

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Ashley and Supervisor Tavaglione **SUBMITTAL DATE:** January 7, 2004
SUBJECT: Tribal Participation in the Western Riverside Council of Governments

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors support Tribal participation in the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) and request that the WRCOG Board of Directors consider a formal structure for tribal participation.

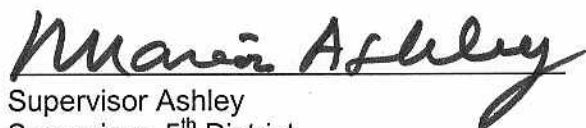
BACKGROUND: Riverside County is home to 11 federally recognized tribes. Six (6) tribal reservations are located in the eastern portion of the County (Agua Caliente, Augustine, Cabazon, Santa Rosa, Torres-Martinez, and Twenty-Nine Palms) and 5 are located in the central/western portion of the County (Cahuilla, Morongo, Pechanga, Ramona, and Soboba).

On July 29, 2003, the Board created the Riverside County Tribal Council Task Force, a formal structure and working agreement with the 11 tribes to discuss issues of mutual concern and forge ongoing positive relationships. During Tribal Council Task Force meetings, Tribal representatives have expressed the desire to participate in the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG).

Tribes in eastern Riverside County are currently afforded participation in WRCOG's sister organization, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Agua Caliente, Torres-Martinez, and Cabazon currently have MOUs with CVAG for participation.

The regional and sub-regional issues of common concern to CVAG's member jurisdictions impact sovereign Indian nations within Riverside County. Tribes in the eastern County have contributed to, and benefited from, participation in the intergovernmental forum offered by CVAG.

Board support for Tribal participation in WRCOG will benefit participating jurisdictions and further enhance government-to-government relationships with tribes in the central/western County. The attached CVAG MOUs will provide a framework for WRCOG to begin developing an approach to accommodate tribal participation.


Supervisor Ashley
Supervisor, 5th District


Supervisor Tavaglione
Supervisor, 2nd District

Prev. Agn. ref.

Dist. ALL

AGENDA NO.

3.2