



MGC Newsletter - September 2017

Greetings and from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission! Thank you for staying updated on MGC's work to advance the goals of the Expanded Gaming Act.

September marks a milestone for MGC as we are now less than a year away from the planned opening date of the state's first resort-casino, MGM Springfield.

A Request for Public Comment: Economic Development Strategies



Earlier this summer, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission reached out to economic organizations, chambers of commerce, regional workforce leaders, tourism bureaus and critical leaders in the host and surrounding communities around the three gaming licensees. The goal was to gather innovative and thoughtful strategies that could build off the economic impact our casinos will have in their immediate vicinity and across the Commonwealth. This may be one of the first times a state with gaming has sought to strategically plan to enhance the economy and business climate around a casino.

The Commission wants to encourage collaboration and partnerships through this strategy creation process and bring forth solid ideas that could be considered for funding through the Commonwealth's new Gaming Economic Development Fund. This new fund created under the Expanded Gaming Act - funded by gaming tax revenue - lays out its own spending priorities and requires appropriation by our legislative leaders.

Recently, our partners submitted several strategies for consideration. In continuing the Commission's goal to remain transparent in the conduct of our business, we are posting these strategies for comment by the public. The Commission itself will meet with these local stakeholders and learn more about their strategies and ask questions before compiling a final report and submitting it to the legislature for their consideration before the FY 2019 fiscal year budget begins.

To view the submissions and to submit comments, click [here](#). Comments must be received

by Friday, November 3, 2017, at 4:00pm.



Division of Racing releases Application to Hold or Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting in 2018

The Division of Racing of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission hereby releases the Application to Hold or Conduct a Live Racing Meeting in 2018. Completed applications must be submitted to the Commission by close of business on **September 29, 2017** and will be subject to review by the Commission and the public. The Commission expects to hold public input hearings on applications it receives in proposed host communities at future dates to be determined.

[VIEW THE APPLICATION](#)

A poster for a public forum. On the left, the words "PUBLIC FORUM" are written vertically in white on an orange background. The main content is on a white background. At the top, there is a blue banner with icons for a bicycle, a person walking, a tree, a car, and a bus, with the text "LOWER MYSTIC REGIONAL WORKING GROUP" below it. Below the banner is a map of the Lower Mystic region showing various municipalities and transportation routes. A legend indicates "Scenario Focus Area" (shaded grey), "Impact Analysis Area" (shaded light grey), and "Municipal Boundaries" (white with black outline). Below the map, the text reads: "Help Plan for Future Transportation Needs around Sullivan Square! Are you interested in helping weigh options for future transportation improvements around Sullivan Square and in surrounding Everett and Somerville neighborhoods? The Working Group developed transportation options based on community feedback received during the past fall and winter. Now, State and City officials want YOUR input as they determine which projects and policies to recommend. Monday, Sept. 25, 2017 | 5:45 - 8pm Partners Building, Assembly Room 399 Revolution Dr, Somerville, MA 02145 For more information and to sign up for e-mails updates, visit: www.lowermysticstudy.org. This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency. Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge upon request, as available. Contact Renato Castro at rcastro@lowermysticstudy.org or (617) 933-0746." At the bottom, there is a small logo for the Lower Mystic Regional Working Group.

Help Plan for Future Transportation Needs around Sullivan Square!

The Lower Mystic Regional Working Group will hold a public forum on Monday, September 25, 2017, from 5:45-8:00pm, at the Partners Building, Assembly Room, 399 Revolution Drive, Somerville, MA.

Are you interested in helping weigh options for future transportation improvements around Sullivan Square and in surrounding Everett and Somerville neighborhoods?

The Lower Mystic Regional Working Group developed transportation options based on community feedback

received during the past fall and winter. Now, State and City officials want YOUR input as they determine which projects and policies to recommend.

For more information and to sign up for email updates, visit lowermysticstudy.org.



Revenue Report

MGC reported that the month of August 2017 at Plainridge Park Casino generated \$14,220,613.86 in Gross Gaming Revenue. The category 2 slots-parlor is taxed on 49% of gross gaming revenue, of that total taxed amount 82% is paid to Local Aid and 18% goes to the Race Horse Development Fund. To date, the state has collected \$173,449,051.73 in total state taxes and race horse assessments from Plainridge Park Casino since its June 24, 2015 opening.

[READ MORE](#)

MGC in the News

MassLive: [Tour construction at the \\$6.2 million MGM Resorts Culinary Arts in Holyoke ahead of the public](#)

MassLive: [MGM Springfield casino remains on track for September 2018 grand opening](#)

Everett Independent: [Wynn clean up is done and hotel tower is rising out of the ground](#)

WBUR: [How Wynn is building its casino to protect against climate change](#)

Sun Chronicle: [Gaming revenues could help float local development](#)

State House News Service: [Gaming Chairman: Give commission horse racing oversight](#)

MGC's Mission Statement

(Revised September 2017)

The mission of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is to create and maintain a fair, transparent, and participatory process for implementing the expanded gaming law passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in November, 2011.

The Commission strives to ensure that its decision-making and regulatory systems engender the confidence of the public and participants, and that they provide the greatest possible economic development benefits and revenues to the people of the Commonwealth, reduce to the maximum extent possible the potentially negative or unintended consequences of expanded gaming, and allow an appropriate return on investment for gaming providers that assures the operation of casino-resorts of the highest quality.

MGC's Core Values

(Revised September 2017)

The Commissioners and all employees of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission are committed to public service and to a set of core values that will underpin and guide our

work:

- **WE VALUE** an unyielding commitment to a participatory, transparent and fair process for the regulation of expanded gaming and horse racing in Massachusetts.
- **WE VALUE** an environment with a free-flowing and open exchange of ideas in which all are encouraged to question and participate, with the understanding that all will use their best efforts to implement the resulting decisions.
- **WE VALUE** an uncompromising commitment to the integrity of the regulatory process, which incorporates a thoughtful balance between the need for rigorous regulation and enforcement, and the effort and cost required to achieve compliance.
- **WE VALUE** strict adherence to the letter and spirit of our Enhanced Code of Ethics and the Conflict of Interest law.
- **WE VALUE** a diverse workforce and supplier base, and an inclusive culture internally and among our partners in the Massachusetts Gaming Industry.
- **WE VALUE** a deep commitment to customer service that assures a respectful and professional experience for all with whom we come in contact, no matter their point of entry or point of view.



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