



CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PERSON, TELEPHONICALLY AND ELECTRONICALLY AT THE FOLLOWING:

**CITY OF COMPTON
CITY HALL
205 S. WILLOWBROOK AVENUE
COMPTON, CA 90220**

TELECONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER: (669) 900-6833, 6476620089#

ELECTRONICALLY AT ZOOM MEETING ID: 647 662 0089

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

10:00 A.M.

A G E N D A

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Board Members: Francis De Leon Sanchez, Treasurer - *Bell Gardens*
Hugo Argumedo, Member – *Commerce*
Emma Sharif, *Vice Chair* – *Compton*
Martin Fuentes, Secretary – *Cudahy*
Victor Farfan, Chair – *Hawaiian Gardens*

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is now open. The members of the audience now have the right to speak on agenda items and any item under the jurisdiction of the Authority. This period will be limited to thirty minutes, with no more than three minutes for each speaker. Anyone desiring to speak during the public comment period must submit an email request juan@sixheron.com, or to the Authority Secretary via Zoom prior to the close of public participation. Due to policy and Brown Act requirements, action will not be taken on any issues not on the Agenda.

Please state your name and address clearly.

4. NEW BUSINESS – OPEN SESSION

4-1. Consideration and possible action to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board.

4-2. Consideration and possible action to receive and file Financial Summary and Warrant Register dated February 21, 2024.

4-3. Status update & report from California Advocacy, LLC with respect to legislative & regulatory matters.

4-4. Consideration and possible action on legislative & regulatory matters.

4-5. Consideration and possible action regarding Selection of an Alternative Meeting Date for the June 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board.

4-6. Consideration and possible action regarding Regular Meeting Dates & Times of the Board.

4-7. Consideration and possible action on HR 6859: Gabrielino/Tongva Nation Recognition Act of 2023 (*Kamlager-Dove – Rep-D-CA-37*).

5. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

5-1. General Counsel's Report

Pursuant to Government Code § 54954.2 (a)(3) – A report to the Board of Directors and the public on General Counsel's activities, including compliance efforts, approval of contracts as to form, receipt of notices, and requests to place matters on subsequent agendas (excluding any matters qualifying for closed session consideration).

5-2. Executive Director's Report

6. NEW BUSINESS - CLOSED SESSION

6-1. None

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

This is the time and place for the Chairman and Board Members to report on any other items of interest. Upon request by an individual Board Member, the Authority may choose to take action on any of the subject matters listed below.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez (Bell Gardens)

Member Argumedo (Commerce)

Vice Chair Sharif (Compton)

Secretary Fuentes (Cudahy)

Chair Farfan (Hawaiian Gardens)

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.



**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**

**CITY OF CUDAHY
COUNCIL CHAMBERS / BEDWELL HALL
5240 SANTA ANA STREET
CUDAHY, CA 90201**

TELECONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER: (669) 900-6833, 6476620089#

ELECTRONICALLY AT ZOOM MEETING ID: 647 662 0089

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024

10:11 AM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Farfan called the meeting to order at 10:11 am and Secretary Fuentes performed a roll call. Quorum was established under the following participation:

- Victor Farfan, *Chair – Hawaiian Gardens*
- Emma Sharif, *Vice Chair – Compton* **(ABSENT)**
- Martin Fuentes, *Secretary – Cudahy*
- Francis De Leon Sanchez, *Treasurer – Bell Gardens*
- Hugo Argumedo, *Member – Commerce*

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Argumedo moved and Treasurer De Leon Sanchez seconded to approve the agenda as posted and presented.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes

Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests were received by any members of the public to provide comments as allowed by law and under agenda item #3.

The following individuals were present during the meeting of the board: Marvin Pineda, Daniel Sanchez, Stephanie Arechiga, Juan Garza

4. NEW BUSINESS – OPEN SESSION

4-1. Consideration and possible action to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez moved and Member Argumedo seconded to approve the Minutes.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

4-2. Consideration and possible action to receive and file Financial Summary and Warrant Register dated January 17, 2024.

Secretary Fuentes moved and Treasurer De Leon Sanchez seconded to receive and file the Financial Summary and Warrant Register.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

4-3. Status update & report from California Advocacy, LLC with respect to legislative matters.

Mr, Daniel Sanchez of California Advocacy reported that the Bureau of Gambling Control's processes on their proposed Concept Regulations on Blackjack & Rotation Impacts continues.

He also reported SB 549 (Newman) was referred by the Assembly Rules Committee to the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee, with a hearing not yet scheduled for its consideration in that committee. Member Argumedo reported on his experience participating in an anti-SB 549 rally held by the cardroom industry in Sacramento on January 9.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez moved and Secretary Fuentes seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

4-4. Consideration & possible action on legislative & regulatory matters.

No action.

4-5. Consideration & possible action regarding Employment Agreement for Executive Director Services between the Authority and Juan Garza.

After completion of an employment review of Mr. Garza in closed session and as reported out during the December 20, 2023 meeting of the Board, the board provided direction on continuing the services of Mr. Garza as Executive Director of the Authority and for an employment agreement to be considered at the meeting of the Board on Wednesday January 17, 2024.

Following up, an 18-month agreement with Mr. Garza commencing on July 1, 2023 and continuing through December 31, 2024 with board options for up to two (2) one-year extensions was considered by the Board. Additionally, the proposed agreement included a base salary of \$6,744 to be paid monthly, an increase from the prior base salary of \$5,000 paid monthly. The salary increase is already

included in the prior-adopted FY2023-2024 budget of the Authority and will not required adjustments to the budget.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez moved and Secretary Fuentes seconded to approve the employment agreement.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

4-6. Consideration & possible action on an Ad Hoc Committee of the Board on Advocacy Matters Related to SB 549 (Newman).

At Chair Farfan’s request, the Board considered and approved the establishment of a temporary Ad Hoc committee nimble enough to address any challenges potentially posed to the Authority and its member cities by the legislature’s ongoing consideration of SB 549 (Newman).

After discussion, the Board selected Chair Farfan and Member Argumedo to serve as members of the Ad Hoc Committee. Activation of the Ad Hoc Committee and its meeting dates will be as needed, recommended or requested; the body will be reportable to the Board in its activities; and actions will include but not limited to identification of local organizations of interest, their engagement, and provision of facts and materials to stakeholders; amongst others.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez moved and Secretary Fuentes seconded to accept staff’s recommendations.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

5. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

5-1. Report of General Counsel

No action.

5-2. Executive Director Report/Summary

Executive Director Garza reported on:

- 1) Anti-SB 549 (Newman) opposition rally and press conference that took place on January 9, 2024 in Sacramento during which Vice Chair Sharif & Member Argumedo participated.
- 2) Anti-SB 549 (Newman) Authority engagements with members of the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.
- 3) Fall 2024 JPA Conference – ongoing negotiations & talks, especially related to event costs with a request by cardrooms for Authority and/or member cities funding contributions towards the proposed event.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez moved and Secretary Fuentes seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

6. NEW BUSINESS - CLOSED SESSION

6-1. None

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Requests for agenda items for the next regular meeting of the board included (1) time change for board meetings and (2) consideration and selection of an alternative date for the June 12, 2024 meeting of the board.

8. CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

This is the time and place for the Chairman and Board Members to report on any other items of interest. Upon request by an individual Board Member, the Authority may choose to take action on any of the subject matters listed below.

Treasurer De Leon Sanchez (Bell Gardens)

Secretary Fuentes (Cudahy)

Member Argumedo (Commerce)

Chair Farfan (Hawaiian Gardens)

9. ADJOURNMENT (10:54 AM)

The next regular meeting of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority will be held at 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

Victor Farfan, Chair

ATTEST:

Martin Fuentes, Secretary



**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**WARRANT REPORT AND FINANCIAL
SUMMARY – JANUARY 2024**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024.

BALANCE SHEET

02/21/24 JPA MEETING

Page: 1

2/20/2024

4:42 pm

City of Hawaiian Gardens

As of: 1/31/2024

Balances

Fund: 50 - CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE

Assets

1000.0000 CASH

203,006.87

Total Assets

203,006.87

Liabilities

2100.0000 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

27,189.00

Total Liabilities

27,189.00

Reserves/Balances

2900.0000 FUND BALANCE-UNASSIGNED

101,191.32

2920.0000 CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE

74,626.55

Total Reserves/Balances

175,817.87

Total Liabilities & Balances

203,006.87

Edit List of Invoices - Summary

02/21/24 JPA MEETING

Date: 02/20/2024

Time: 4:27 pm

Page: 1

City of Hawaiian Gardens

Ref. No.	Vendor Name	Invoice No.	Posting Date	PONumber	Invoice Date	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount
175371	HUGO ARGUMEDO	2024-01-17	01/17/2024		01/17/2024	01.17.24 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	250.00
175372	VICTOR FARFAN	2024-01-17	01/17/2024		01/17/2024	01.17.24 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	250.00
175373	MARTIN U FUENTES	2024-01-17	01/17/2024		01/17/2024	01.17.24 MTG STIPEND	125.00
						Vendor Total:	125.00
175375	JUAN GARZA	2024-01-31	01/31/2024		01/31/2024	JAN 2024 SALARY	6,744.00
175376	JUAN GARZA	RETRO230731-231231	01/31/2024		01/31/2024	JUL 2023 - DEC 2023 RETRO	10,464.00
						Vendor Total:	17,208.00
175377	GOVERNMENTAL FINANCIAL SVC	2024-01	01/31/2024		01/31/2024	JAN 2024 FY22/23 SCO FIN TRAN:	700.00
						Vendor Total:	700.00
175378	OLIVAREZ MADRUGA LAW	24258	01/31/2024		01/31/2024	JAN 2024 SVCS - GENERAL	100.00
175379	OLIVAREZ MADRUGA LAW	24259	01/31/2024		01/31/2024	JAN 2024 SVCS - BOARD MEETIN	1,640.00
						Vendor Total:	1,740.00
175380	EVELYN PINEDA	2024-02-05	01/31/2024		02/05/2024	JAN 2024 SVCS	6,666.00
						Vendor Total:	6,666.00
175374	FRANCIS DE LEON SANCHEZ	2024-01-17	01/17/2024		01/17/2024	01.17.24 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	250.00

Grand Total: 27,189.00

Less Credit Memos: 0.00

Net Total: 27,189.00

Less Hand Check Total: 0.00

Outstanding Invoice Total: 27,189.00

Total Invoices: 10

REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORT
02/21/24 JPA MEETING

City of Hawaiian Gardens

For the Period: 7/1/2023 to 1/31/2024	Original Bud.	Amended Bud.	YTD Actual	CURR MTH	Encumb. YTD	UnencBal	% Bud
Fund Type: SR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS							
Fund: 50 - CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE							
Revenues							
Function:							
Dept: 0000 ASSETS							
Acct Class: REV REVENUE							
3742.0050 JPA MEMBERSHIP FUNDING	157,500.00	157,500.00	157,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
3742.0052 CASINO DONATIONS	70,000.00	70,000.00	42,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	27,500.00	60.7
REVENUE	227,500.00	227,500.00	200,000.00	7,500.00	0.00	27,500.00	87.9
ASSETS	227,500.00	227,500.00	200,000.00	7,500.00	0.00	27,500.00	87.9
Function:	227,500.00	227,500.00	200,000.00	7,500.00	0.00	27,500.00	87.9
Revenues	227,500.00	227,500.00	200,000.00	7,500.00	0.00	27,500.00	87.9
Expenditures							
Function:							
Dept: 4908 JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY							
Acct Class: OPER OPERATING COSTS							
4200.0050 CONTRACT SVC-EX DIR JPA	80,925.00	80,925.00	47,208.00	17,208.00	0.00	33,717.00	58.3
4200.0052 COMMUNICATIONS	14,400.00	14,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,400.00	0.0
4202.0000 AUDIT SERVICES	6,500.00	6,500.00	13,700.00	700.00	0.00	-7,200.00	210.8
4211.0000 MEETING STIPENDS	17,250.00	17,250.00	6,875.00	875.00	0.00	10,375.00	39.9
4213.0000 OTHER OPERATING COSTS	9,000.00	9,000.00	119.40	0.00	0.00	8,880.60	1.3
4250.0001 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE/JPA	80,000.00	80,000.00	46,662.00	6,666.00	0.00	33,338.00	58.3
4252.0000 SPECIAL COUNSEL - CONTRACT	19,425.00	19,425.00	10,809.05	1,740.00	0.00	8,615.95	55.6
OPERATING COSTS	227,500.00	227,500.00	125,373.45	27,189.00	0.00	102,126.55	55.1
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY	227,500.00	227,500.00	125,373.45	27,189.00	0.00	102,126.55	55.1
Function:	227,500.00	227,500.00	125,373.45	27,189.00	0.00	102,126.55	55.1
Expenditures	227,500.00	227,500.00	125,373.45	27,189.00	0.00	102,126.55	55.1
Net Effect for CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE	0.00	0.00	74,626.55	-19,689.00	0.00	-74,626.55	0.0
Change in Fund Balance:			74,626.55				
Net Effect for SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	74,626.55	-19,689.00	0.00	-74,626.55	
Grand Total Net Effect:	0.00	0.00	74,626.55	-19,689.00	0.00	-74,626.55	

ITEM 4-3

1107 9th Street, Suite 420,

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone:(916) 869-3685

www.CaliforniaAdvocacy.com



February 21, 2024

California Update: Agenda

1. SB 549 (Newman) – Tribal Declaratory Relief Act
2. Bureau of Gambling Control –Concept Regulations Proposed on September 11, 2023
3. Stakeholder Outreach

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6859

To extend the Federal recognition to the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2023

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To extend the Federal recognition to the Gabrielino/Tongva
Nation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gabrielino/Tongva Na-
5 tion Recognition Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) MEMBER.—The term “member” means an
9 individual who is a citizen of the Tribe pursuant to
10 the Tribe’s Constitution, enacted February 17,

1 2007, and who is enrolled in the Tribe pursuant to
2 section 7 of this Act.

3 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of the Interior.

5 (3) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the
6 Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, also known as Gabrielino-
7 Tongva Indian Tribe and the Gabrielino-Tongva
8 Tribe.

9 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

10 Congress finds the following:

11 (1) The traditional homelands of the
12 Gabrielino/Tongva Nation are the Los Angeles Basin
13 and the islands of Santa Catalina, San Nicholas,
14 San Clemente, and Santa Barbara, from Topanga
15 Canyon to Laguna Beach, from the San Gabriel
16 Mountains to the sea. Over 2,000 archaeological
17 sites in the in the Los Angeles County Basin attest
18 to the longevity of Gabrielino/Tongva presence in
19 their homelands.

20 (2) In 1891, in response to the impoverished
21 conditions experienced by Indian Tribes sent to the
22 California missions, Congress passed the Act of Jan-
23 uary 12, 1891 (26 Stat. 711) commonly known as
24 the Mission Indian Relief Act, which created a spe-
25 cial Indian agency with trust responsibilities over

1 “Mission Indians” in California, including the
2 Gabrielino/Tongva.

3 (3) In 1928, members of the Gabrielino/Tongva
4 community, many of whom were then living in their
5 traditional homelands in the Los Angeles Basin, en-
6 rolled during the California Indian census taken pur-
7 suant to the Act of May 18, 1928 (45 Stat. 602),
8 which identified them as “Mission San Gabriel” or
9 “Gabrielino” Indians and under the Federal jurisdic-
10 tion of the Mission Indian Agency in Riverside, Cali-
11 fornia.

12 (4) In 1952, a congressional report named the
13 Gabrielino/Tongva, known at that time as
14 “Gabricieleño or San Gabriel Indians,” as one of the
15 Indian Tribes or bands identified in dealings with
16 the Bureau of Indian Affairs (82d Cong., 2d sess.,
17 House, Report No. 2503).

18 (5) In 1972, Gabrielino/Tongva people received
19 settlement funds from the judgment of the Indian
20 Claims Commission in Docket 80 and 80–D under
21 the Act of September 21, 1968 (Public Law 90–507;
22 82 Stat. 860).

23 (6) In 1994, the State of California recognized
24 the Tongva in Assembly Joint Resolution 96,
25 chaptered by the California Secretary of State as

1 Resolution chapter 146, Statutes of 1994. The Joint
2 Resolution states that the State of California “rec-
3 ognizes the Gabrielinos as the aboriginal tribe of the
4 Los Angeles Basin and takes great pride in recog-
5 nizing the Indian inhabitation of the Los Angeles
6 Basin and the continued existence of the Indian
7 community”.

8 (7) In 1999, the Coastal Gabrielino-Diegueno
9 Band of Mission Indians, the legal predecessor to
10 the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, filed evidence of its
11 members’ Gabrielino ancestry with the Bureau of In-
12 dian Affairs, using certificates of degree of Indian
13 blood prepared by the Act of September 21, 1968.

14 (8) In 2001, the Coastal Gabrielino-Diegueno
15 Band of Mission Indians reorganized, ultimately
16 changing its name to the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation,
17 and opening enrollment to individuals with
18 Gabrielino ancestry certified by the Bureau of In-
19 dian Affairs.

20 (9) In 2013, the Los Angeles City Council, in
21 Resolution 13-1285, declared its support of the
22 Gabrielino/Tongva Nation in its efforts to restore a
23 government-to-government relationship with the
24 United States.

1 (10) In 2019, the Superior Court for the Coun-
2 ty of Los Angeles found that the Gabrielino/Tongva
3 Nation was the legal successor in interest to the
4 Coastal Gabrielino-Diegueno Band of Mission Indi-
5 ans.

6 (11) The Gabrielino/Tongva Nation presently
7 has a membership of more than 700 Tribal citizens,
8 all of whom descend from a bona fide Gabrielino/
9 Tongva ancestor enumerated on a California Indian
10 Roll prepared by Bureau of Indian Affairs pursuant
11 to the Act of May 18, 1928, Act of May 24, 1950
12 (64 Stat. 189), and Act of September 21, 1968, and
13 whose ancestors have received Indian services, in-
14 cluding education or health care, based upon their
15 status as Indians.

16 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL RECOGNITION.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Federal recognition is extended to
18 the Tribe.

19 (b) EFFECT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—Except as other-
20 wise provided in this Act, all Federal laws (including regu-
21 lations) of general application to Indians and Indian
22 Tribes, including the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C.
23 5101 et seq.) (commonly known as the “Indian Reorga-
24 nization Act”), shall apply to the Tribe and each member.

1 **SEC. 5. FEDERAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Tribe and each member shall be eligi-
4 ble for all services and benefits provided by the United
5 States to Indians and federally recognized Indian Tribes,
6 without regard to—

7 (1) the existence of a reservation for the Tribe;

8 or

9 (2) the location of the residence of any member
10 on or near an Indian reservation.

11 (b) SERVICE AREA.—For purposes of the delivery of
12 services and benefits to members, and in regard to land
13 and the transfer of land as set forth in section 8 of this
14 Act, the service area of the Tribe shall be considered to
15 be the area comprised of Los Angeles County, in the State
16 of California. Such services and benefits shall be provided
17 notwithstanding the establishment of a reservation or ac-
18 quisition of additional land after the date of enactment
19 of this Act.

20 **SEC. 6. REAFFIRMATION OF RIGHTS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act diminishes
22 any right or privilege of the Tribe or any member that
23 existed before the date of enactment of this Act.

24 (b) CLAIMS OF TRIBE.—Except as otherwise pro-
25 vided in this Act, nothing in this Act alters or affects any
26 legal or equitable claim of the Tribe to enforce any right

1 or privilege reserved by, or granted to, the Tribe that was
2 wrongfully denied to, or taken from, the Tribe before the
3 date of enactment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 7. MEMBERSHIP ROLL.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Tribe shall submit to the Sec-
6 retary within thirty days after the date of enactment of
7 this Act, a membership roll consisting of the name of each
8 individual enrolled as a member of the Tribe.

9 (b) DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—The quali-
10 fications for inclusion on the membership roll of the Tribe
11 shall be determined in accordance with the Tribe's Con-
12 stitution, enacted February 17, 2007, any amendments or
13 changes to the Constitution, or Tribal laws pertaining to
14 membership. Upon receipt of the roll, the Secretary shall
15 immediately publish notice of such in the Federal Reg-
16 ister.

17 (c) MAINTENANCE OF ROLL.—The Tribe shall have
18 the sole authority and responsibility to maintain the mem-
19 bership roll of the Tribe.

20 **SEC. 8. TRANSFER OF LAND.**

21 (a) INITIAL RESEVATION.—Within ninety days from
22 the date of enactment of this Act, and notwithstanding
23 any other provision of law, the Secretary shall acquire and
24 take into trust for the benefit of the Tribe title to land

1 identified by the Tribe that is located within the service
2 area of the Tribe, not to exceed 300 acres.

3 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Lands taken into trust will be
4 deemed part of the restoration of lands for an Indian
5 Tribe that is restored to Federal recognition pursuant to
6 section 20(b)(1)(B)(iii) of the Indian Gaming Regulatory
7 Act (25 U.S.C. 2719(b)(1)(B)(iii)).

8 (c) ADDITIONAL LANDS.—The Secretary may acquire
9 additional land for the benefit of the Tribe pursuant to
10 section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 5108)
11 (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”).

12 (d) TRIBAL FEE LANDS.—Notwithstanding any
13 other provision of law, without further approval, ratifica-
14 tion, or authorization by the United States, the Tribe may
15 lease, sell, convey, warrant, or otherwise transfer all or
16 any part its interest in any real property that is (1) not
17 located within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation,
18 and (2) not held in trust by the United States for the
19 benefit of the Tribe.

○



CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Tribal bid for federal recognition could pave way for L.A. area's first Indian casino



Sandonne Goad, chairwoman of the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation, right, and U.S. Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Los Angeles). (Christina House / Los Angeles Times)

BY LOUIS SAHAGÚN | STAFF WRITER

DEC. 23, 2023 3 AM PT

A local tribe's bid for federal recognition is getting a boost from organized labor and a member of Congress who recently introduced legislation that would extend

acknowledgement status to the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation and create a 300-acre reservation within Los Angeles County.

The tribe is one of a number of Indigenous groups whose ancestors first populated the Los Angeles Basin and who are seeking the ability to govern themselves on sovereign land. A bill submitted Tuesday by U.S. Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Los Angeles) would allow the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation to bypass a costly federal petition process that can take a decade or more to complete. It would also allow the tribe to entertain economic opportunities, including building a casino.

If passed in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and approved by the president, up to 300 acres of land acquired and taken into trust by the Department of Interior on behalf of the tribe “will be regulated under the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act,” according to the bill.

“Although the excitement is about a casino, for me this is a story about Gabrielino identity and land equity, and an opportunity to right a federal wrong,” said Kamlager-Dove, who serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources.



CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Tribal leaders and researchers have mapped the ancient ‘lost suburbs’ of Los Angeles

Oct. 9, 2023

“This community has almost been denied its ability to exist because it doesn’t have federal recognition, which brings many kinds of protection and support. It has been waiting a long time for this,” she said.

For tribal members, federal recognition represents self-reliance.

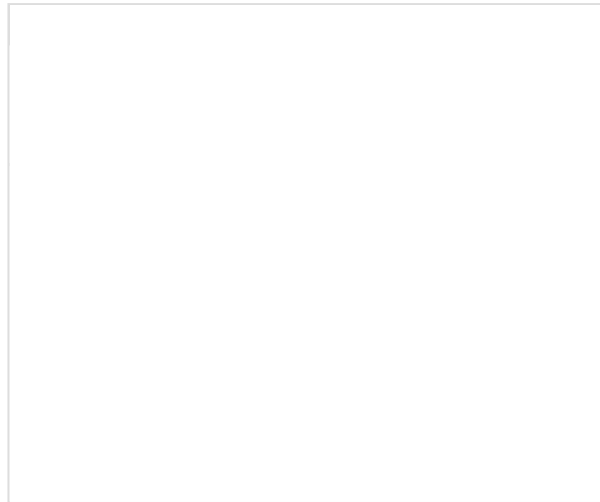
“I want to thank Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove for this gift,” said Sandonne Goad, chairwoman of the 700-member tribe. “It’s overwhelming, exciting and full of joy.”

The bill touts support from leaders of the politically influential Unite Here Local 11, a union representing 32,000 hospitality workers in Los Angeles and Orange counties and greater Phoenix.

Unite Here Local 11 officials were unavailable for comment. But Kamlager-Dove said, “I’m really happy about the support from the union.”

The effort is also supported by Sean Harren, president of Teamsters Local 986; Darrel Saucedo, chairman of the board at the Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce; Dolores Huerta, president of the nonprofit Dolores Huerta Foundation; and Pastor William D. Smart Jr., president and chief executive officer of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California.

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“What I like about this tribe having a right to build a casino is that it could provide a stable economic future with health benefits, student scholarships and decent homes — and it’s about time,” Smart said.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass was unavailable for comment, but a spokesman offered a statement that did not address the bill directly.

“Los Angeles is home to more Native Americans/Alaska Natives than any other county in the United States and the mayor will continue to lock arms with the tribes, as we all work together to fight to make Los Angeles better for all,” said Zach Seidl, deputy mayor of communications.



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Making the tribe’s reservation dreams become reality won’t be easy. The bill will need bipartisan support in a divided Congress, and any proposal for significant development such as a full-scale casino complex would face the concerns of local governments and surrounding communities.

“I hope there’s no pushback, but I know there will be,” Goad said. “We will prevail no matter what comes our way.”

The stakes are high. A federally recognized tribe has sovereignty, does not pay taxes and is exempt from following state or county legal ordinances. It is entitled to full service from local law enforcement authorities and fire departments, hospitals, and road and flood control systems.

It is also eligible for federal assistance from legal programs created to help reclaim lands lost over the decades through tax sales, fraud and violence, and with healthcare, education and protection of sacred sites.

For the state’s federally recognized tribes that do own large casinos, particularly those within easy driving distance of major cities, gambling has yielded an enormous payout,

allowing them to use their growing clout and the legal authority of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to take back remains and artifacts held by museums and universities for proper care and burial.

Today, the industry that began just three decades ago as a handful of bingo parlors has mushroomed to include 85 Indian casinos across California — businesses that provide 124,000 jobs and add about \$19 billion to the state economy annually, according to the American Gaming Assn.

Indian casino sites said to have been under consideration in Los Angeles County over the last two decades have included a downtown parcel, a former dump in Monterey Park, property in Compton, and Hollywood Park in Inglewood.

Before any of that could take place, however, a tribe would have to take the land in question into trust as sovereign Indian territory. No Native American group in the county has done this.



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In 2001, then-Rep. Hilda Solis sponsored legislation asking Congress to extend recognition to a different Gabrielino group in Los Angeles County. But the bill was “shelved during the 9/11 crisis,” said Wallace Cleaves, a member of the Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians.

Some say it never resurfaced because of intertribal conflicts among more than five Gabrielino factions, including some wanting to build casinos.

Kamlager-Dove’s bill has already generated a backlash from several Gabrielino groups who feel more deserving of recognition.

In an interview, Goad suggested a solution almost certain to trigger more controversy.

“Those others can join our tribe,” Goad said. “We’re already processing 250 applications” for membership.

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Louis Sahagún

Louis Sahagún is a staff writer at the Los Angeles Times. He covers issues ranging from religion, culture and the environment to crime, politics and water. He was on the team of L.A. Times writers that earned the Pulitzer Prize in public service for a series on Latinos in Southern California and the team that was a finalist in 2015 for the Pulitzer Prize in breaking news. He is a former board member of CCNMA: Latino

Journalists of California and author of the book “Master of the Mysteries: The Life of Manly Palmer Hall.”



TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Governing Board

FROM: Juan Garza, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **Executive Director Report/Summary**

DATE: February 21, 2024

- 1) SB 549 (Newman) – Tribal Rotation Bill Efforts: Ongoing Legislative Engagements
- 2) SB 549 (Newman) – Tribal Rotation Bill Efforts: Media Engagement
- 3) JPA ACH Payables (*JPA Governing Board Members, Staff, Vendors*) & JPA ACH Receivables (*Member Cities and Cardrooms*)