

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

Agenda Date: October 5, 2009

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Opposing Urban Casinos

REPORT BY: Jacqueline L. Bucholz, CMC, City Clerk
Beth Pollard, City Administrator

COUNCIL MEMBER LIEBER RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 09-40 – A Resolution of the Albany City Council Opposing Urban Casinos.

BACKGROUND

Council Member Lieber requested that this item be put on the Council agenda and that the Council goes on record as opposing urban casinos.

DISCUSSION

There is already one casino in the densely populated urban areas of western Contra Costa, with two others seeking to operate casinos, all within 8 miles of each other. Council Member Lieber would like the Council to oppose the development or expansion of any further gaming casinos, as well as the establishment of reservations on which there could be gaming operations.

Attached is a synopsis of a report released by former Attorney General Bill Lockyer that documents negative effects of urban gaming. In summary, the report identifies negative effects including regional economic losses, crime, traffic, and physical and mental health issues. Also attached are two versions of a resolution for Council consideration.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

The Resolution addresses issues regarding the environmental quality, the negative impact to low-income and vulnerable individuals and the increase in traffic to local communities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The City could see an increase in crime, which would cost the City by utilizing its Police Department. The increase in traffic would also impact local streets, which would increase costs to the maintenance of the City's infrastructure.

Attachments

Draft Resolution 09-40 (2 versions)

Synopsis of report on negative effects of Urban Indian Gaming