

Rocky Point Update

By Eva Paz-Ono and Barbara Atkinson

Rocky Point's First Commercial Hotel

The deal has been inked, survey stakes are in, and ground will be breaking very soon for the first commercial hotel in Puerto Peñasco. Sandy Beach Resorts has partnered with Grupo Questro to develop a 630 acre, 1.2 billion dollar resort project that will start with a 4 diamond Marriott hotel. Sandy Beach Resorts, a 5,000-acre planned development, has primarily been built by Phoenix and Sonoran developers. The Joint Venture with Grupo Questro, one of Mexico's largest developers, represents a capital infusion that fueled the development boon that Cabo San Lucas saw about 15 years ago. Grupo Questro, with multiple developments in Los Cabos, is led by Eduardo Sanchez-Navarro, the heir to the Corona beer family.

14 More Streets to be Paved

The Municipal Government acquired funding to pave an additional 14 streets in Rocky Point, resulting in 20% of the streets being paved. This is expected to help with the city's urban image and help reduce dust pollution. This \$17.5 million peso paving project is being funded through the North American Development Bank, who has made plans to finance more of Puerto Peñasco's municipal projects.

Coastal Highway Update

This is the latest information available through unofficial sources. Office statements are not readily obtained. Such is life in Mexico. Building of the long anticipated 375 mile Sonoran Coastal Highway that will cut the drive time from San Diego to about 4 ½ hours stalled about 30 miles west of Puerto Peñasco when developers hit wetlands. Bridging the road through the wetlands is not viable. Instead the Coastal Highway will be diverted north, along the rail road tracks, until it reaches El Golfo de Santa Clara, where it will be completed in about another year. While the new route will not provide the anticipated access to undeveloped Sonoran beaches, it will still provide a much abbreviated drive from San Diego to Puerto Peñasco.

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