

OUR COMMUNITY MATTERS  
PO Box 1421  
Windsor, CA. 95492  
[ourcommunitymatters2@gmail.com](mailto:ourcommunitymatters2@gmail.com)

February 22, 2024

Amy Dutschke  
Regional Director  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region  
2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

Subject: Koi Nation Shiloh Resort and Casino Project

Dear Ms. Dutschke:

On February 9, 2024, we sent a letter to you clarifying the position of the Sonoma County Fire District with reference to their posture on the Koi Nation Shiloh and Casino Project. (attached). The Fire District had been named as a supporter of the Casino Resort in an earlier newspaper article in the Press Democrat. Following the February 9th letter I spoke with a mutual friend of former Santa Rosa Police Chief and city council member Tom Schwedhelm, who was also listed as a supporter of the Koi Project in the article. He advised me that Mr. Schwedhelm was “surprised” to see his name listed as a supporter. We thereafter contacted Mr. Schwedhelm and spoke with him concerning the article and the Koi project.

Tom Schwedhelm and another Santa Rosa City Council member met with the Beltran brothers at the request of a political adviser while he was still serving on the Santa Rosa City Council. The meeting included a presentation of the proposed Koi Resort and Casino Project. Mr. Schwedhelm was the Santa Rosa Police Chief during the construction and opening of the Graton Rancheria in Rohnert Park in 2013. From his experiences he discussed the importance of community outreach and establishment of such items as Crime Mitigation Funds and other projects to alleviate the impact of a Casino Resort. As with the Sonoma County Fire District sending a Letter of Intent to address concerns of the community, discussion with Tom Schwedhelm were along the same lines. He encouraged the Koi to reach out to locals and address concerns; something that has not been done. When we spoke with Tom he advised us that he is not a supporter of the Shiloh Resort and Casino and did not authorize use of his name as a supporter of the Shiloh Resort Casino.

We find this misinformation damaging as it attempts to reflect support for the project that doesn't exist.

Thank you,

Our Community Matters