

**Response by Jamul Indian Village Chairwoman Erica M. Pinto
To False Attacks By Supervisor Dianne Jacob on Highway 94 Traffic Accidents**

As the longest residents of East County San Diego, the Jamul Indian Village is deeply concerned about the safety of our neighbors and our visitors to the Hollywood Casino Jamul-San Diego. We have been clear in our commitment since day one. We have committed over \$120 million to focus on public safety, law enforcement, transportation and fire fighting for the area. We are proud to have delivered two brand new state of the art fire trucks which are in service to east county and the road improvements along Highway 94 which have begun.

However, any accusations by Supervisor Dianne Jacob linking an increase in traffic and DUI accidents on Highway 94 to the Hollywood Casino Jamul-San Diego are completely unfounded and not based on any hard facts.

We should all be clear about a few things that were not pointed out in her comments:

- According to the reports, the California Highway Patrol has not linked any increase in DUI collisions to the Hollywood Casino Jamul-San Diego.
- The Supervisor's statistics cover an 11 mile stretch of road. In comparison, the Hollywood Casino Jamul-San Diego is approximately 20 miles in distance away from Downtown San Diego. To blame the Hollywood Casino for accidents on a stretch of road that vast is preposterous. There is no discussion about the new wineries and other businesses that serve alcohol in east county.
- You can clearly see in the CHP reports, the increase in alcohol related traffic incidents (both accidents and arrests) began several years before the casino was constructed. The Hollywood Casino did not open its doors for operations until October 2016, but the reports show a spike began in 2014 and 2015 following a low point in 2013. Our casino cannot be to blame for this trend.
- No one talks about or considers the tremendous population growth San Diego has recently experienced. Between 2010 and 2016, it is estimated that San Diego County grew by more than 220,000 residents (U.S. Census Bureau). By only looking at raw numbers out of context, she fails to recognize the greater demands that have been put on our East County roads and the greater number of potential drivers to have infractions on those roads.
- It is clear, whether you like the casino or not, the consensus is that the roads need to be improved. We have committed the funds to make it happen.

These unfounded accusations are yet another attempt by a few radical opponents of the Jamul Indian Village to tarnish the character and reputation of our Tribe. For years, these individuals have filed numerous frivolous lawsuits and unsubstantiated allegations against the Jamul Indian Village with the goal of stopping our efforts to improve the community. Now, they are using these political stunts and half-truths in an attempt to influence our application before the ABC.

Supervisor Jacob has it in her power to stop the finger pointing and to make our roads safer. The Jamul Indian Village committed \$23 million for road and transportation improvements in the area when we began construction of the casino and we are committed to make them all happen. There are more than a dozen intersections that are currently scheduled to be improved, but Caltrans has been delayed because it does not have land use authority.

We sincerely hope that all parties can come to the table to make our community safer. We strongly believe that when we all work together, everyone benefits. We call upon our County Supervisor, Dianne Jacob to step up and help Caltrans make the improvements we have committed to making to keep our east county roads safe.

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The Jamul Indian Village (JIV) is one of 13 bands of the Kumeyaay Nation, tracing its roots in Southern California back 12,000 years. Federally recognized as a sovereign nation in 1981, the Jamul Indian Village strives to protect and preserve the heritage and cultural traditions of the Kumeyaay people and to promote the self-reliance of the Tribe through education, housing, health care and employment opportunities. Jamul Indian Village maintains a longstanding commitment to the San Diego community and to improving the quality of life of the Tribe and its neighbors. For more information about JIV, please visit www.jamulindianvillage.com.