RESOLUTION NO. 05-6

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL DECLARING OPPOSITION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LAS VEGAS STYLE CASINO AT CASINO SAN PABLO.

WHEREAS, Casino San Pablo is proposed to be one of the first urban casinos in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Lytton Band of Pomo Indians have signed a gambling compact with the Governor of the State of California to build a 2,500 slot machine Las Vegas style casino with "house" banked card games and a multi-story gambling complex; and

WHEREAS, the gambling compact can be renegotiated in 2008 to raise the number of slot machines to the originally proposed 5,000 slot machines; and

WHEREAS, the location of the proposed casino at Casino San Pablo is located in the center of a built out urban area in the East Bay; and

WHEREAS, the location of the proposed Casino at San Pablo is less than one-half mile from the heavily burdened and congested Interstate I-80 freeway; and

WHEREAS, the location of the proposed casino at Casino San Pablo is adjacent to and would adversely impact Doctors Hospital that provides vital emergency services to the residents of Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have demonstrated that legalized gambling and casinos have substantial negative impacts on surrounding communities, including but not limited to, parking and traffic and increases in crime, personal bankruptcy, blight from surrounding closing businesses, proliferation of pawn shops, homelessness, domestic violence, child abuse and fraud;

WHEREAS, there are currently five proposed casinos in the East Bay, of which Casino San Pablo is proposed to be the largest; and

WHEREAS, none of the five proposed casinos in the East Bay has been thoroughly analyzed for economic, social or public safety impacts individually and collectively; and

WHEREAS, there has not been a comprehensive regional analysis of the transformation the East Bay would experience at the entrance and expansion of urban gambling; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have expressed their desire to curtail the expansion of casinos and gambling in the State of California by overwhelmingly rejecting two statewide initiatives to expand Las Vegas style gambling to non-tribal lands and opposing an initiative to permit unlimited slot machines on tribal lands;

WHEREAS, the passage of Proposition 1A in 2000 by the people of the State of California never contemplated the expansion of casinos into urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the State of California nor local municipalities ought not to rely on gambling revenues to achieve fiscal solvency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Albany City Council that the proposed casino at Casino San Pablo presents substantial social and economic impacts on the interconnected communities of the East Bay Area, and the establishment of an urban casino was not intended by the passage of Proposition 1A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Albany City Council opposes the proposed casino by the Lyyton Band of Pomo Indians at Casino San Pablo.

ROBERT GOOD MAYOR