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Wildomar cityhood vote approved

By: *The Californian*

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RIVERSIDE ---- Wildomar voters will get to decide whether the community becomes a city.

Shortly before noon today, a regional commission that considers incorporation and boundary proposals voted unanimously, 6-0, to endorse a financial analysis that says the rural community could support itself as a city and put the question of cityhood before Wildomar voters early next year.

"The decisions really are outside our hands," said county Supervisor Bob Buster, a member of that regional panel, the Local Agency Formation Commission. "They should be in (voters') hands."

In the next few weeks, the county Board of Supervisors will set an election date, most likely the Feb. 5 presidential primary. If voters approve cityhood, Wildomar would formally incorporate July 1, 2008.

A large contingent of Wildomar residents ---- most of whom are affiliated with the cityhood-advocacy group Wildomar Incorporation Now -- -- were bused to the County Administrative Center in Riverside. All supporters wore red,

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white and blue WIN pins; some wore pro-cityhood shirts.

Four opponents to the proposed Wildomar cityhood challenged the bid, contending to the commissioners that there were too many concerns to allow the question to reach the voters, including a downturn in the housing market.

Two of the commissioners, including Hemet City Councilwoman Robin Lowe, acknowledged doubts about the would-be city's financial viability in an uncertain economy ---- especially since proponents are relying on a proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter for much of the community's future sales tax revenue.

But Lowe, too, believes the question of cityhood should rest with the voters.

After the vote was announced as unanimous, Lowe said to the 100-plus cityhood supporters: "Your work is just beginning."

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around the corner...***

Comments On This Story

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To all wrote on Aug 23, 2007 2:00 PM:

" One process has been completed, and another is just beginning. Let's hope that both sides of the issues will be heard and discussed, giving the voters of Wildomar the opportunity to examine the pros and cons and make an informed decision. Lets's also hope that everyone remembers we have to live together with eachother after the election, and remember to respect the right of everyone to their own opinions. "

Modern wrote on Aug 23, 2007 2:54 PM:

" This vote will be very interesting. I put my money that WILDOMAR (which is a combination of WILliam Collier, Donald Graham, and MARGaret Collier)will become a city and be recognized for the wonderful city it can be. "

Pieter wrote on Aug 23, 2007 4:38 PM:

" I wish Winchester would go the same route Wildomar appears to be going so we can clean this mess that is Winchester up. I do not care if we get incorporated by Tem. or Murr. Get the RV's out, clean the place up,zone out the bail bond trash along Winchester Road, get some retail in here, jobs, but most of all to get rid of the 24/7 barking dogs. Riverside County Animal control is a joke "

Jon wrote on Aug 23, 2007 5:47 PM:

" Congratulations to all of the residents of Wildomar, especially the WIN members, who have worked so hard for this day! We really do live in the greatest country and the process does work. "

Wes wrote on Aug 23, 2007 7:53 PM:

" "To All" wrote above the finest piece that I have yet read regarding the entire cityhood effort. I could not agree more. Thank you for those words, and congratulations to all for allowing the effort to finally reach those most affected by it: the populace at the ballot box. My vote will be YES on incorporation. "

Bridgette wrote on Aug 23, 2007 9:15 PM:

" If any resident wants to come ask WIN questions or voice concerns, our next mtg is Tues, Sept 18 at 7pm at Elsinore High School. "

Just asking wrote on Aug 24, 2007 12:03 AM:

" Will Elsinore High change it's name to Wildomar high???"

Add Your Comments or Letter to the Editor

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