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## **GLENDALE CITY OFFICIALS RELEASE POSITION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY ON PROPOSED RESERVATION**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** -- After several meetings with the Tohono O'odham's, the city of Glendale is opposed to their plan and current application for the Federal Government to take 134 acres at the southwest corner of 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Northern into trust and create an Indian Reservation at that site.

It is clear that removing the land from all state and local regulatory control and converting this property to an Indian Reservation, where one has never existed, presents very significant issues for the citizens and business owners of Glendale. Creation of an Indian Reservation in the manner proposed by the tribe, with the effect that it will have on the community, is contrary to the intent of Federal Law.

The land in question has no historic relationship to the Tohono O'odham Nation. The Nation's only interest in the land is for an economic development project, the impact of which will be detrimental to the substantial private and public investment in the area.

The city is also releasing an economic impact study conducted by Elliott Pollack & Company that provides an analysis of the project. It finds that based on its review, it appears that even under the best case scenario, the cost to the city of Glendale and its citizens would be significantly higher than any benefits associated with the proposed resort and casino.

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Below are critical items in the study:

- The site would be considered a sovereign nation and would place a reservation at that location.
- Of the 6,000 construction jobs estimated by the tribe, only an estimated 10% would be filled by Glendale residents and of the on-going jobs, only 1/3 would be filled by Glendale residents.
- Studies have shown that casinos and specifically gambling, produce a spending substitution effect where casino patrons decrease their spending on goods and services to reserve discretionary income for gambling. It is estimated that the substitution effect could be as high as a 75%.
- The city's cost to provide basic services to the site would be substantial, including the construction of a new fire station. On-going operations costs for public safety could be as high as \$3.5 million annually and additional water, wastewater and traffic issues would create added costs that are estimated to be substantial.

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