



May 1, 2023

The Office of Congressman Jared Huffman
Petaluma District Office
206 G Street, Unit #3
Petaluma, CA 94592

Dear Congressman Huffman:

The Northern California Carpenters Union is responding to Sonoma County's June 8 request for public input to help frame the county's response to the Bureau of Indian Affairs concerning the Koi Nation of Northern California's proposed Shiloh Casino & Resort project on the Tribe's land at 222 E. Shiloh Road.

The Northern California Carpenters Union unequivocally supports the Koi Nation's project as proposed by the Tribe. This project will provide unparalleled opportunity and economic benefits to our members, to the members of the Koi Nation, and to Sonoma County and the communities adjacent to the project.

The Nor Cal Carpenters Union has a membership of over 37,000 skilled craftspeople, making us one of the largest organized voices in the Northern California construction industry. This project will provide family supporting union jobs with benefits including healthcare and pensions to hundreds of our members who live in and around Sonoma County. The project also will provide Sonoma County residents with the opportunity to obtain training in a skilled trade, one that can provide them with the same solid economic future that this project offers to the Koi Nation. The project also will provide more than 1,000 permanent jobs to local residents once it is in operation.

As a union whose members have worked on countless projects in the area, we also have rarely seen a project of this scope that is so well designed to fit into the landscape and respect the natural features of the land. It is clear that the Koi Nation is maintaining its traditional respect for the land and nature at the same time as it creates economic benefits for the county.

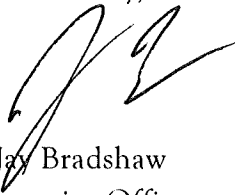
Finally, at its heart this project is about equity for the Koi Nation and its members. For their own selfish reasons, the opposition to the project is seeking to prevent the Koi from deriving economic benefits from their land following an approved federal environmental process.

This is a sorry repetition of the historic injustices done to the Koi people, who have suffered the dispossession of their lands for more than 150 years. This runs absolutely counter to the public policy of Sonoma County, which formed an Office of Equity in 2020 and created a

Racial Equity and Social Justice pillar in the County's strategic plan, with its initial focus on racial equity. As a union whose membership represents a diverse workforce, we support the County's equity policy and the Koi Nation's efforts to obtain economic equity through the Shiloh Casino & Resort project.

For the benefit of working men and women in Sonoma County, for the economic benefits that will accrue to the County overall, and in the interest of upholding the County's equity for the Koi Nation, we urge Sonoma County's full support for the Shiloh Casino & Resort project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Bradshaw', written over a horizontal line.

Jay Bradshaw
Executive Office

Nor Cal Carpenters Union

JB:jm