

ESPARTO DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
P.O.Box 194
Esparto, Calif. 95627

January 9, 2006

The Esparto Chamber of Commerce is requesting the Yolo County Board of Supervisors to direct more funding and resources to the economic development of the Esparto and Capay Valley region.

The unincorporated rural area of Western Yolo County needs economic stimulation and support. This area has a great deal of the county's natural assets and beauty--Capay Valley, Cache Creek, specialty farms, gravel, recreation, and tourist attractions.

The Casino has sparked a great deal of interest in this area of the County, but a majority of the dollars go only to the Casino operations. As County partners, we are extremely interested in developing a local economic vitality that will help capture some of these and other dollars that utilize local resources to generate jobs and taxes.

The Chamber feels that this 'asset rich' rural area has been overshadowed by the more urban areas of the County--due in part to the smaller rural population and consequently less political influence. Redirection of Casino mitigation funds, grant monies, and special County services would help develop the assets of this rural region and benefit the County as a whole. New commerce has a multiplication effect and self sufficiency factor. We also propose a streamlining of County building permit process to enable construction and restoration of the Esparto Historic Downtown area.

The Chamber focus is to develop and expand farming and related businesses, retail, transportation projects, natural resources, and the tourist industry. We are proposing a fund to jump start and underwrite development of commercial ventures in the Esparto region. This fund, along with a long range development plan, will stimulate and grow the local economy and serve as the catalyst of local economic growth..

We wish to discuss these concepts with County officials and staff at the earliest possible time.

Respectfully

Elizabeth Campbell
President, Esparto District Chamber of Commerce