



**For Immediate Release**

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**SAN MANUEL VILLAGE COMMERCIAL AND HOSPITALITY CENTER  
WELCOMES FIRST RESTAURANT**

***Mi Cocina Restaurant Grand Opening Heralds Year of Openings and Events for Tribal  
Real Estate Development***

**Highland, Calif. – April 28, 2011** – Mi Cocina Mexican restaurant is relocating to San Manuel Village after serving Highland customers for 20 years. The family owned restaurant will host a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Highland Chamber of Commerce at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 2 celebrating the occasion with local dignitaries, area businesses and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians tribal members. The opening marks a new phase in the development of the mixed use commercial, retail and hospitality center, following the 2008 opening of the Hampton Inn and Suites at San Manuel Village and upon reaching full tenancy of the San Manuel Village Corporate Center.

“This occasion will be a real family affair, as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians joins the Lopez and Arroyo families to open the first restaurant at the San Manuel Village,” said San Manuel Chairman James C. Ramos. “The coming year marks a major milestone for San Manuel, as we work to bring new businesses to the Village, resulting in new jobs, dining options and services for this region.”

Phase 2 for development of the San Manuel Village began in 2011 and includes the April opening of St. Bernardine’s Hospital Urgent Care and the June opening of the SportsWatch Bar and Grill. The San Manuel Village was developed by Victoria Development LLC, the tribe’s real estate development division, integrating each new facility into the unique, plaza aesthetic of the property that was designed with public gatherings in mind. With these openings, the tribe feels as though it has achieved the critical mass needed to draw visitors to the village and attract new tenants. Victoria Development plans to showcase the space through a series of community oriented events.

“The opening of Mi Cocina at the Village is a wonderful opportunity for residents and visitors to the Highland region for a great family dining experience,” said Audrey Martinez, San Manuel tribal

treasurer and a former officer of the Highland Chamber of Commerce. “I’ve visited the restaurant often in the past and really like the atmosphere and the food.”

The tribe’s economic expansion efforts, which began in 1986 with San Manuel Indian Bingo, today includes a gaming property, hotels, commercial and industrial real estate and office buildings. San Manuel Village, located off the San Manuel Indian Reservation, demonstrates the tribe’s commitment to fostering job growth, offering desired services and furthering economic stimulus in its ancestral territory which encompasses the majority of San Bernardino County.

### **About San Manuel Village**

San Manuel Village is a 12 acre mixed-use development project located in the City of Highland, Calif. This commercial real estate investment project has developed land near the San Manuel reservation into a property that includes a hotel, restaurants, retail/commercial space, and offices. The San Manuel Village Hampton Inn & Suites includes a 110 room Hampton Inn & Suites, which are ideally suited for corporate travelers, tribal business associates and tourists visiting the area. The project overall is providing opportunities and partnerships with local vendors and suppliers and will create approximately 250 jobs for Highland and San Bernardino residents.

### **About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as a sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment.

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