

## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO EXECUTIVE ORDER

## <u>Casino Advisory Committee</u> Adopted and Effective August 13, 2019.

I, Domenic J. Sarno, by authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, do hereby order that the Casino Advisory Committee, pursuant to Section 3.4 of the Host Community Agreement ("HCA") by and between the City of Springfield, acting by and through its Chief Development Officer with the approval of the Mayor and City Council as the governing body under "An Act Establishing Expanded Gaming in the Commonwealth," codified at Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011, Mass. Gen. Law, ch. 23K, as amended from time to time (together with any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the "Act"). and Blue Tarp Redevelopment, LLC, orders that the Community Advisory Committee, under the direction of the City's Chief Development Officer, no later than September 30, 2019 meet for the purpose of making non-binding recommendations to the Developer and the City concerning matters involving the Project, as defined in the HCA, which directly impact the City and its residents, and thereafter, quarterly the first twenty-four (24) months, and twice annually thereafter, or as otherwise needed, at locations within the City or at the Project according to procedures established by the Community Advisory Committee, under the following parameters:

In order to meet the requirements of the Gaming Act found under Section 96 of Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011, the City of Springfield, as a host community, was required to take action to help coordinate and expedite local permitting of a gaming facility, and created a Casino Liaison Office to coordinate and expedite local permitting of the category 1 gaming establishment.

The role of the Casino Liaison Office was to work with the Developer and its construction management team to resolve the myriad of issues likely to occur during the existence of the Office.

The Office helped streamline City permitting, identify responsible agencies and contacts, help administer certain provisions of the HCA, and establish the lines of communication for operations during the first year following the Project's opening. It was assumed thereafter that casino executives would be familiar enough with the complexities of working with the City that the Office would no longer be needed.

The Project is defined in the HCA as "the Casino and all buildings, hotel structures, recreational or entertainment facilities, restaurants or other dining facilities, bars and lounges, retail stores, other amenities and back office facilities that are connected with, or operated in such an integral manner as to form a part of the same operation whether on the same tract of land or otherwise, all of which are more specifically described on Exhibit G of the HCA" and the HCA has been amended, in particular, with regard to Exhibit G, to account for changes to the description of the Project Site, specifically, with regard to the residential housing component, thereby extending the need for Casino Liaison Office related services.

Now that the one year anniversary of the opening is upon us, the work of the Casino Liaison Office is coming to an end, and the focus of cooperation between the Developer and the City should turn to promoting the recreational, cultural, historic and scenic resources of the City to increase its desirability as a location for tourism, convention, travel and recreation-related activities.

Similarly, the focus now should be to stimulate and direct the broader economic development associated with the Project. Towards this end, proactive and innovative steps to leverage the \$1 Billion investment by MGM to attract collateral private sector development and investment for downtown and the sounding neighborhoods to dovetail with the intent of the HCA and state gaming legislation and regulations of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission to create jobs and expand the City's tax base, business growth, and the City's economic vitality.

The Community Advisory Committee shall perform as an Advisory Commission on travel, tourism as well as businesses startups and expansion to create more jobs in the City in the private sector, including, but not limited to our health, education, financial and manufacturing sectors to promote common, coordinated and concerted efforts on behalf of the City and the Developer and to coordinate marketing efforts on behalf of the City through its Office of Planning and Economic Development, the City's Chief Development Officer, and the City's related agencies and partners in this regard.

It is anticipated that the Community Advisory Board shall work with the various City departments and agencies, and the Chambers of Commerce to highlight the positive momentum that the City of Springfield is currently experiencing, highlighting the entire City, its neighborhoods, diversity, and its important position in the Western Mass region, with a goal of attracting more visitors, businesses and residents to the City in coordination of the positive impacts to the construction or operation of a gaming facility.

This Executive order, as shall take effect on 13 of August, 2019.

Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor City of Springfield