



Plan for Eloy music theme park may include Fender

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Fender, the Scottsdale-based guitar maker, intends to be part of the effort to create a rock-and-roll theme park in Pinal County, although officials could not say Tuesday precisely what the company's role would be.

"We are going to be involved, and in what capacity still needs to be resolved," said Clay Lyons, business-affairs manager for Fender. "We're still getting some details ironed out."

Those familiar with the proposed Decades Music Theme Park project said Fender would come aboard as a partner and that Danny Zelisko, the longtime Valley concert promoter, is in negotiations to join as a partner as well.

The state Senate Commerce and Economic Development Committee is scheduled to consider a bill today that would create a regional-attraction district that could issue up to \$750 million in revenue bonds for the project if private contributors provide at least \$100 million.

Zelisko could not be reached for comment Tuesday, but is expected to be among those cited as supporting the legislation. Lyons said representatives of Fender would be on hand for the hearing.

The Decades project seeks to build a 240-acre theme park in Eloy, halfway between Phoenix and Tucson.

Supporters say the project could create about 3,000 jobs to build the park and about 5,000 jobs if it opens. Developers hope to open by July 2012.

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