



MGC Newsletter

AUGUST 2018

We create and maintain a fair, transparent, and participatory process for implementing the expanded gaming law.



MGM Springfield now open to the public

On August 24, 2018, MGM Springfield opened its doors as the first resort-casino in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

At \$960 million, it is the largest private development in the history of Western Massachusetts. Built on 14 acres of tornado-damaged land in the South End of Springfield, the project broke ground on March 24, 2015 and employed 5,340 unique construction workers.

Approximately 3,000 employees are expected to work at the site, of which approximately 40% are Springfield residents, and approximately 73% are Massachusetts residents. MGM Springfield expects these jobs to provide \$90 million in annual payroll.

A celebration in the City of Springfield

MGM Springfield's opening week consisted of a grand opening press conference on August 23, and a parade on Main Street immediately preceding the opening on August 24.



Top Left: MGC Commissioners (l-r): Enrique Zuniga, Bruce Stebbins, Eileen O'Brien, Gayle Cameron, Chairman Steve Crosby
Top Right: Springfield Police lead the way for a parade down Main Street in Springfield
Bottom Right: Artwork on display at MGM Springfield
Bottom: Blue Man Group performs at the MGM Springfield grand opening press conference
Lower Left: (l-r) Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno and MGM Springfield President/Chief Operating Officer Mike Mathis during the parade down Main Street in Springfield

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MGC Chairman Crosby delivers remarks at grand opening

During the grand opening press conference on August 23, Chairman Steve Crosby delivered remarks.

View his remarks below, or watch the full press conference [here](#).



MGC grants conditional operation certificate

Under the close observation of MGC staff, MGM Springfield successfully completed test play nights on August 16 and 20. MGC staff monitored and evaluated the practice events for strict adherence and compliance with state law and MGC's internal control regulations. MGC's Investigations and Enforcement Bureau (IEB), the Information Technology Division (ITD) and the Finance Division worked together to supervise gaming systems and procedures to ensure the integrity of the games, compliance with regulations and overall adherence to Massachusetts' strict gaming standards.



"As MGM Springfield prepares to open its doors, the MGC remains focused on ensuring that our policies and procedures protect the integrity of the industry and safeguard fair play for patrons," said Commissioner Bruce Stebbins, who observed the test nights and was delegated by fellow commissioners to issue opening approval. "I want to commend the dedication of the IEB, ITD, finance and all additional MGC staff for their commitment to the highest standards of regulatory compliance."

At an [August 2 public meeting](#) in Springfield, the five-member Commission authorized the August test nights and determined that MGM Springfield demonstrated "material compliance" with the gaming law, commission regulations and the terms and conditions of its license. The MGC's extensive review of the overall project acknowledged that MGM Springfield had met or exceeded requirements in areas including construction commitments, regional marketing and economic development, diversity, employee and vendor licensing, responsible gaming, and numerous other license obligations. The MGC will continue to closely monitor licensee commitments post-opening.

The Commission will issue MGM's final operations certificate during a public meeting in

September on a date to be determined.

MGC launches new GameSense brand, website, and integrated campaign

In preparation for the opening of MGM Springfield, MGC debut the latest adaptation of its groundbreaking responsible gaming program, GameSense. MGC's newly enhanced version of the GameSense program features a refurbished brand identity, a redesigned website and a comprehensive outreach strategy to encourage and promote positive play.

The refresh coincides with the opening of the GameSense Info Center at MGM Springfield, located next to the M life Rewards Desk.

The new mobile-friendly website GameSenseMA.com features the theme "Pearls of GameSense by Chip." A fictional GameSense Advisor and positive play ambassador, "Chip," introduces the notion of GameSense as "a higher state of gambling wisdom that any player can achieve" by following the program's valuable tips and advice. The website is populated with entertaining videos of "Chip" dispelling popular gambling myths and offering "pearls" or practical tips about responsible play. The website also offers extensive recommendations for responsible gaming techniques, interactive tools, myth-busting games, and valuable information about how to access support resources and services such as the [Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program](#).



VISIT THE BRAND NEW GAMESENSEMA.COM

MGC offers enrollment in Voluntary Self-Exclusion

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) and the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling (MCCG) seek to raise awareness about the availability of the Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program.



Voluntary Self-Exclusion provides participants the flexibility to choose their term of self-exclusion from six-months to a lifetime. As a deterrent from continued gambling at Massachusetts casinos, any person who has self-excluded identified on the gaming floor will be escorted from the area and must forfeit any money wagered.

Information provided by enrollees is private and confidential and will only be shared with Massachusetts gaming establishments and MCCG to help enrollees honor their commitment. Under no circumstances will the information of someone who chooses self-exclusion be shared with a family member, employer, or clinician.

[SEE ENROLLMENT OPTIONS](#)

From CNBC: An increasing number of women are finding high-paying jobs in an unexpected place - building casinos

CNBC's Contessa Brewer recently profiled the Massachusetts Gaming Commission's efforts to use the casino construction projects to build lasting opportunities for women in the building trades, as well as the Build A Life That Works campaign.



[VIEW THE SEGMENT](#)

Plainridge Park Casino Revenue Report

The month of July 2018 at Plainridge Park Casino generated \$15,149,925.77 in Gross Gaming Revenue. The category 2 slots facility 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 \$249,645,700.05 in total state taxes and racehorse assessments from Plainridge Park Casino since its June 24, 2015 opening.



MGC will continue to make monthly revenue reports available on approximately the 15th of each month.

IN THE NEWS

MassLive: [MGM Springfield opens with parade and crowds of thousands streaming into downtown resort casino](#)

Boston Globe: [With new casino, a big bet on Springfield](#)

New London Day: [MGM Springfield a reflection of its host city](#)

MassLive: [Making sense of the casino: State, MGM Springfield promote 'responsible gaming' with GameSense](#)

New England Public Radio: ['GameSense' aims to help gamblers understand the odds stacked against them](#)

Western Mass News: [GameSense program working to reduce risk of gambling disorders](#)

MassLive: [MGM Springfield shops local: Massachusetts businesses land contracts with casino](#)

22News: [Businesses see benefit from MGM Springfield visitors](#)

Western Mass News: [Businesses thrive since opening of MGM Springfield](#)

MassLive: [A new spark of life has ignited Downtown Springfield](#)

Western Mass News: [MGM's gaming floor offers more than just slot machines and table games](#)

Boston Herald: [Literary theme, local flair, design replace Las Vegas glitz](#)

MassLive: [Patrolling MGM Springfield: Rollout of police Gaming Enforcement Unit highlights public safety operations for casino's grand opening](#)

MassLive: [MGM Springfield's effect on crime will be tracked by regulators](#)

MassLive: [Mass. Gaming Commission rejects MGM's request for animations on sign facing I-91 traffic](#)

MassLive: [These 9 Western Mass. cities and towns have a guaranteed benefit from MGM Springfield opening](#)

Boston Herald: [State treasurer: Casinos 'will not harm' Massachusetts Lottery](#)



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