



City of Rohnert Park PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Rohnert Park Approves Agreement to Mitigate the Impacts of Graton Casino Expansion

Rohnert Park, CA (June 29, 2023) – On June 27, the Rohnert Park City Council approved an agreement with the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria (FIGR) to mitigate the impacts of the Graton Casino expansion. Their expansion includes adding 73 acres to the Tribe’s existing reservation of about 254 acres. This includes 22 parcels of undeveloped land near Wilfred Avenue, Golf Course Drive and Dowdell Avenue.

“The Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria have been excellent neighbors to Rohnert Park. They consistently support many social, educational, environmental and cultural efforts within our community,” said Rohnert Park Mayor Samantha Rodriguez. “I look forward to our continued partnership with the Tribe as it invests in growth.”

The city entered into an agreement with the FIGR in 2013. This agreement provides funding to cover the costs of traffic improvements, increased Public Safety patrols, a new fire station on the city’s west side and a new ladder truck. Funding has allowed the city to establish the Rohnert Park Foundation, which has funded projects and several small grants programs. The city also provides wastewater system services and maintains Wilfred Avenue for the FIGR as part of the partnership.

The FIGR are working to nearly double the size of the casino, add a second hotel and potentially add a performance theater. These developments will almost double the size of their existing facilities.

The Tribe has been an important and highly valued partner of Rohnert Park and its community. The approved agreement maintains key aspects of the previous agreement. This includes the continuation of annual funds paid by the FIGR. This agreement reflects both the Tribe’s and the city’s commitment to maintain a strong relationship with one another.

The FIGR will provide on-going funding to the city of over \$13 million/year. They will also contribute nearly \$4 million toward traffic improvements that will cost about \$39 million. The city will likely use some of the Tribe’s annual funds to help make up the difference. To

accommodate the Tribe's growth, the city intends to address traffic improvements with these funds.