



Tohono O'odham Nation Office of the Chairman & Vice Chairwoman

COMPASSION FAITH TRADITION RESPECT
T-I:BDAG 'AMJEḐ S-WOHOCUDA HIMDAG PI:K 'ELID

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATE SUPREME COURT ORDERS GLENDALE TO PAY TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION'S ATTORNEY FEES

Opposition by Glendale Leaders Delays Job Creation, Costs Taxpayers

SELLS, Ariz. – On Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, the Arizona Supreme Court ordered the City of Glendale to pay the entirety of the Nation's requested fees and costs it incurred in opposing the City's petition for review of the annexation ruling. Together with the Arizona Court of Appeals' previous award, the City must now pay the Nation a total of \$85,497.96 for its fees and costs. The Court of Appeals already ruled that the Nation's lands are in unincorporated Maricopa County and the Arizona Supreme Court upheld the ruling by refusing to review the case.

This ruling is the latest in a long series of decisions by courts and federal agencies that have repeatedly found in the Nation's favor with regard to its efforts in the West Valley.

Glendale political leaders' opposition to the West Valley Resort contrasts sharply with the overwhelming public support in the West Valley, as measured in three separate polls conducted in 2009, 2010, and 2011. The most recent figures show three out of four West Valley voters (75%) support the Nation's project and want to see it move forward.

Chairman Ned Norris, Jr. of the Tohono O'odham Nation said *"Glendale's misguided opposition has not only delayed the creation of thousands of new jobs in the West Valley, but the decisions of its political leaders continue to come at great cost to taxpayers. The Nation will continue its efforts to work with the community and remains committed to moving forward with this important economic development project."*

Upon completion, the West Valley Resort will draw 1.2 million people to the West Valley each year and have a \$300 million annual economic impact. More than 9,000 jobs will be created during the construction of the facility and the day-to-day operations and the Nation is not asking for any financial offsets from local governments. For additional information on the Tohono O'odham Nation, the West Valley Resort and the history behind this project, please visit www.westvalleyopportunity.com.

Editor's Note: A copy of the Arizona Supreme Court's decision is attached.

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