of meeting and event space.... Thus, the casino would be larger than the Rabobank complex in Bakersfield...”
- **Negative research from THREE other Sheriff Offices with casinos in their counties.** “I spoke to representatives from Fresno County Sheriff’s Office, Tulare County Sheriff’s Office, and King County’s Sheriff’s Office

regarding the impact a casino like this would have on the Kern County Sheriff's Office Ridgecrest Substation. All three agencies have Tribal Casino's operating in their counties. I described the City of Ridgecrest, its population, the jurisdictional response, crime trends, KCSO patrol response, substation staffing, court and jail operations."

- **Significant problems.** All agencies stated:
 - a. Definite need for a functional 24-hour jail and intake facility nearby
 - b. Patrol staff would have to increase
 - c. Overall calls for service would significantly increase (Tulare alone stated they have 30- 40 additional casino calls per month with a minimum of 5 additional arrests)
 - d. King's county stated that we would see a significant increase in: DUI/Alcohol related crimes, sexual assaults, prostitution, robberies, vehicle burglaries, vandalisms, and trespassing.
Homicides have occurred in the parking lots of some of these establishments
- **Summary.** "The information I provided is just a snapshot of the impact the casino will have on the Ridgecrest Substation. Building an attraction of this size, with the increase in population, tourism and crime will require an increase in patrol, jail and court staffing...in total the Ridgecrest Substation will require \$950,059 annually to be minimally operational... The services provided by the Kern County Sheriff's Office...are the minimal necessities to accommodate the casino."

3. Tribal recreational marijuana sales are now **CONFIRMED** in Death Valley. (Ridgecrest will, most likely be next – pot at front gates of our base.)

Pot Shop in Death Valley. Several Ridgecrest citizens have now provided first-hand, on-site, information regarding the recreational pot-shop in Death Valley Junction – complete with armed guards, friendly sales clerks, and promises to "stay tuned" because "in the next six months they will be selling an extended line of marijuana edibles, etc." Please see the attached photos and pot sale menu.

Tribe has vehemently denied recreational marijuana sales from the beginning. But now, pot sales appear to be part of their Ridgecrest business plan according to Chief Gholson.

On Nov 7, 2017 at the first Tribal / City Committee meeting at the City Hall Conference Room B, Chief Gholson made a definitive statement that the Timbisha had no plan of moving beyond medical marijuana cultivation and sales OUTSIDE of Inyo County.

(Transcribed from video recording made by private Citizen.)

"George Gholson: " As far as our marijuana operation goes, it's not recreational on any level. We're part of a medical collective and that's how we operate. It was voted on by the Tribe and the Elders of the Tribe made it very clear that they did not want recreational ...It's not in our area. Once it's grown and harvested, it leaves our area and goes to a medical collective in a different county, LA, San Diego. It's not anywhere near here. So, the product that we grow doesn't come anywhere close to where our people have access to it, or anybody in Ridgecrest will have access to it. We were very careful about doing that."

And yet by April 22, 2018 they were full scale into recreational marijuana sales at the Death Valley Junction location just outside of the marijuana farm. (Copies of facility pictures, agreement forms for purchase, product list, and craigslist advertisement by the Tribe specifically for a marijuana plant agricultural bud tender are all attached).

Factually, four months is a very short time to navigate the State, Federal and local bureaucracies in order to start from ground zero and get the licenses/etc needed to sell recreational marijuana. It would be logical to assume that that this pursuit was already rolling when the Tribe claimed to the City Committee that medical sales were going to be the Tribe's **only** marijuana business.

4. Ridgecrest ministers are now strongly opposing the casino. 100% of all local denominations have strong statements (Nationally/Internationally) on the Internet strongly opposing gambling and all related activities. Now, many local ministers are voicing their opinions. (Letter from the pastors is attached.)

5. For the second election in a row (2016 AND now 2018), certain council members kept the casino off the November ballot for ALL to decide, denying the citizens a voice and a vote – AGAIN!

Councilwoman Lindsey Stephens spoke directly with the City Manager, Ron Strand, on the phone to request a special meeting to put the casino issue on the November ballot prior to the August 10 County deadline. The City Manager said he would check into it with City attorney. However, the same day, several hours later, he called back and stated that he had informally contacted three council members and there was absolutely no interest on the part of the Mayor (Peggy Breeden) or the Vice Mayor (Eddie Thomas) or the Mayor Pro Tem (Mike Mower) to hold a special meeting to discuss the ballot initiative. However, he did not even attempt to contact Councilman Martin. In the end, Councilwoman Stephens was told that one pro-casino councilman even stated that they “didn’t want to touch it with a 10-foot pole.”

6. Developers/Tribe aggressively secured water rights via initiating a one-sided amendment to the MSA allowing them unprecedented groundwater drilling rights when our water table is in critical over-draft by 30%.

Trickery – in two stages. In 2016 the tribe developed a one-sided MSA that purposefully provides vague language (“May” connect to city water and sewer). In 2018 they formally moved to their final stage, via this amendment, to actually secure drilling rights. In short, the MSA states only that the tribe “MAY” connect to city water and “MAY” connect to city sewer. This vague wording has now allowed the tribe, two years later, to go to the next step allowing them the option to drill wells and export water. This is happening nationwide. All language in the original MSA should have been changed to “MUST” connect to city water and sewer.

The Tribe initiated first amendment was completely one-sided, was created in a completely non-transparent manner without any input from the City Council, Tribal-City Advisory Committee, or the public. In addition, the special city gaming attorney, specifically retained to review matters such as this, was hardly consulted and the FULL council not even informed of this. This amendment was improperly routed around the Tribal-City Advisory committee which, according to the MSA, has jurisdiction over "proposals for the amendment

of this Agreement." If the Tribe and City can propose and negotiate amendments completely outside of open meetings of the Tribal-City Advisory Committee, what's to keep other similar amendments from being similarly proposed, discussed, and approved on one side without any public comment?

Second, the amendment purports to make the IWVGA a third-party beneficiary of the agreement, but in fact, it requires an agreement between the GA and the Tribe. Instead of conferring some benefit on the IWVGA, it attempts to create a duty of agreement. The IWVGA Board of Directors, not its attorney, should be allowed to review this agreement.

Third, the amendment provides insufficient protection to the City and leaves some deficiencies completely unaddressed.

Actual wording below is what was presented on the Council Meeting 8/15/2018

1. **Groundwater.** "The First Amendment subjects any use of groundwater from the Trust Lands to regulation by the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority ("GA"). **If the Tribe desires to pump groundwater**, it must first enter into an agreement with the GA to abide by all GA regulations and fees. That agreement must also waive the Tribe's sovereign immunity in favor of the GA. The provision was drafted by the GA's Legal Counsel."

Citizen Counter-Response – Direct attempt to steal water. Citizens beware! As described above, the Tribe has stated from day one they have NO INTEREST in water rights. They came here to build an entertainment "casino." We were also told emphatically that the Tribe had NO interest in water...now they do...NO interest in recreational pot...now they do...NO interest in NEPA.... now they have to conduct a NEPA because the DoI finally forced them into doing it. That's the casino mode of operation – trickery one step at a time.

WATER AND POT were NOT the original agreed upon businesses coming to town. This was NOT the "original intent" or "original commitment by Council." One council member has remarked that "we need to honor the original commitment of the Council." This is only partially true. It's important to remember that the original commitment of the Council when they barely passed the MSA by one vote, was to bring in a "**new Entertainment Venue and New Out of Town Visitor Business.**" Nowhere, was "**Water Rights" Or "Recreational Pot"** part of any plan. The casino website is still up. You will find nothing on these issues. So, to be perfectly clear, the vote on this amendment has NOTHING TO DO with honoring any initial commitments made by Council. This NEW amendment is a last minute massive, unwelcomed, unauthorized, over-reach to potential steal our water.

This first amendment to the MSA, if anything, must state that the tribe "MUST" connect to city water, not "MAY" connect as our current weak MSA states.

Trickery – Tribe, pretending to be "good neighbors" and pacify the public via offering to be regulated by the GA – knowing full well that their "sovereign nation status" can and will supersede any other agreements in the long run anyway. If the DOI ever take

the lands into trust (now doubtful), “Sovereign Nation” “Sovereign Lands” “Sovereign Immunity” would trump/over-rides/take full precedence over ANY AND ALL prior interim agreements, GA agreements, MSAs, amendments to MSAs, SGMA, CEQA and any other county, state or federal environmental protection authorities. **This is critical for the public to understand.** Tribal attorneys know this well. Read ALL the stories of tribal water theft nationwide. For example, aggressive tribal attorneys threatened the Montana legislature to give up all water rights or the attorneys would tie up the entire state’s economy for decades. Small farmers without high paid attorneys were defenseless. This is the way this works.

Neither this poorly drafted amendment, nor the tribe’s earlier TEIR, attempts to estimate casino water consumption nor does it address any effects or remedies regarding the Kern County Fire Department pertaining to water. The amendment is totally premature because we have no idea how much water the casino, hotel, convention center, restaurant, landscaping and irrigation is going to take? The TEIR does not address this and neither does the MSA. In addition, in the letter from the Kern County Planning Department dated January 20, 2018 regarding deficiencies in the TEIR, it clearly states the following:

“The analysis of Fire Protection fails to distinguish the City of Ridgecrest.... the assertion that the MOU with the City of Ridgecrest covers the requirements and potential impacts of service increases to the Kern County Fire Department is inaccurate...It is unclear what authority the County Fire Marshall has on the reservation site or what fire codes will be implemented for the hotel, conference center or any restaurants...”

Premature – we will not know water requirements until the full NEPA is conducted. In addition, we do not know how much water was allocated for the business park years ago? And, as always, all of this is premature because we DO NOT know exactly what requirements and data will be needed until the full NEPA review is conducted.

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Web Address: <http://pcd.kerndsa.com/>



**PLANNING AND NATURAL
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning
Community Development
Administrative Operations

January 30, 2018

Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
Attn: Draft TEIR Comments
P.O Box 1799
Bishop, California 93515
Email: teir@timbisha.com

File; TEIR Comments
Timbisha Shoshone Casino Project

RE: Kern County Comments - Draft Tribal EIR - Timbisha Shoshone Casino Project

Dear Timbisha Shoshone Tribe Representative,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Tribal Environmental Impact Report for the Timbisha Shoshone Casino Project in the incorporated City of Ridgecrest in eastern Kern County.

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has been designated by the Kern County Board of Supervisors as the CEQA expert for the county and coordinates comments from County agencies. The following comments are provided for the record.

GUIDANCE FOR TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

As noted at the January 11, 2018 public meeting, the Tribe has not completed the required Compact with the State of California. Those Compacts includes a section that describes the requirements for the tribal environmental impact report (TEIR), including the guidance for what such an EIR needs to include. Staff has reviewed the adopted Compacts and notes that all include the requirement that the tribal EIR analyze the potentially significant off-reservation environmental effects of the Project and proposed mitigation measures. Further the TEIR is to evaluate if the mitigation measures are sufficient to reduce the potential Significant Effects. Further the information shall also contain a statement indicating the reasons for determining that various effects of the Project on the off-reservation environment are significant and consequently have not been discussed in detail in the TEIR.

The County takes exception to the preparation of this TEIR without a completed Compact which would include the specific requirements for the TEIR. Without such guidance the sufficiency and adequacy of the document is difficult to evaluate. The California Gambling Control Commission Ratified Tribal -State Gaming Compacts (New and Amended) are hereby provided for the public record. <http://www.cgcc.ca.gov/?pageID=compacts>

WATER

The draft TEIR provides a cursory overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and states "The sustainability agency for the area has not yet been finalized." This statement is untrue.

The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority has been legally formed among the water and land use agencies in the Valley as required by law. The General voting members are the City of Ridgecrest, Kern County, San Bernardino County, Inyo County and the Indian Wells Valley Water District. Associate members include the United States Department of the interior- Bureau of Land Management and the United States Navy Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake. Native American Tribes were contacted during formulation and invited to participate but at the time of creation, no tribe had in trust land in the basin. Other portions of the TEIR reference the previous Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Group which has no legal authority over groundwater.

As required by general direction given in all Compacts, a full description of the authority which now has regulatory power over all groundwater extractions needs to be provided for full disclosure in the TEIR.

Further the environmental setting fails to convey the serious and critical overdraft conditions present in the basin for groundwater. Simply asserting that water will be provided by the Indian Wells Valley Water District fails to comply with CEQA as significant cut backs in water availability may and possibly will result from the Sustainability Plans required by California law. The Kern County Indian Wells Valley Land Management Plan and Final EIR is provided here and asked to be incorporated by reference. <http://pcd.kerndsa.com/planning/environmental-documents/390-indian-wells-valley-land-use-management-plan>. That Final EIR determined that the groundwater basin and any development in that basin, even after mitigation, is significant and unavoidable. The project has the potential to impact off-reservation development basin -wide and has not been discussed or any mitigation proposed to reduce that impact.

The draft TEIR provides a Project Water demand (Table 3.6-2) for the project. To determine the significance of that demand, the draft EIR compares it to the anticipated buildout of the property as a commercial site. The Draft TEIR then asserts that "The proposed project is anticipated to have a lower water demand compared to developing the entire property as a commercial complex, as designated by current zoning" and refers the reader to Appendix E - Water and Sewer Study. That study, however, provides no further information on the proposed projected alternative use of the project but only restates that " Based on the above, the proposed casino project is anticipated to have a lower water use than if the entire property were to develop as commercial as currently zoned. Therefore, the regional water supply planning is not changed as a result of the property project. "

This analysis fails to comply on two levels, 1) the property is currently vacate and uses no water, therefore the baseline is no water use. Comparing a proposed use to a fictional use to conclude the impact is less than significant does not provide substantial evidence as any fictional use

could be selected and 2), the assertion that a zoned piece of vacant property has rights to an unlimited amount of groundwater extraction from the Indian Wells Valley Water District is not supported by State law and current water law. Further there is no cumulative analysis of past, present and future projects for water use in the draft TEIR to support the conclusion (page 3.13-8) that water supply is less than significant.

The water analysis fails to comply with full disclosure of impacts for the public, fails to provide facts to support conclusions and is inadequate under general direction given in all Compacts for preparation of a TEIR.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The analysis of Fire Protection fails to distinguish the City of Ridgecrest, with a standing Police Department but no Fire Department from Kern County Services. Further the analysis does not discuss the Jail system which includes the current closure of the County Jail in Ridgecrest and increased use of the Mojave facilities. No provisions for funding has been identified or discussed in the analysis. A comprehensive discussion of impacts on Kern County Sheriff and the Jail are included in the memo attachment.

Kern County is solely responsible for Fire protection in both the incorporated City and the unincorporated County. The assertion that the MOU with the City of Ridgecrest covers the requirements and potential impacts of service increases to the Kern County Fire Department is inaccurate. The amounts of funding in the MOU are not tied to any calculations of anticipated impacts of the Kern County Fire Department and it is unclear how they were developed. No provisions have been made in the Fire contract between the County of Kern and the City of Ridgecrest for this project or any portion of this project. The MOU provides for compliance with Fire codes in the City ordinance which may or may not reflect the most current codes adopted by the State or the Kern County Board of Supervisors. There is no discussion and it is unclear to the reader what authority the Kern County Fire Marshall has on the reservation site or what fire codes will be implemented for the hotel, conference center or any restaurants. The City of Ridgecrest has no independent Fire Marshall or Building Department. No provisions for inspections or consultations with these Kern County departments or Public Health for restaurant or food vendor inspections have been made. Further there is no discussion in the document of how those services will be provided.

Off-reservation impacts could include, but are not limited to, inadequate fire code inspections that threaten the base or adjacent properties, illness and spread of disease into the community from inadequate health code implementation by private inspectors, on-reservation traffic accidents that require County Fire response or hazard materials response. The draft TEIR fails to include the off-reservation impacts on Kern County public services and must be comprehensively updated for further review and is inadequate under general direction given in all Compacts for preparation of a TEIR.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

The Draft TEIR contains the following statement on Page 1-5 "The anticipated Compact will require the Tribe to commence negotiations with the City and **County** (emphasis added) regarding an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) no later than the issuance of the Final TEIR. The IGA must specifically address the mitigation of potentially significant impacts attributable to the Proposed Project on the off-reservation environment as identified in the Final TEIR. If the Tribe, City and **County** (emphasis added) have not agreed on the terms and conditions of the IGA within 75 days after issuance of the Final EIR, the Tribe, City **or County** (emphasis added) may demand the terms and conditions of the IGA be determined by arbitration."

No staff of Kern County have been contacted, to date, to discuss this required intergovernmental agreement and the Board of Supervisors have given no direction to staff that such negotiations should begin. This comment letter details the inadequate analysis in the Draft TEIR and provides our initial comments on the analysis required to discuss off-reservation impacts.

NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION

Please provide the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department with all informational notices, documents and notices required under CEQA.

The mailing address is Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 M Street, Ste. 100, Bakersfield, California 93301.

Questions about beginning a discussion on any potential Intergovernmental Agreement should be directed to Ryan Alsop, Kern County Administrative Officer at alsopr@kerncounty.com or 661- 868-3198. Mr. Alsop will coordinate discussions with all affected county departments and the Sheriff and seek direction from the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the process. I am available to discuss any questions regarding this comment letter at Loreleio@kerncounty.com or 661-862-8866. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lorelei H Oviatt in cursive, followed by the typed name and initials "LORELEI H OVIATT, AICP, Director".

LORELEI H OVIATT, AICP, Director
Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department

Attachment

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors
CAO
County Counsel
Kern County Public Health

January 30, 2018

Page 5

Kem County Sheriff
Kem County Fire Department
City of Ridgecrest
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
Congressman Kevin McCarthy
California Governor Brown
California Gambling Control Commission
Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake
California Department of Justice



Kern County
SHERIFF
Interoffice Memorandum

To: Commander Morrison
From: Lieutenant Michael Deleon
Date: January 17, 2018
Re: Timbisha Shoshone Casino Impact

Sir,

I have reviewed the "Draft Tribal Environmental Impact Report for the Timbisha Shoshone Casino Project" as well as all attached documents and schematics. The 26.5 acre project site is located on vacant land at 1404 North China Lake Boulevard within the City of Ridgecrest. China Lake Naval Weapons Base is located immediately northeast of the projectsite.

The Proposed Project consists of two phases, and would total approximately 35,000 to 50,000 square feet (sf) of building space plus a 52,000 sf convention center and 100-room hotel at full buildout.

Phase 1 includes the construction of a casino, players club, retail shop, coffee shop and buffet, bar and lounge, meeting space, back of house space, and parking, totaling approximately 25,000 to 30,000 sf.

Phase 2 would include a casino expansion and restaurant, totaling approximately 10,000 to 20,000 sf, plus an additional 52,000 sf convention center and 100-room hotel with a swimming pool and outdoor deck area.

The Tribe has entered into a Municipal Services Agreement (MSA) with the City of Ridgecrest (City) to address potential off-Reservation impacts from the development of the Proposed Project. The MSA identifies measures to mitigate the impacts of the removal of trust land from property tax rolls, and mitigates costs the City may incur to provide public services and facilities for the Proposed Project.

The MSA specifies payments to the City of Ridgecrest from the Tribe as mitigation for potential impacts of the Proposed Project on public services. Public services include fire protection, emergency medical services, law enforcement, and schools.

The MSA indicates it will provide a one time payment of \$80,000 to the City of Ridgecrest for a new patrol vehicle. Additionally, there will be an annual fee of \$128,000 paid to the City of Ridgecrest for additional critical municipal services. This amount will be increased to \$260,000 per year, paid in quarterly installments, upon the potential completion of the construction of a hotel and/or arena. This amount will increase to \$388,000 paid per year in quarterly installments, upon the potential completion of the construction of an entertainment complex.

The final casino building space would be between 35,000 to 50,000 square feet (sf) plus an additional 52,000 sf for the convention center. This does not include the 100-room hotel. The total build-out on the facility would be 87,000 to 102,000 sf. To put this in perspective, Bakersfield's Rabobank Arena, Theater and Convention Center

complex boasts approximately 70,000 sf of meeting and event space and 13 breakout rooms. Thus, the casino would be larger than the Rabobank complex in Bakersfield.

I spoke to representatives from Fresno County Sheriff's Office, Tulare County Sheriff's Office and Kings County Sheriff's Office regarding the impact a casino like this would have on the Kern County Sheriff's Office Ridgecrest Substation. All three agencies have Tribal Casino's operating in their counties.

I described the City of Ridgecrest, its population, the jurisdictional response, crime trends, KCSO patrol response, substation staffing, court and jail operations.

The thing I heard across the board from all the agencies I queried was there needs to be a functional 24-hour jail and intake facility nearby. I explained the closest booking facility was the Mojave jail, which is approximately an hour away. I also explained, in some circumstances, it could be 2 hours away to book at the Central Receiving Facility {CRF} in Bakersfield. This could take patrol officers out of service for 3-5 hours (1-2 hour drive each way plus 45-60 min for booking).

The second thing I was told was we would need to increase our patrol staffing to accommodate the increase in population to the overall area. Although the casino will be located in the City of Ridgecrest's jurisdiction, there will be an increase in population and crime to the adjacent unincorporated areas of the county. This will also be the case while the casino is being built.

The other thing I was advised was although our calls for service may increase only slightly as AOD's (Assist Other Department) for Ridgecrest Police Department (RPD) at the actual casino, our overall calls for service in Ridgecrest will significantly increase as a direct result of the casino.

According to a Tulare County Sheriff's Office patrol lieutenant, they have approximately 30-40 calls for service per month at Eagle Mountain Casino, with a minimum 5 arrests per week for various types of crimes.

I was told by a representative with Kings County, that we would see a significant increase in the following types of crimes:

- DUI/Alcohol/Drug Related Crimes
- Sexual Assaults
- Prostitution
- Robberies
- Vehicle Burglaries
- Vandalisms
- Trespassing

Of course, this list is not all-inclusive and there have been instances of homicides taking place in the parking lot areas of some of these establishments.

The information I provided is just a snapshot of the impact the casino will have on the Ridgecrest Substation. Building an attraction of this size, with the increase in population, tourism and crime will require a dramatic increase in patrol, jail and court staffing.

The immediate impact the casino will have on the Kern County Sheriff's Office Ridgecrest Substation will be profound. At minimum it will require an increase in patrol and court staffing (bailiff) and the opening of the Ridgecrest Jail.

One (1) Deputy Sheriff II C-A added to the number of authorized personnel allocated for patrol will have an annual cost of \$165,819.49 between salary and benefits. This will be a necessity because of the increase in calls for service as indicated by Tulare County Sheriffs Office representative. A Tulare County Sheriffs Office representative advised we will be looking at an increase of 30-40 calls per week. In addition, there will be an increase in court cases due to the 5 additional arrests made per week from the casino alone. This does not include the increase in arrests due to tourism in the unincorporated areas within Ridgecrest. As a result, the addition of one Deputy Sheriff II C-A is a necessity.

To open the Ridgecrest Jail it will minimally require one (1) Senior Detention Deputy with an annual cost of \$137,514.75 between salary and benefits. Additionally, four {4} Detention Deputy Sheriffs will be required to staff the jail on a 24-hour basis. Each Detention Deputy Sheriffs will cost \$124,502.92 between salaries and benefits. The four (4) Detention Deputies will cost \$498,011.68 intotal on an annual basis.

An annual overtime budget in the amount of \$80,134.59 will also need to be available.

An additional \$56,395.00 will need to be allocated for one (1) patrol vehicle along with \$8,384.00 in equipment costs, for a total of \$64,779.00.

The annual cost for inmate food will be \$3,800.00.

In total the Ridgecrest Substation will require \$950,059.51 annually to be minimally operational.

The services provided by the Kern County Sheriffs Office that are outlined in this document are the minimal necessities to accommodate the casino. These are merely the preliminary findings and other costs may be identified as the Tribe begins discussions with the County. Thank you.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PURCHASE

CODE OF CONDUCT:

PLEASE CHECK EACH BOX AFTER READING THE SECTION.

VIOLATION OF THESE CODES OF CONDUCT WILL RESULT IN A TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT SUSPENSION OF SERVICES.

NO RESELLING. We provide cannabis for you only. Any reselling of your cannabis is forbidden. If you are caught reselling any products purchase you will be permanently banned from receiving services.

BE POLITE . We are doing our best to provide a service to our clients. Please treat the staff and other customers/ members with politeness **and** respect.

BE RESPONSIBLE. Please use your cannabis in a respectful **and** responsible way. Do not drive or operate heavy machinery if you are impaired by cannabis.

KEEP US INFORMED. Please let us know about any quality issues you have with our products. Good or bad, please let us know what works and what doesn't work.

DO NOT TRANSPORT ANY CANNABIS OUT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

CAUTIONS:

IMPAIRMENT: Cannabis may potentially cause a temporary decrease in coordination and cognitive abilities, and short-term memory loss while medicated. Do not drive or operate heavy machinery if impaired by cannabis products. Be especially careful of impairment when eating cannabis products or using extracts. Do not eat cannabis products before swimming or driving.

ALCOHOL: Cannabis mixed with alcohol may cause vomiting **and** nausea. We recommend limiting or stopping your intake of alcohol when using cannabis products.

IRRITATION: Heavy smoking with no harm reduction techniques may lead to respiratory irritation.

BWOD PRESSURE: Initial increase in heart rate and/or blood pressure may be problematic for those with heart conditions or severe anxiety. Those receiving digitalis or other cardiac medications should use cannabis under careful supervision by a medical doctor.

WITHORAWAL: There are no significant withdrawal effects when cannabis use is ceased or decreased. however minor restlessness, nausea, and fatigue may be experienced. Symptom relief will also cease or be decreased.

THE LAW: It is still illegal to cross state lines with cannabis. Know your rights and take precautions to avoid the harmful effects of arrest, cannabis seizure, imprisonment and criminal record.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I attest that I am at least TWENTY-ONE (21) years of age, and fully competent to sign this acknowledgement. I accept that the DYJ Fine Cannabis, and Timbisha Community Development Authority (TCDA) makes no guarantees or medical claims, and I hereby agree for myself, my heirs and executors to waive any claims against the TCDA and its employees.

I have read this form and agree to abide by the code of conduct and cautions listed above.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

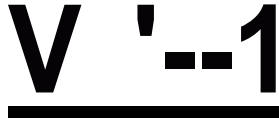
Date: _____

Drivers License/ ID number: _____

4/24/2018



FINE



CANNABIS

Top Shelf Eighths

Purple Animal Kush	\$50
Mendo Breath	\$50
Nitro Cookies	\$50
Gorilla Glue #4	\$50
Ghost OG X Greatful Breath	\$50
Blue Zkittles	\$50
Cookies	\$50

Bargain Eighths

Ghost OG X Greatful Breath	\$30
Mendo Breath	\$30

Pre Roll's

Do-Si-Do	\$12
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Cartridges

Gelato	\$40
Blue Zkittles	\$40
Gorilla Glue #4	\$40

••All taxes are included in price listed



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We are accepting applications for a position on the Enrollment committee

Please click [here](#) to view the complete announcement.

There are currently two vacancies on the TSCC

To **view** the flyer please click [here](#)

There are several job openings at the

Death Valley Junction Cultivation Facility.

Please click [here](#) for available job opportunities.

To view complete detail for the Trimmer click [here](#)

To view complete details for Maintenance Tech please click [here](#)

Budtender / Cashier (Death Valley Junction)

compensation: **\$12.00 / hr to \$15.00 / hr** :

employment type: **full-time** .

QR Code Link to This Post



General Duties:

The TIMBISHA SHOSHONE TRIBE of Death Valley California is looking for Budtenders/ Cashiers with great work ethic, strong communication skills, and cash handling/retail experience to join our team! The customer experience begins and ends with the Budtender. The Budtender will be responsible for the initial greeting, assessing the needs of the customer, and educating/guiding them on the benefits, and differences of our products. A successful Budtender will be able to elevate company standards, achieve sales goals, provide excellent product suggestions, and exceed expectations. The Budtender will ultimately inspire customer, and patient confidence, and loyalty.

****CANNABIS KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE PREFERRED****

Responsibilities include:

- Excellent Communication
- Cash Handling Experience
- Organizational Skills
- Attention to Detail
- Multi-task Oriented
- Stress Management/Composure
- Ability to Stand for Long Periods
- Able to lift to 40 pounds repeatedly
- Have a valid State or Federal issued identification
- Reliable Transportation

Experience: and Education:

- Must be 21 or Older
- High School Diploma, or GED Required
- Knowledge of Marijuana, Strains, Edibles, Extracts, and Other Current Products on the Market
- Cashier or Money Handling Skills
- Must Submit and be able to pass a Criminal Background Check as required by TIMBISHA Cannabis Control Ordinance in order to obtain a Cannabis Employee License.

Other Requirements:

- Comply with the Drug, Alcohol and Contraband-Free Policy and Pre-Employment Selection Policy.
- The individual must have the, ability to work with people from diverse cultures, ethnic, and socio-economic backgrounds, and possess a basic knowledge of Native American communities and always maintain cultural sensitivities.
- Ability to respect and adhere to the most rigid, and strict rules of employer/tribal citizen/public citizen practice of confidentiality.

Indian Preference: Native American Indian preference shall "apply pursuant to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe Tribal Operations Manual "and other relevant laws.

Dear Members of the Ridgecrest City Council,

Out of concern for the residents of our community whom we love, we as Christian pastors and ministers in the Indian Wells Valley encourage the Ridgecrest City Council to oppose the Timbisha Shoshone casino that is planned for Ridgecrest. Our disagreement with the casino proposal has nothing to do with the people of the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe. We wish the dear Timbisha Shoshone people every blessing from God. We are not speaking out on this issue because we want to judge anyone, or because we want Ridgecrest to become a theocracy, or because we don't want Ridgecrest to grow. We are speaking out because we believe the casino is **bad news** for the community. Our shared conviction is based on the following two main reasons:

1. **Casino gambling undermines good morals.** For example, it violates the principle of neighbor-love, necessitating the financial loss and harm of many for the gain of a few (Deuteronomy 22:1-4; Matthew 22:39); it violates the principle of work, looking to gain something for nothing, hoping for easy money rather than pursuing responsible industry, investment, and labor (Exodus 20:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12); it violates the principle of contentment, enticing individuals to greed and covetousness in the hope that in winning, others will lose financially (Exodus 20:17; 1 Timothy 6:9-10); it violates the principle of the civil magistrate, causing governments to prey on their own citizens through government-endorsed gambling rather than protecting them and seeking their good (Proverbs 8:15-16; Romans 13:4); it violates the principle of stewardship, encouraging reckless and careless speculation with resources entrusted by the Lord while disregarding the same Lord who provides for all human needs (Matthew 6:19-34; 1 Timothy 6:17-18); and, it violates the principle of freedom, inciting destructive desires and enslaving many to habits that lead to financial ruin and broken relationships (Galatians 5:13-21).
2. **Casino gambling produces harmful moral, economic, and social consequences.** Casinos promote problem gambling which hurts senior citizens and families. Communities with casinos typically experience an increase in crime including prostitution, substance abuse, driving while under the influence of alcohol, auto thefts, home robberies, mail theft, loan sharking, and street crime. This expected increase in crime is why the Tribe has promised to buy the Ridgecrest Police Department a new police car and Kern County is expected to re-open the county jail in Ridgecrest. Furthermore, casinos typically extract wealth from communities, weaken nearby businesses and hurt property values in host communities.

Our pastoral experience confirms that the proposed casino would be bad news for the community. We know some of the faces and families who are behind the gambling statistics. We know from first-hand experience the pain of the financial, marital, familial, legal and spiritual harm that gambling causes. We are persuaded that the proposed casino would be bad news for the Indian Wells Valley.

But, as Christian ministers, we are not about bad news. We love to share the **Good News** proclaimed in the Bible that *"God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). We're so thankful that rather than gambling with the future of our community and the eternal welfare of our souls, we can rest in the goodness of God who has blessed us with *"the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus"* (Ephesians 2:7).

Whatever you decide on this issue, we appreciate your service to the citizens of Ridgecrest and we will continue to pray for you. We will also continue serving our community by presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ that sets us free from the harmful consequences of sin.

With respect,

Pastors and Ministers of Ridgecrest

(Note: List of names, churches, and signatures are attached)