

From: [Jill Galvez](#)
To: [BGC Regulations](#)
Cc: [Mary Salas](#); [Robert Moreno](#); [Gary Halbert](#)
Subject: Seven Mile Casino Chula Vista - Comments for the record
Date: Thursday, January 17, 2019 2:33:30 PM

EMAIL

January 17, 2019

Suzanne George
California Bureau of Gaming
BGC_Regulations@doj.ca.gov

Dear Ms. George,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am the newly elected councilmember for Chula Vista District 2, which includes our beautiful Chula Vista Bayfront.

The Seven Mile Card Room on our beautiful Chula Vista Bayfront is an important part of my district, which is why our mayor and I drove to San Marcos to address the hearing on January 15th.

I am sending you my comments at the hearing for the record.

Chula Vista Mayor Mary Casillas Salas, Chula Vista Councilmember Mike Diaz, and I made the three hour round trip to San Marcos, plus testimony, because any detrimental change to the games permitted at the Seven Mile Card Room could impact our city's revenue, hurt good-paying jobs, cut off funding for important local charities, and deflate an entertainment venue in Chula Vista which has become a beautiful destination and gathering place where our community feels welcome to enjoy.

Seven Mile has been a good employer offering good-paying long-term jobs and opportunities. Most of their employees live in Chula Vista, Bonita, and our surrounding communities.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Seven Mile's executive chef, a graduate of one of our local high schools. You really ought to come down and see what this young man can create! Many of our local businessmen and women go to Seven Mile for breakfast, lunch or dinner, enjoying the atmosphere and delicious food.

In the past 10-15 years, at least three restaurants have failed and closed at that site: Anthony's Fish Grotto, El Torritos, and the Soup Exchange. Seven Mile has brought a beautiful, modern, fresh atmosphere and pleasant dining experience to our community.

I have attended many charitable and civic events over the past few years at Seven Mile, including the

extraordinary event last March, at which Seven Mile donated \$100 to South Bay Community Services for every person who walked in the door in a 24 hour period. They donated a total of \$75,000 to SBCS for critically needed programs in our community, including Mi Escuelita, a one-of-a-kind therapeutic preschool designed to meet the needs of children affected by domestic violence.

At the end of January, I will be attending the Best of South Bay awards, for the second year in a row, at Seven Mile. It is sponsored by our local newspaper, the Star News, and is quite fun!

Seven Mile has generously sponsored important civic events. Over the past three years, they have been a signature sponsor of our 4th of July fireworks on the bay, Harborfest, our Starlight Parade, to the tune of \$67,500.

In addition to their very generous support of SBCS and our city, Seven Mile is a great neighbor. They were a title sponsor for the Farm to Bay fundraiser for their neighbor, the Living Coast Discovery Center on the Chula Vista Bayfront. And their landscape design and architecture compliments that of the Living Coast.

Seven Mile bought and converted a red light, awful hotel next to their property. They turned it into a modern, hip, and trendy new place to stay on our Bayfront.

They took over the property of a horrible, seedy strip club – which is gone forever! We hope to help them with their plans to create office space for businesses working on our Chula Vista Bayfront project.

Finally, and most importantly to our city treasurer, Seven Mile provides direct annual revenues to the city which have increased from \$391,194.50 in 2014 to \$611,634.80, and those revenues will continue to increase by 3% each year.

In summary, Seven Mile employs us, gives us a beautiful community gathering place that welcomes us to enjoy the view, great food, drink and adult entertainment, has been a generous partner for civic events on our Bayfront and in our downtown, has become a philanthropic partner to local charities, has turned blighted, dangerous properties into beautiful and responsible businesses, and to a growing extent, helps us keep the lights on at city hall.

We believe it's important for you to hear from us directly and why your rules could impact the livelihoods of many people in our community.

Thank you for your time. Come visit, let me know when you're there, and I'll pop over and say hello.

Sincerely,

Jill M. Galvez | Councilmember | District 2, Northwest
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Warm regards,

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