

We need your help with the casinos!

**Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**

**Date: May 9, 2006 12:50 am**

**Subject: We need your help with the casinos!**

**Private: no**

Dear Governor, Mr. Mayor, Councilpeople and members of the Gaming Board -

I am a voting, taxpaying resident of Bella Vista. I work in the city. My husband and I are raising our 4 year old son, and almost daily we confront new challenges to our commitment to remain in the city, raise our family and be active parts of this community.

I am writing to urge you to reconsider any decision to place a casino on Delaware Avenue near Dickinson. This is not the type of development our waterfront needs. From everything I've read, inadequate consideration has been given to the long-term affects of building a slots casino in an already heavily-trafficked area so closely adjacent to a residential area. I am concerned about the traffic, about the increased need for police support in a city where police are already stretched too thin, and about general quality of life issues.

This area of Philadelphia has been developing at such a rapid pace, and it does not appear that anyone is looking at the proposed developments from a long-term urban planning perspective. Let's open a discussion about what our community needs and how we envision our waterfront and our neighborhoods in five, ten, twenty years from now, rather than jumping at the false promises of casino money.

Many of the letterwriters have referenced Atlantic City. My husband's family's home in Atlantic City was demolished to make way for a casino. They relocated to another home in the Chelsea neighborhood, just blocks south of the casinos. This neighborhood has not rebounded and the promises of gambling have not extended beyond the glitz of the boardwalk to affect the quality of life of Atlantic City's residents.

I expect more from Philadelphia.

TCT



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**Id: 1147130999478**

We need your help with the casinos!

**From:** Frank Szymkowski  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Councilwoman Krajewski, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Representative Rieger, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 7:29 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

please NO casinos! Traffic and druck drivers on weekends are bad enough!! This will only make poor people more poor and rich people more rich!!! The poor will gamble what little \$\$ they have in hopes of winning (they will not) and this in turn will make the rich casino owners more filthy rich. Please no casinos!

Frank Szymkowski  


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**Id:** [1147125964458](#)  
**From:** Christina Edleman  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo; Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 6:06 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to voice my concern for the proposed casino development along the river front. About two years ago I was fortunate enough to be able to purchase my first home. I enjoy my neighborhood and like my neighbors. So far the development that has been occuring in the neighborhood has been positive.

However, two casinos are proposed for areas very close to my home - Pinnacle and Sugarhouse. This is of great concern to me since it will ultimately bring down the value of my home, increase crime in my neighborhood and make traffic a living nightmare.

I keep hearing about the money the casinos are supposed to bring into the city but there does not seem to be a decided plan on where this money is going. Of course this makes me question if the citizens of the city will ever get to reap the rewards of the supposed increased revenues to the city. Futhermore, from some of the reports I have read, for all the money gambling brings a city, an even larger sum of money

We need your help with the casinos!

is spent dealing with the social problems gambling causes - addiction, crime, etc. So it is difficult for me to be enthusiastic about a proposition that will in actuality lose money for the city.

For these reasons I hope that you may reconsider the prospects of gambling on our riverfront and think of new and creative ways to revitalize this area of the city. The costs of investing in the arts is a real win for the city and the water front would make a beautiful area for art centers, parks and walkways, encouraging local participation, investment and tourist activity, bringing increased revenues to the city without the social ills.

I thank you for your time.

Christina Edleman

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**Id:** 1147123546173  
**From:** Beth Ziesenis  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 5:25 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Dear people who can help,

A year and a half ago I bought my first home -- a charming two-story in a strengthening part of Philadelphia. My neighbors and I discuss how things used to be, and talk about things we'd like to happen in our neighborhood.

We'd like trees. More flowers. A few more nice families with kids. We'd like the one house to stop having people pound on the door at all hours.

We do not need casinos, beer joints, traffic or thruways. Not at all. We need peace and quiet and a little more greenery. Not a gambling hotspot that will turn our quiet street into a parking lot for gamblers.

Please stop considering South Philly for a new casino. We don't want it here. And we vote.

Thank you for listening.

We need your help with the casinos!

Beth Ziesenis  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147111962943  
**From:** **Kent Durham**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas**  
**Date:** **May 8, 2006 2:12 pm**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **no**

I have recently relocated to Philadelphia from Baltimore and purchased a home in the Northern Liberties section of the city.

Since moving, I have been consistently disappointed to see the lack of concern from the local officials to the interests of the voters in their districts in regards to casino development. The voice of the casino development groups clearly has more access than voices from the community, and this is disappointing to see.

Please do not place the interests of the casino developers above the long-term health of the neighborhoods of your city. No doubt, there is profit to be made by these groups and tax revenue to be taken in, but it should not come at the expense of the quality of life of the citizens in the neighboring communities and the city itself.

Kent Durham  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147109568122  
**From:** **Paula Martino**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **May 8, 2006 1:32 pm**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **yes**

My husband and I have been a resident of Queen Village for the



We need your help with the casinos!

last 12 years. We are now raising our seven year old twins here.

I have been very happy in the changes the city has made since I have moved here from NYC. Although there is an over development going on, that the city was not at all prepared for.

I fear now that Philadelphia will not have the necessary resources to sustain the quality of life that its current and future residents are looking for.

A casino in our area of Columbus Blvd and Reed Street will definitely impact our neighborhoods in a detrimental way. We are already struggling with traffic and parking issues that Councilmen DiCicco is trying to deal with that has created so much dissension in our neighborhood.

Casinos bring little revenue to their resident city compared to the amount of crime and traffic problems.

Philadelphia is struggling to grow in a healthy way. This huge casino will be right at our doorstep where traffic is already an issue and where numerous other residential development is still ongoing. It will be a complete mess once all the new housing units are filled if a casino then goes up. And a worse scenario is if no one wants to pay the prices that are being asked for houses today once a casino is approved.

Please reconsider, as hopefully Governor Rendell is, to step back and create a master plan for Columbus Blvd. that we can be proud of, and that will draw both tax abiding residents, and interested tourists to our very rich cultural and historical, friendly city.

The Governor made wonderful changes in Philadelphia as Mayor, which I was able to witness. It is now a very rich cultural city. I hope he doesn't disappoint us as Governor in the casino issue. It will have a far greater and longer impact than most other changes.

Paula Martino

[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147108931933

**From:**

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 1:22 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

text

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**Id:** [1147108705727](#)  
**From:** Amanda Eckenroad  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative James, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 1:18 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

While I am in support of the redevelopment of the waterfront in Center City and South Philly, I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to the development of a casino in this neighborhood. The positives DO NOT outweigh the negatives and it would be a huge step back for the city of Philadelphia to allow this project to occur.

Please, for the sake of our neighborhoods, do not allow Foxwoods to build in our area.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Eckenroad

Amanda Eckenroad

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**Id:** [1147105010262](#)  
**From:** Jennifer Brank  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

We need your help with the casinos!

**Date:** May 8, 2006 12:16 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

I am a resident of Passyunk Square and a registered voter. I DO NOT support casinos on the waterfront, especially the proposed Foxwoods casino location.

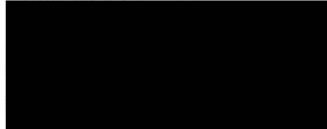
My husband and I moved to South Philly for the shops, restaurants, friendly neighbors, and safe, family-friendly atmosphere. Casinos will bring traffic, trash, and crime to our area, as well as a decrease in our property values.

I would rather leave the city and sell the house we so recently purchased than coexist with a casino within one mile of my home.

Please, I urge you to do whatever is in your power to prevent the Foxwoods casino and to prevent any casino development on the waterfront. WE DO NOT WANT CASINOS.

Please help me, help all of us who are contacting you, keep Philadelphia on the rise and prevent casinos in South Philadelphia. We love our neighborhood, and we want to stay and see it continue to improve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Brank  


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**Id:** 1147104321687  
**From:** Micah  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 12:05 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Please do not let the Foxwoods, or any other group, build a casino in our community. We can not handle the additional traffic, pollution, crime and drunk driving. This development would damage the family oriented community that thrives in this area. Also I fear that the traffic created would strangle the existing stores in that area.

We need your help with the casinos!

Micah  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147103175013  
**From:** Aimee Thrasher-Hanson  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 11:46 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

Casinos are NO GOOD for Philly neighborhoods. My husband is an architect and city planner and he believes that this type of development (like stadiums) often leads to urban blight. Just say no!!!!

Aimee Thrasher-Hanson  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147103046158  
**From:** Shawn Sexton  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 11:44 am  
**Subject:** Tell the Foxwood Casino - NO!!!  
**Private:** no

Dear Sirs,

I am a new Pennsport resident and I don't feel that the Foxwood Casino is the right choice for the riverfront. There are plenty of reasons, but these are the most obvious -

Traffic is already congested and will only get worse.

Noise, Light and air pollution will affect our quality of life.

There's the chance for more crime in an area that already has a short police staff.

We need your help with the casinos!

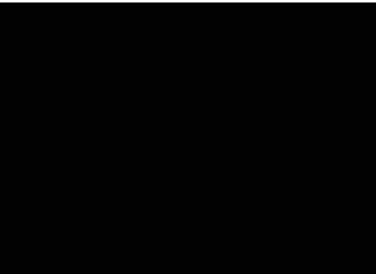
Out of all of the proposed development plans for the Riverfront are Casinos really the only option? South Philadelphia is being revitalized by new families such as mine and long term residents that feel a civic duty to keep their neighborhoods clean. I bought in Pennsport because of it's character and history and the pride it's residents took in their neighborhood. A Casino isn't what our community needs. Remember what Casinos did for the neighborhoods across from them in Atlantic City? It certainly wasn't what was promised.

Pennsport is one of the best neighborhoods in Philadelphia and I'm a proud resident. Please don't allow the Foxwood Casino group to build along the river.

As ELECTED Officials of the PEOPLE please listen.

Thank you,

Shawn Sexton



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**Id:** 1147101839401  
**From:** Maria Walker  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 11:23 am  
**Subject:** Casinos means more gridlock in South Philly!  
**Private:** no

Please do not approve casino slots in South Philadelphia along Delaware Avenue! I live on Second and Morris and we already have enough gridlock, congestions, smog, traffic, etc., from I95, Ikea, Home Depot, Target, Lowes, etc. Must we suffer more of this! It just is not fair. Our community is NOT underdeveloped! It's over-developed! We don't need one more thing coming down our streets, like giant tour buses, prostitutes, husslers and homeless, junkies! I am trying to raise three boys in this neighborhood. Don't destroy our quality of life by adding these

We need your help with the casinos!

negatives! Please, please, please. We have a lovely safe community. Let's keep it that way. Maria Walker

Maria Walker  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147099443922  
**From:** Rich McKellan  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 10:44 am  
**Subject:** Casinos are not the answer!  
**Private:** no

I am deeply disturbed that the situation appears completely stacked against our community trying to protect our neighborhoods against the gaming and casino industry. It's widely accepted that the negative consequences of casino building are indeed serious and affect quality of life and property values. This is the last thing that Philadelphia needs, it will essentially destroy all the progress and growth of the past ten years. It's a sellout move, it's wrong for the affected communities, and it's wrong for elected officials to not respect the voices of the people.

Rich McKellan  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1147097579848  
**From:** Jesse Keenan  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Councilman Mariano, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 10:12 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Please give Philadelphia the chance it deserves to continue to develop itself into a great city. We do not want or need casinos in our city. We want responsible development of the Delaware waterfront and North Philadelphia. The meager tax dollars that the casinos will bring comes with increased traffic, congestion,

We need your help with the casinos!

drunk driving, litter, etc. In other words, it is NOT WORTH IT.

PLEASE consider what Philadelphia needs for its long term growth and do not let these casinos be built.

Jesse Keenan

Jesse Keenan

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**Id:** 1147095953727  
**From:** Chris Wirtalla  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 9:45 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes,

As your constituent, I ask that you please do everything possible to reconsider the casinos on the Philadelphia riverfront. The riverfront area is such an untapped resource for the city, and filling it with tacky casinos, towers, and other commercialized ventures will be such a waste of a beautiful area. What this city needs is a connection to its waterfront that residents can truly take advantage of and enjoy, rather than attracting outsiders for short-term gains and long-term negative effects. I would like to see the waterfront be developed in a classy way that is both respectful of Philadelphia's history and encourages our city's residents to be active and outdoors. I urge you not to succumb to financial pressures and consider the well-being of your city and its residents first. Thank you.

Fishtown resident

Chris Wirtalla

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**Id:** 1147095613536  
**From:** Gary Tumolo



We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 8, 2006 9:40 am

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** no

Hello,

I am a resident of South Philadelphia and also an employee with the Office of Housing and Community Development, City of Philadelphia. Where I am in support of the redevelopment of the waterfront in CC and South Philadelphia, I am in opposition to this development being a casino. A casino will increase traffic in an already congested area. I believe the crime rate will increase and the police force is already stretched too tightly. The proposed location is very close to rowhomes, schools and parks. I feel that in addition to crimes of theft and prostitution, the children will be at risk by drunken predators. I also feel that casinos attract mainly low and moderate income individuals as well as seniors. Many of the local residents of this area will gamble away any money they have and incur un-needed debt. Putting a Casino in South Philly is like switching the Mummer's Parade to Market Street; something that was done for the tourists and visitors staying at the hotels on Market Street at the expense of the local residents of Philadelphia. I remember when Casinos were proposed in Atlantic City. The developers assured residents that money would be put back into the city and the area would improve. Walk just one block away from the Boardwalk and it is obvious that the area surrounding casinos has yet to improve. There has to be other ways of redeveloping the water front that are more family and neighborhood friendly. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Gary Tumolo

Gary Tumolo

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**Id:** 1147095357638

**From:** Gary Tumolo

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

We need your help with the casinos!

**Date:** May 8, 2006 9:35 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Hello,

I am a resident of South Philadelphia and also an employee with the Office of Housing and Community Development, City of Philadelphia. Where I am in support of the redevelopment of the waterfront in CC and South Philadelphia, I am in opposition to this development being a casino. A casino will increase traffic in an already congested area. I believe the crime rate will increase and the police force is already stretched too tightly. The proposed location is very close to rowhomes, schools and parks. I feel that in addition to crimes of theft and prostitution, the children will be at risk by drunken predators. I also feel that casinos attracted mainly low and moderate income individuals as well as seniors. Many of the local residents of this area will gamble away any money they have and incur unneeded debt. Putting a Casino in South Philly is like switching the Mummer's Parade to Market Street; something that was done for the tourists and visitors staying at the hotels on Market at the expense of the local residents of Philadelphia. I remember when Casinos were proposed in Atlantic City. The developers assured residents that money would be put back into the city and the area would improve. Walk just one block away from the Boardwalk and it is obvious that the area surrounding casinos has yet to improve. There has to be other ways of redeveloping the water front that are more family and neighborhood friendly. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Gary Tumolo

Gary Tumolo

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**Id:** [1147095104011](#)  
**From:** Collin Robinson  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 9:31 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Please don't sell out my neighborhood for tax dollars. This is

We need your help with the casinos!

where real, taxpaying, hardworking people live-the people who put you into office!

Collin Robinson



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**Id:** [1147094470977](#)  
**From:** Jennifer Nye  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 9:21 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Councilmen- Which one of you would like a casino in your back yard?? Does Donald Trump or any of the Foxwoods officials live near a casino? I think zero, none, and no fits the bill for both questions.

What major city in the United States that is anything reputable has a casino in it? Las Vegas- the commercials are validating 'what happens in vegas stays in vegas'...as if they dont mean drinking, partying, gambling, drugs and sex. or lets look at New Orleans.. the city of Mardi Gras, the big easy!!! Atlantic City- hookers still line up on the streets. NICE! GREAT! I SHOULD MOVE THERE! I somehow doubt anyone with class is saying anything such as that... and signing up to move within a 1 mile radius of any of those casinos.

Philadelphia is a city with so much history- are we going to cluster ourselves with those models?

People dont care about how they conduct themselves when those cities. We want that for our city?????????

I urge all of you congressmen to think about what you would want in your back yard, what you would want if you were a resident in that community. I'm not a long time resident, I'm a brand new member in the community that takes pride in my home and where I live. I'm in the new generation that is buying these homes and starting my life in a city that I love. Thank you for your attention and time. Jennifer Nye

Jennifer Nye



We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1147090874872  
**From:** Lisa Cotterall  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 8:21 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Dear Elected Officials,

As a tax-payer and registered voter, I want to express my opposition to the planned Foxwoods casino on Columbus Blvd. I recently moved to the Passyunk Square neighborhood, and am pleased to see so much revitalization of South Philadelphia. A large casino that is open 24 hours a day, with an estimated 9 million patrons per year would have a very negative impact on the neighborhoods and the traffic in South Philly.

I am all for revitalizing the waterfront along the Delaware River. It could be a beautiful, family-friendly place to visit, similar to Navy Pier in Chicago, or Baltimore's Inner Harbor. But a casino will cause so much traffic congestion, light pollution, and could lead to increased crime rate in the area (from serving alcohol all hours of the day).

I urge you to reconsider the location of Foxwoods Casino, so that it does not have a negative impact on an established neighborhood.

Thank you,  
Lisa Cotterall

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**Id:** 1147088913283  
**From:** Diane M. Fryer  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 8, 2006 7:48 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

**Private: no**

I've lived in South Philly for 15 years and have bought 2 homes here over that time. I have been witness to the fabulous revitalization of South Philly over those years and can say that I am very opposed to the proposed placement of a casino along Delaware Avenue.

The area is already congested with traffic from the existing businesses along this stretch of riverfront. I don't think that this expanse of South Philly and it's proximity to Center City and the Stadium complex is the best place to route even more traffic into.

Another of my concerns is that the troublesome situations posed by a casino are not easily fixable and will create a problem for the city as people will move to get away from this nightmare. Situations have occurred on South Street at various times in the past where outside visitors dictated the tone of the neighborhood and gave the feeling that a free-for-all time was there for the taking. The solution was years of enforced curfews (people and businesses) and a huge police presence to maintain the area.

South Philly is an area that has been revitalized mostly because of the neighborhoody feel and slower pace that has attracted so many to choose to live here rather than deal with the bustle of center city. I fear the loss of this wonderful area of the city should a casino be shoehorned into an already compressed area.

The changes brought about by a casino in south Philly would be hugely detrimental to the safety and property values of the surrounding community and for the city of Philadelphia. I strongly believe that the placement of a casino in South Philadelphia is the WRONG move. I implore you to reconsider the Casino proposal and explore other possibilities for this area of the city.

Thank you for your consideration.

M A Stumpf



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**Id:** 1147048487228  
**From:** Mary Claire O'Mara

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 7, 2006 8:34 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** no

As a parent of a two year old daughter, and a homeowner, I am very concerned with the proposal to put a casino around the corner (on Columbus, between Reed and Tasker) from my house.

1. The I 95 offramps onto Front Street will greatly increase the traffic flow in an area where my daughter (and the many other children in the neighborhood) live and play. In fact, the playground we frequent on a daily basis is located on Front Street!
2. The inevitable crime (drugs, prostitution, etc.) that surround the gambling world will also have a negative impact on our quality of life.
3. The increased traffic and crime will negatively affect our property values. This is not a "blighted neighborhood" as Foxwoods would like to imply. Recently, a house on our block sold for approximately \$500,000.00.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration. Please do all that you can to stop the casinos!

Mary Claire O'Mara

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**Id:** 1147039783170

**From:** Janet Lowe

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 7, 2006 6:09 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** yes

As much as I believe in development and I am not opposed to casinos. The reports and articles I have read show that the developers have no regard for the communities surrounding their

We need your help with the casinos!

projects. Casinos are about gambling and drinking. If the developers do not design these projects to have the least impact on the adjacent communities, the potential disturbances and negative impacts to these revitalized communities may have long term devastating effects.

Philadelphia is experiencing a Renaissance. Please design a project that will enhance Philadelphia's image not sully it.

Janet Lowe  


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**Id:** 1147032792326  
**From:** Kevin  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 7, 2006 4:13 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I am strongly opposed to a casino near my neighborhood. I know what negative effects gambling (not the euphemism "gaming") often has on susceptible individuals and families: how it sucks the money out of local investment. It's also an increasing contributor to suicide b/c of the bankruptcy that can follow. There are traffic issues as well that worry me greatly. Please strongly defend us against having a casino anywhere in South Philly.

Thank you.

Kevin  


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**Id:** 1147019058993  
**From:** Lisa Calvano  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 7, 2006 12:24 pm



**Subject: We need your help with the casinos!**

**Private: no**

I live at 7th & Federal and am very concerned about the presence of a casino in my neighborhood. As I was skimming the economic impact report, a couple of sentences jumped out immediately:

"The City will need to increase some expenditures for the provision of services required by the presence of the casino. The largest is likely to be police" (p. E-6 bottom).

Recently I read an article in the newspaper saying that our police force is already stretched thin to the point that people who report crimes such as residential robberies are left waiting for hours, and sometimes days, before the police are able to respond. If the city can't afford more police to address existing crime, how can it possibly deal with the added burden of casino-related public disturbances and crime.

Furthermore, the existing riverfront development has made traffic on Delaware Avenue a nightmare. Most afternoons and evenings, the traffic is already bumper-to-bumper. I can't imagine what would happen if the casino is built.

Lisa Calvano

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**Id:** 1147011894780  
**From:** Kathleen Short  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCiccio, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 7, 2006 10:24 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

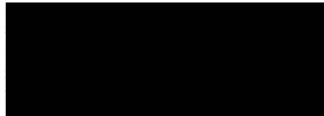
For the last 13 years, I have lived in different areas of the city of Philadelphia. When it came time to buy a house, I chose to buy in South Philadelphia. The strong community spirit was evident from the first house we saw. The residents clean up their streets and look out for each other. South Philadelphia is a neighborhood of families, with a desperate need for more green space and community-friendly development. To choose to ignore this need and plan for the development of an entertainment venue that is decidedly unfriendly to families is a betrayal of the

We need your help with the casinos!

trust of your constituents.

Putting a casino in South Philadelphia, a residential neighborhood, does not make sense. The increase in traffic will send this already crowded neighborhood sliding back downward to depression. People who have recently moved into the neighborhood to become part of an up-and-coming area will sell their homes and head for the suburbs. What will become of the new luxury condos being built all over? A casino will unleash untold numbers of alcohol- and rage-fueled gamblers onto our streets. Please listen to the many voices being raised in opposition to this project.

Kathleen Short



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**Id:** 1147008288632  
**From:** **Christine Weeks**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **May 7, 2006 9:24 am**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **no**

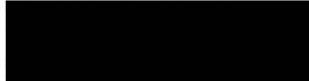
The City of Philadelphia needs time to figure out how to make the casinos an opportunity rather than a burden that will ruin our quality of life. For that reason, I ask that you, as my elected representatives in the city, support citizens' efforts to study and plan for the impending casinos.

This is a critical issue that has not received the thought and planning it merits. We need more time and we need resources to make accurate studies of the sites and to plan well. It seems that the impact on neighborhoods, traffic, and overall quality of life has not been considered.

Please help the citizens of Philadelphia maintain a vibrant and livable city.

Christine Weeks


Christine Weeks



We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1146973927609  
**From:** Erin Wade  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Williams  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 11:52 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no


Please, Please, Please do not allow the infiltration of the casinos in Philadelphia. There is nothing positive about their presence, and they are NOT wanted. Much better ways of creating jobs can be focused on and there are MUCH better things to invest in rather than casinos, all it takes is a little creative thinking and willingness.

Erin Wade  


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**Id:** 1146970731409  
**From:** Blayer Pointdujour  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 10:58 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I've been living in philly for 10 months now. I started going to a church in fishtown called Circle of Hope. One of our main focuses in our church is to rejuvenate our community to the great luster it once had. There are alot of new privately owned businesses that are about to open soon. And we have taken on the task of making our space a great music venue! Frankford could become the next Girard if u give it time. So please dont build casinos!

Blayer Pointdujour  


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**Id:** 1146961778985  
**From:** Anna Gebbie

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 6, 2006 8:29 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** yes

The last thing South Philly needs is a casino. We have too much trash and traffic as it is, without all the crowds and pathologies a casino would bring. It's time to start looking for development that will improve the area and the city, not suck it dry.

Anna Gebbie

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**Id:** 1146957187138

**From:** joycemigliarese

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 6, 2006 7:13 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** no

Dear Sir and Madam,

I live a couple blocks from where Foxwood wants to put a casino. I have an issue with traffic. I travel 95 all the time and I can't imagine the traffic coming home. I shop at local stores that takes me 5 minutes to get to and again I can't imagine getting around that type of traffic.

Our Historical neighborhood, that just has reached some of its' potential will be blighted and property values will crash if this awful casino is built. Don't let this happen to us (your voters).

Joyce Migliarese


joycemigliarese

We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1146947703134  
**From:** Megan Scott  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 4:35 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

The proposed casinos will not ultimately change the face of the Philadelphia economy for those who most need it. The casinos will either push those among us who are poor out, or will encourage addictive behavior among those who feel like the only way out of the poverty cycle is through gambling.

The casinos will destroy the growing beauty of our city's neighborhoods...especially as it is targeted at those that have enjoyed recent construction and new retail...and will begin to cater to people coming in from out of town to enjoy the casino experience. If we want Philadelphia to grow for Philadelphians we need to stop the casino experiment now!

Megan Scott  


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**Id:** 1146946761918  
**From:** Shirley  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 4:19 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

I am contacting you to oppose the casino development of the Delaware River waterfront.

Here is what I am opposed to:

I am opposed to the additional traffic that equates to an additional 1,000 cars per hour or a constant 3 mile traffic jam.

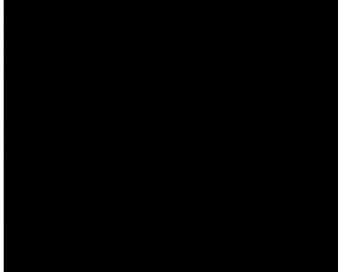
I am opposed to the increase of crime, which will affect an approximate 15 mile radius of Philadelphia that is admitted to by City Administration and the casino developers.

We need your help with the casinos!

I am opposed to the fact that the residents of Philadelphia have not been given a fair and equal voice in the decision process of determining how the riverfront will be developed.

I am opposed to the expected 4.6% loss of property value for homes within a one mile radius of a casino along the waterfront.

Shirley Cook



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**Id:** 1146940497172  
**From:** Aurora Deshauteurs  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 2:34 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

As much as I believe in development and I am not opposed to casinos. The reports and articles I have read show that the developers have no regard for the communities surrounding their projects. Casinos are about gambling and drinking. If the developers do not design these projects to have the least impact on the adjacent communities, the potential disturbances and negative impacts to these revitalized communities may have long term devastating effects.

Philadelphia is experiencing a Renaissance. Please design a project that will enhance Philadelphia's image not sully it.

Aurora Deshauteurs



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**Id:** 1146940037000  
**From:** Alanna Ralph

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 6, 2006 2:27 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** no

I am writing today to express my strong opinion against building casinos in Philadelphia. I Grew up in a small town in Philadelphia and Im opening a business here. I love my area and wouldn't ever consider leaving it until now. I feel my opinions and other residents voices are not being heard. Most people in our City are against to the building of these toxic casinos.

Philadelphia is so rich in history, and is a place people take pride in their neighborhoods. I think the building of New huge casino's, will destroy what makes Philadelphia a great family oriented, historical valued, laid back, City of Pride.

Take away all the effort and residents opinions, and you will turn my city into a crime ridden, gambling addicted, traffic congested, named "party town"... just like the Atlantic City, and Las Vegas. Why must we accept this as the only option? Atlantic city is 1.5 - 2hr drive from Philadelphia, why must we have this negativity in our own back yard? Are you ready to turn Philadelphia into a classless place, you will be moving the loyal, family oriented, pride filled people from their homes, to find a less toxic place to live. Consider my opinions, as well as my neighbors who are against the building of these Casinos. Thank you for your time. Alanna Ralph

Alanna Ralph

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**Id:** [1146933639978](#)

**From:** Dennis Dougherty

**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street

**Date:** May 6, 2006 12:40 pm

**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private:** no

Do not let big business ruin all we have worked for. I am struggling to everything to do everything right, I work hard,



We need your help with the casinos!

pay taxes etc. I look at my home as an investment that cannot be bulldozed by these casino lobbies.

Dennis Dougherty

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**Id:** [1146933534298](#)  
**From:** **Dennis Dougherty**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **May 6, 2006 12:38 pm**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **no**

Do not let big business ruin all we have worked for. I am struggling to everything I can to pay taxes etc. I look at my home as an investment that cannot be bulldozed by these casino lobbies.

Dennis Dougherty

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**Id:** [1146932949684](#)  
**From:** **Daniel Snook**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione**  
**Date:** **May 6, 2006 12:29 pm**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **yes**

Dear Elected Reprerentatives:

I am one of many, many Philadelphia residents who believe the construction of casinos on the waterfront would be a costly mistake. The ill effects of this endeavor on our neighborhoods will clearly be greater than the benefits. As many people have pointed out, casinos have NEVER benefited their local communities; we have Atlantic City and Las Vegas as damning evidence. As officials who make pivotal decisions, you have much of the power to influence the state government and the Gaming

We need your help with the casinos!

Commission's decisions. Please consider the longterm health of this great city and the quality of life of its people.

At the very least, please do everything in your power to let the community engage in the dialogue over the next several months. We should heed the words of Mayor John Street, who said in January 2005, "We have worked too hard to have others not invested in our city make uninformed decisions that could dramatically impact our business environment and quality of life. For gaming to work, it must be done right."

I join with local civic communities in making the following requests to the Philadelphia Gaming Advisory Task Force:

The City should call on the Gaming Control Board to postpone casino licensing to no earlier than June 1, 2007.

The City should call on the Gaming Control Board to release casino applicants' full proposals to the public (excepting legally sensitive portions); to extend the public comment deadline to December 31, 2006; and to schedule a second round of public hearings for the fall of 2007.

The City should promptly activate the Philadelphia Gaming Commission, as recommended by the Gaming Advisory Task Force. Prompt activation would include funding of the Commission by the City administration, and appointment of members by the Mayor and City Council, by May 15.

Provision should be made for direct community representation of the Philadelphia Gaming Commission.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Snook

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**Id:** [1146928895569](#)  
**From:** Brian  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 11:21 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!

**Private: yes**

Dear Elected Representatives:

I am one of many, many Philadelphia residents who believe the construction of casinos on the waterfront would be a costly mistake. The ill effects of this endeavor on our neighborhoods will clearly be greater than the benefits. As many people have pointed out, casinos have NEVER benefited their local communities; we have Atlantic City and Las Vegas as damning evidence. As officials who make pivotal decisions, you have much of the power to influence the state government and the Gaming Commission's decisions. Please consider the longterm health of this great city and the quality of life of its people.

At the very least, please do everything in your power to let the community engage in the dialogue over the next several months. We should heed the words of Mayor John Street, who said in January 2005, "We have worked too hard to have others not invested in our city make uninformed decisions that could dramatically impact our business environment and quality of life. For gaming to work, it must be done right."

I join with local civic communities in making the following requests to the Philadelphia Gaming Advisory Task Force:

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The City should promptly activate the Philadelphia Gaming Commission, as recommended by the Gaming Advisory Task Force. Prompt activation would include funding of the Commission by the City administration, and appointment of members by the Mayor and City Council, by May 15.

Provision should be made for direct community representation of the Philadelphia Gaming Commission.

Sincerely,

Brian  
[REDACTED]

We need your help with the casinos!

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**Id:** 1146928556877  
**From:** Barbara Paquette  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 11:15 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I'm not happy that a casino may be imposed on my neighborhood.

I'm working on a fixer upper house in an up and coming neighborhood. Still, I feel that this neighborhood could go either way. I am concerned that with a casino, the neighborhood will have a heavier weight of crime, traffic, sparse parking and pollution to overcome, more than what exists now. I'm afraid that with the intensification of so many negatives on this still fragile South Philadelphia neighborhood that it might prove too much to overcome.

I'm also concerned about my reduced rights in light of recent federal eminent domain changes. If a casino can be thrust upon us despite the opposition our neighborhoods muster, I wonder what will be next.

I am definitely concerned, and considering my options.

Barbara Paquette  


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**Id:** 1146922628281  
**From:** Gwen White  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilwoman Blackwell, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Representative Roebuck, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 9:37 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

Please oppose the casinos coming into Philadelphia. My concerns

We need your help with the casinos!

center on the impact these businesses will have on the neighborhoods in which they exist and on the city in general. As a professional in the field of mental health, I do not want this influence incorporated into our environment. It's negative impact on families and on the elderly, particularly those of lower economic means is deeply troubling.

Thank you,  
Gwen White, Psy.D.

Gwen White

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**Id:** 1146920434642  
**From:** Dolores Falzone  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 9:00 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I do not want the casinos in my town. Politicians need to learn how to focus on it's residents. Violent crime in Philadelphia does not need more fuel. All reported facts seem to link negatively to casinos. I do not want casinos in Philadelphia. I do not want casinos in Philadelphia. I do not want casinos in Philadelphia. I do not want casinos in Philadelphia.

Dolores Falzone

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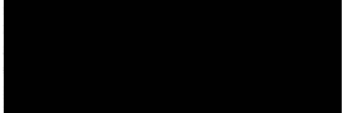
**Id:** 1146890376708  
**From:** Faith Hutchinson  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione, Representative Taylor  
**Date:** May 6, 2006 12:39 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

As an elected official, it is your duty to represent and protect not only your constituents, but all who reside in this city. Casinos do nothing but prey on the poor,

We need your help with the casinos!

those who need protection the most. Please do not let ANYONE bring casinos into our amazing city.

Faith Hutchinson



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**Id:** 1146871489390  
**From:** Anita Gentile  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 7:24 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

The People of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania already voted to let everyone know that they DO NOT WANT A CASINO!!!! I don't understand how this could even become an issue. Take a good look at Atlantic City. The Poor and middle class are in the same situatuion or worse than they were before the casinos came to town. The only ones making money are the politicians and the casino owners. Most of the employees at the casino are NOT locals. They are from Philadelphia and the surrounding areas. If all those who voted against the casinos, voted against Rendell and all his cronies who want the gambling we might get the message across that WE DO NOT WANT THE CASINOS!!!! WE DO NOT WANT THE CASINOS!!! WE DO NOT WANT THE CASINOS!! WE DO NOT WANT THE CASINOS!

Anita Gentile



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**Id:** 1146869840901  
**From:** Sarah Cornelius  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 6:57 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

I think that bringing casinos into the city would only pollute

We need your help with the casinos!

it. Isn't there enough crime already? A casino would mean creating gamblers who could have problems who would have to find other means of getting money to gamble more. Robbery? Drug dealing? Possibly. Of course this is not true for everyone, but is gambling necessary? I think it is far from. It causes more trouble than it is worth. When I think casinos I think Las Vegas, which in turn makes me think of hookers. Would more come here and try to work? Would gambling become an Ok thing? I would not want my children thinking this. Do I want more people crowding into my city and causing more traffic in my neighborhood for a reason that I do not approve of? Of course not. In turn there would be more air pollution. It's not only about the people that this decision would affect, it's the environment. I do not want this in my city and thought that you should know that. If you care anything about this city, you would not let this come here and would try your hardest to fight against it. Thank you for your time.

Sarah Cornelius

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**Id:** 1146868595865  
**From:** Cosmo  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 6:36 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I am writing this letter to voice my concern with this proposal. I am bitterly opposed to the Foxwoods Casino project.

I am a life-long resident of Philadelphia and have resided in Pennsport for approximately 10 years. My wife and I have chosen to stay in the area to raise our two children (8,11). I am a founding member of a charter school, sit on the board for a local park and am employed in the Pharmaceutical industry. My wife is a medical photographer at a local University hospital and jewelry designer. We are also active in both of our boys educations at J.R.Masterman and Independence Charter Schools.



We are perplexed as to why Foxwoods would say our neighborhood is blighted and needs this kind of development. We do not! Our streets are currently busy enough, our new "big box stores" (located on Columbus Blvd.) have created a challenge for our little thoroughfares. Just take a look at Delaware/Columbus Avenues present traffic volume in this corridor, in case you have not noticed it's very busy.

As a constituent I demand our voices be heard. I have stood by this community without any open green-space for my children, very little options for a decent public education and now this issue.

I believe this building proposal needs space that is accessible, without using off-ramps that allow more traffic into this residential area. There is no buffer from our thriving community and this eyesore of a development. I, along with others, believe the plans are not for a world class casino but just a place senior citizens can lose their social security checks. Please understand I am not opposed to new development nor casinos. I would like to see a structure built with design features, a destination my wife and children can dine and shop in. However, we do not want a Foxwoods Casino in our backyard.

If this development is to take place here in South Philadelphia I will be left without any viable options. I will have to move from my home and from this great city. I have lived in an urban environment all of my life but Foxwoods in our backyard would change the very fabric of this vibrant neighborhood. There are other parents in this same position and we have all come to the same conclusion. A Foxwoods Casino location in South Philadelphia would leave us with more traffic, safety concerns, crime, and above all a once great neighborhood to raise our families in.

I would ask for your careful consideration upon deciding where one of the two Philadelphia Casino Gaming Licenses will be located. We are united and will continue to monitor this matter closely.

Yours Truly,

Cosmo Pagano  
Sharren Dadswell-Pagano

Cosmo

We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** [1146863127620](#)  
**From:** **Dr. Bertrand Dussert**  
**To:** **Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **May 5, 2006 5:05 pm**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **yes**

Dear All,

I moved to Philadelphia from Cherry Hill, NJ approximately four years ago. I moved here for the exciting arts and cultural life, the beautiful neighborhoods, and the constant improvement in a city I love. I moved to Queen Village - a historic, beautiful, safe neighborhood within walking distance to restaurants, cafes, parks, and museums. The sanctity and beauty of this neighborhood are now at risk.

The proposed Foxwoods Casino will ruin the historic integrity of Philadelphia's oldest neighborhood. Imagine a casino within viewing distance of Old Swede's Church! Imagine the traffic, drunk drivers, and throngs of gamblers moving past homes dating as far back as 1750 - leaving trash, clogging the streets, seeking easy criminal targets.

My street has seen a resurgence in everything Philadelphia wants - young homeowners moving here from the suburbs, homes being carefully renovated, and families choosing to stay in the city to raise children.

This project will destroy our waterfront. While waterfront development is desirable, residents want parks and green spaces. They want usable space that adds to their quality of life. We do not need further suburbanization of Delaware Avenue, nor do we need a casino. The casino will lead to other similar businesses. There are already enough strip clubs and box stores in that area to negatively affect quality of life. Traffic on any given day is already completely intolerable and often backs up substantially. Moreover, the casino will have a detrimental environmental impact on a city with little sustained green space on its east side.

We need your help with the casinos!

The Foxwoods Casino location will destroy one of the most wonderful neighborhoods in this city. I will not support politicians who support this casino project.

I respectfully, but vehemently, oppose this project.

Dr. Bertrand Dussert

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**Id:** 1146862852220  
**From:** Gregory Line  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCiccio, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 5:00 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

I am regular voter and am opposed to casino development in the city of Philadelphia, in particular the Foxwoods site being proposed at Reed and Columbus Blvd. I have lived here almost four years (in Queen Village - a densely populated area with lots of voters) and moved to the city for what it offers: beautiful and historic neighborhoods, the ability to walk everywhere, and neighbors that are great.

I do not want traffic gridlock in my neighborhood (already poor), my property value to go down, an I95 ramp on Front Street, more air pollution from casino tourists, increased crime in my community, and my quality of life to decline? I am sure you would not want any of these where you live. Consider this when determining to put casinos in Philadelphia.

I will be greatly disappointed by the officials of this city if you follow through with the development of casinos in any part of this city, particularly the Foxwoods site. As an elected official, working on behalf of your constituents, I urge you to hear my voice amongst the thousands of others telling you that this kind of development is not wanted in our city's neighborhoods. Please work on behalf of the people who elected you and vote NO to the casinos!

Gregory Line

We need your help with the casinos!

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**Id:** 1146861764440  
**From:** Dr. Cynthia L. Line  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 4:42 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I moved to the city from New Jersey approximately four years ago. I moved here for the exciting arts and cultural life, the beautiful neighborhoods, and the constant improvement in a city I love. I moved to Queen Village - a historic, beautiful, safe neighborhood within walking distance to restaurants, museums, and my job. The sanctity and beauty of this neighborhood is now at risk.

The proposed Foxwoods Casino will ruin the historic integrity of Philadelphia's oldest neighborhood. Imagine a casino within viewing distance of Old Swede's Church! Imagine the traffic, drunk drivers, and throngs of gamblers moving past homes dating as far back as 1750 - leaving trash, clogging the streets, seeking easy criminal targets.

My street has seen a resurgence in everything Philadelphia wants - young homeowners moving here from the suburbs, homes being carefully renovated, and families choosing to stay in the city to raise children. There are three families with small children on my block. These children attend public schools and have day care in the community. They play in the local park. Their lives will be jeopardized by significant increases in traffic, drunk drivers, and strangers.

This project will destroy our waterfront. While waterfront development is desirable, residents want parks and green spaces. They want usable space that adds to their quality of life. We do not need further suburbanization of Delaware Avenue, nor do we need a casino. The casino will lead to other similar businesses. There are already enough strip clubs and box stores in that area to negatively affect quality of life. Traffic on any given day is already completely intolerable and often backs up substantially. Moreover, the casino will have a detrimental environmental impact on a city with little sustained green space

We need your help with the casinos!

on its east side.

The Foxwoods Casino location will destroy one of the most wonderful neighborhoods in this city. Please keep in mind, a significant number of voters live in Queen Village. This is a densely populated neighborhood with many active, affluent voters. They will not support politicians who support this casino project.

I vehemently oppose this project and I vote.

Dr. Cynthia L. Line

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**Id:** [1146861458120](#)  
**From:** Adele Varenas  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 4:37 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Don't think for a minute that the residents of South Philadelphia are opposed to every type of development plan for Penn's Landing, north and south. We are not. But we are vehemently opposed to the type of single-minded, community UNfriendly development project that the Foxwoods casino and others, would bring to South Philly, Pennsport in particular. This neighborhood, like MOST of Philadelphia, is ripe with historic beauty, historic tradition, and full of residents who are raising their families, paying our taxes, attending our schools, and planning to stay. You are not considering the effect that added pollution and waste will have on one of the loveliest sections of our city. Is Old Swedes' Church to be relegated a postage stamp blip in the casino skyline?

What could possess intelligent people to put a casino and slot parlor within walking distance of a grade school, in the midst of a residential neighborhood. Greed. To put it bluntly, you are all nuts!

Many of my neighbors have written to indicate that traffic and bright lights would harm our neighborhood; that another off ramp to Front Street would bring much unwanted traffic and exhaust directly to our front steps. I agree with them. We Oppose this. Who and what funds are going to rebuild the water

We need your help with the casinos!

and sewer supplies for the development you are considering? Who is going to ensure that pollution of the waterway is prevented? Show us a reasonable, appropriate, lower density, mixed use and RESIDENT-sympathetic development of this valuable site. Then we'll talk.

Adele Varenas  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146849813361  
**From:** Winston Moody  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Williams  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 1:23 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

Dear Elected Official:

I would like to go on record to register how strongly I oppose the Trump Street Casino in East Falls.

This casino is being placed in a neighborhood that is residential. It is also the home of Philadelphia University which places a temptation on students of age.

As studies have shown, a casino will increase traffic congestion, air pollution, and crime. Property values will decrease.

The casino will be detrimental to the quality of life, and will not integrate into the fiber of the community as stores or parks would.

We hope you will use your position to help the East Falls community, which is united in its opposition to the casino, to do what is in your power to reject this proposal.

Thank you, Winston Moody

Winston Moody  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146849370366  
**From:** Winston Moody  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr.

We need your help with the casinos!

Thank you,  
Steven J. Hoke

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**Id:** 1146843998833  
**From:** Holly McLaughlin  
**To:** Mr. Angeli, Councilwoman Blackwell, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Representative Roebuck, Mayor Street, Senator Williams  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 11:46 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

Please take note that this is another voice in opposition to casino development in the city of Philadelphia. I have lived here for over four years and have set my roots in this wonderful city and will be greatly disappointed by the officials of this city if you follow through with the development of casinos in any part of this city. As an elected official, working on behalf of your constituents, I urge you to hear my voice amongst the thousands of others telling you that this kind of development is not wanted in our city's neighborhoods. Please work on behalf of the people who elected you and vote NO to the casinos!

Holly McLaughlin

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**Id:** 1146841906045  
**From:** Jane Clinton  
**To:** Councilwoman Blackwell, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Representative Roebuck, Mayor Street, Senator Williams  
**Date:** May 5, 2006 11:11 am  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** yes

PLEASE don't build the casinos. There is going to be a negative impact. A way to waste money in the hopes of hitting the



We need your help with the casinos!

jackpot cannot be a positive thing for a city that is filled with poverty and pain. Don't subject us to this!! If money is the issue, why not STOP offering tax abatements on the huge corporate buildings and the lofts and new housing for rich people??? Why "tax" the poor who are naively seeking a way to get easy money???? Please listen to us concerned citizens. I love Philadelphia and have chosen to have my family here. I don't want to limit where I go in order to avoid the casino-ridden areas and all the negativity they bring with them.

Thank you for listening to me.

Jane Clinton

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**Id:** 1146839704037  
**From:** **Jeremy Avellino**  
**To:** **Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Councilman Mariano, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas**  
**Date:** **May 5, 2006 10:35 am**  
**Subject:** **We need your help with the casinos!**  
**Private:** **no**

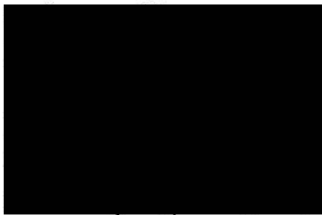
Dear elected officials,

I have never written a letter to you before, but there is a crisis looming in the near future of our dear city that I feel you must know about. I feel that if you only knew how damaging this situation will be, you, possessing vast wisdom and experience, and stewarding the great power We have so generously appointed you, would see no other course than to halt the plans and actions taking place in our backyards. It is of the casino developments that I speak so passionately. I speak this way because I love Philadelphia. I love my neighbors. I love my neighborhood. I love my house, and my block, and the quality of life I am so fortunate to have in this wonderful city. I choose wholeheartedly to live here, as others like me (young, educated, creative) flee elsewhere to cities that appreciate their talented citizens. Like I said, I love this city, and I'm staying here. And Im going to help make it better and better. Its a wonderful time to be a Philadelphian, largely because of all the change happening around here. So many eyes and ears are pointed towards our city, and our actions and choices are being watched and scrutinized. We are being touted as the "next great city," among other things. I really enjoy this, but i believe we were always

We need your help with the casinos!

a great city, people just didn't know. As we move through our growing pains though, I affirm the difficulty of your jobs! Thank you for doing them, for making many tough decisions every day that effect thousands and thousands of people. In that affirmation, though, I implore you to please please please consider the immediate and long term effects that these casinos will have on our fair city, especially the neighborhoods directly surrounding the proposed sites. Please consider issues outside of the revenue they will create. Please hear the voices of the people who so generously provide you with daily work. Please please please give us time to digest all that is happening to us (as we all work one or two jobs to make a living) from other folks' rapid decisions. Please consider what it might be like to live near one of these casinos. Please see the proven outcomes of what its like to live near casinos that already exist....i.e. Atlantic City, Las Vegas, etc....Please hear us. Please dignify the relationship we have as citizens to elected officials by hearing our collective cry, and authentically considering the possibility that this proposed development will do more harm to our city than good. Please consider a more studied, sustainable approach to development along our underutilized waterfront. Please Please Please hear us and give us time to have a dignified conversation about such magnanimous decisions being made effecting our quality of life. Please consider the possibility that the greatness of a city may not be measured by the influx of revenue, but by how we, as a whole, relate and care for our marginalized citizens, of which we have many. Please consider that these casinos will only further that marginalization, harming people, and the small ecosystems known as neighborhoods in which they live, in which WE live. These neighborhoods are the lifeblood of the this city, a city of small towns, small 'hoods. Please put the priorities of the neighbors and their neighborhoods at the center of your hearts and minds, and at the forefront of your decision making process. In this most crucial hour, I implore you, our leaders, please do not forsake us. Thank you so much for reading this, and for working as hard as you do every day. Sincerely,

Jeremy Avellino



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**Id:** 1146795839018


We need your help with the casinos!

**From:** Heather Morrison  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 4, 2006 10:23 pm  
**Subject:** We need your help with the casinos!  
**Private:** no

I have voted in every election since I turned 18 but have never written to an elected official until now. The mere suggestion of a casino megaplex being constructed 1 mile from my home has inspired me to write.

Act 71 is the worst Harrisburg produced legislation on record. The arrogance of the writers of the bill is astounding and offensive. Contrary to popular sentiment in the state capitol, all Philadelphians are not corrupt and ignorant. We are hard working, intelligent people who know what is best for our neighborhoods. We know that putting boxy, tacky, tourist trap styled casinos 450 feet from residential communities without a comprehensive planning study is absurd. We also know that no piece of state legislation will ever lower our taxes as the politicians from outside the city have made clear their anti-Philadelphia bias. If they are so adamant that this legislation does not get held up in "NIMBY" politics, then let them build casinos in their communities.

Clearly, there is a disconnect between the voters and the politicians. Philadelphians do not need a greedy, clueless representative from outside of our city dictating that a casino belongs in our neighborhood.

Heather Morrison  


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**Id:** [1146777067178](#)  
**From:** Nicole Hostettler  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 4, 2006 5:11 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I'm not necessarily against this, but I do think more time to

We need your help with the casinos!

evaluate the stacks of information and derive more solutions. As a city planner, I've handled several applications where a reasonable balance occurs; however, more time is needed. Much more. NJ Municipal Land Use Law allows 180 days for a large-scale application such as this, and this is just to get through the initial stages. More time please.

Nicole Hostettler  


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**Id:** 1146771160630  
**From:** Amy Martin  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilwoman Miller, Representative Myers, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Washington  
**Date:** May 4, 2006 3:32 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

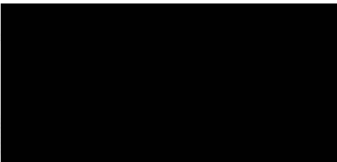
To whom this may concern:

Please stop this action of putting casinos in Philadelphia. Our neighborhood is currently under a lot of stress from drug sales, last week 1/2 a block away there was a fatal drug shooting. This has been intensified by a small corner store who is in with the drug users.

If this is the impact a small store has on our neighborhood, I'm afraid to think of what these large casinos will do. Our city struggles with so much right now, why would we want to compound our problems. Putting casinos right in the midst of neighborhoods IS NOT GOOD FOR THE CITY!!!! Look at the immediate surroundings of Atlantic City. Those who didn't have the money to move where left in the wasteland.

PLEASE STOP THE CASINOS FROM COMING TO PHILLY!!!!

Thank you!  
sincerely a concerned citizen

Amy Martin  


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**Id:** 1146752189285  
**From:** Benjamin Long  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione, Representative Taylor  
**Date:** May 4, 2006 10:16 am  
**Subject:** Casinos are not wanted  
**Private:** no

Elected officials and gaming board members:

Do you understand that you are not representing the will of the people? We do not want casinos in Philadelphia, especially in residential neighborhoods. Even the gaming advisory task force report states that more people believe that gaming will have a negative impact on their lives, than those who think it will be positive.

I am opposed to casinos on moral, ethical, AND aesthetic grounds. We do not need the huge problems of traffic, pollution, crime, drop in property values, social ills, and financial desperation that comes with gambling. Nor do we need ugly cheesy slots barns junking up the waterfront; save the river for development for the people.

Act 71 was bad legislation, benefitting those who passed it while forcing a sea change on a public that had no say in it. Give the people more time to learn the facts, and to make their opinions heard.

Benjamin Long  


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**Id:** 1146717192907  
**From:** Michael O'Reilly  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 4, 2006 12:33 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am writing to encourage all of you leaders to help those in you communities deal with the casinos. I myself do not want the casinos in Fishtown as it will negatively affect the quality of life I have come to enjoy here on Montgomery Ave.

Studies show that property values actually go down in the areas surrounding casinos, not to mention the impact that these huge behemoths will have on traffic and parking and crime and pollution of all sorts.

We need your help with the casinos!

I am also writing to encourage you, our leaders, to make the crafting of laws that directly affect the citizens of this state more transparent to, and inclusive of those same citizens.

Thank you

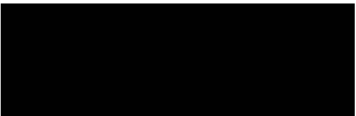
A concerned but proud Fishtown resident

Michael O'Reilly  


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**Id:** [1146710041824](#)  
**From:** Denise Rossi  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 3, 2006 10:34 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

No casino in Pennsport!

Denise Rossi  


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**Id:** [1146709931572](#)  
**From:** Laura Compton  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 3, 2006 10:32 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Please, do not let this happen to Pennsport's neighborhood!  
We can't afford to end up like Atlantic City. Did you know that there are the same amount of people in all of Atlantic City than there are in the 1 mile area of the Foxwoods site? Wow!  
Did you also know that the last super market just closed in Atlantic City? Wow, that's the progress that casinos bring?

We need your help with the casinos!

Laura Compton  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146708240893  
**From:** michelle marcuse  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Councilman Mariano, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** May 3, 2006 10:04 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am writing to express my disgust and dismay for the plans of building casinos in our grand historic city of Philadelphia. As our elected officials, I implore you to please hear the voices of your constituents, and there are many of us, who believe that the addition of gaming houses will undermine the positive growth in our communities. We all have worked hard to dig PHiladelphia out of its hole, and to create a sophisticated and culture-full destination. Please please don't tamper with this....please just say 'no' to casinos.

I am not going to express here all the downsides of such an industry for it has been already written down in numerous letters by angry citizens regarding this issue.

I do not want to live and deal with the pollution, the blocked roads, the addictions. If gaming houses come to town, there will be a continuous stream of strangers 24/7.  
I will move to another city because Philadelphia will no longer feel like home.

I am not going to express here all the downsides of such an industry for it has been already written down letters by numerous angry citizens regarding this issue.

I do not want to live and deal with the pollution, the blocked roads, the addiction. If gaming houses come to town, there will be a continuous stream of strangers 24/7.  
I will move to another city because Philadelphia will no longer feel like home .

michelle marcuse  
[REDACTED]



**Id:** 1146704642601  
**From:** mary etta hornbeck  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 3, 2006 9:04 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Elected Officials and the Gaming board:

I absolutely hate the thought of a casino in my back yard. Why? I am from Atlantic City and I saw what casinos did there. The crime, prostitution, drunks, corruption, not to mention all the legitimate businesses leaving town.

We have worked hard to bring our neighborhood up to a desired level only to now know no one will support us in stopping Foxwoods. My house is my retirement money and I will move rather than live the lifestyle imposed upon me which the casinos would bring.

Where do you think all that traffic is going to go? Delaware Ave. is now so busy on the weekends because of the new Ikea, Lowes that putting 5,000 to 10,000 more cars on this street is impossible. Are you going to put in a new ramp? Isn't it illegal to have a ramp for the sole purpose of one private company? What about all the historic places in the area? Are you going to destroy our history along with our neighborhood?

What about the 24 hour light show shining in our windows so we can't sleep?

Nothing good can come in having a casino in a residential neighborhood, not in my neighborhood. The only people I can see benefiting from this would be the casino owners and the elected officials.

Do you like your jobs? Would you like to be re-elected? Don't let this casino happen. Please.

Sincerely,  
Mary Etta Hornbeck

**Id:** 1146690183741  
**From:** Mary O. Reinhart

We need your help with the casinos!

**To: Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**

**Date: May 3, 2006 5:03 pm**

**Subject: Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**

**Private: no**

Dear Public Officials,

I am writing to you today to appeal to your better natures and to the commitment to public service you demonstrate by your hard work in holding public office.

As we all know the goal of public officials should be to protect the well-being, the health, the safety and the quality of life of their ordinary hard-working and honest constituents.

Show your commitment to these vital goals by listening carefully to our heartfelt outcry against the proposed Foxwoods' installations, their sprawling slot slums & hotels & retail outlets & nightclubs and the vile corruption & the crime & the gridlock & the social upheaval & the pollution & the highway off ramps & the crumbling property values they will inevitably drag along in their wake.

Listen well to our outcry and take action!

Give us more time to oppose this blight.

Give us the means to fight the deep deep pockets of these money hungry exploiters of our vulnerable citizens, our sweet close-knit neighborhoods, our historic buildings, our river environment, our tiny charming streets and our peace of mind.

Give us the means to make zoning decisions.

Give us a true voice on the boards, commissions, committees which will make the final decisions.

Give these simple things to us.

If you don't give us these things you will fail us, fail the very impulses that led you and others like you to seek the public trust we have so far bestowed on you.

If you don't give us these things, you will have to live with our severe judgements of your ethics and of your humanity and of your honesty. And you will have to live with your own.

We need your help with the casinos!

Sincerely and hopefully,  
Mary O. Reinhart

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**Id:** 1146689290121  
**From:** judiy platt  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 3, 2006 4:48 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Visitors love Philadelphia--the ease of walking, the green parks, the variety of restaurants, the old houses actually lived in by real people, the living history. Develop the waterfront with more of the same, and businesses, too. Lets leave casinos to Atlantic City.

judiy platt

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**Id:** 1146606203155  
**From:** Mr. Joseph P. Bridy, AIA  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 2, 2006 5:43 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Someone is gambling with the value of your home and the character of your historic neighborhood. If you live near a proposed casino development on the Delaware River, please consider the odds. Likely you have not been invited to the party, or seated at the table or even been given a chance to place a bet on the outcome. This game is being played mostly at your neighborhoods' and your personal economic expense. Do you know who, when and why?

I live in South Philadelphia, very near the proposed casino site at Columbus Blvd. and Reed Street. The proposed developer there, Philadelphia Entertainment and Development Partners, L.P. , AKA Foxwoods. So this message was written with that site in mind. I think, however, that my concerns are universal in all historic residential and mixed-use communities that would be host to a 24-hour casino gambling project on this enormous scale. This is also true, I believe, for smaller towns and townships that the state is suddenly proposing as host communities for casino gambling enterprises elsewhere in Pennsylvania.

First of all, the need for redevelopment of this area of the city is well appreciated in South Philadelphia. Most of my neighbors are not opposed to an appropriate, medium density, mixed use and sympathetic development of this valuable site. That is exactly what we are asking for! We share, with the state and the city, the common social and economic goals for redeveloping this unique riverfront into a vibrant pedestrian, transportation, business and family friendly cityscape. We need a design that makes use of the riverfront and open landscape and provides mixed uses, which do not turn a blind front to the neighborhood or the unique Delaware River environment.

I am hoping that democratic rule and respect for common law will prevail over special interests' lobbying. We do not need, and cannot afford at the peoples' expense, an outdated, undemocratic and amoral public policy in misguided service to private corporate commercial entities. I have no good answer to what would be done, after the fact, to prevent permanent economic and social harm to the residential and commercial areas around the casino, should it be built. I see what happened in Atlantic City, New Jersey and to communities hosting casinos in Connecticut. It is not a pretty picture socially or economically. Why would I want that here in South Philly? I would not choose to live in Atlantic City precisely because the casinos are located there. The best I can say is that it will be a poor use of that parcel of land on the waterfront and will be most likely a detriment to residents which currently live around the current planned casino development. A venue like a casino, is a basically a windowless box of a building. It could be put anywhere, but, to make any economic benefit real, it simply must be put where it will do more good than harm. There are many better sites along the several miles of river available. In my opinion, Southeast Philly in general, and especially the residential area north, south and west of the site, is doing quite well financially in 2006 without such an intrusive and inappropriate development.

Consider just one adverse effect based upon proposed frequency of use by visitors to the casino in automobiles. As far as the

additional vehicular traffic impact and what Foxwood's traffic experts will say, I suspect that they have little economic interest in evaluating current and proposed traffic volumes at this site in a comprehensive, accurate and balanced manner. They may be seeing Foxwood's proposal with rose colored glasses for a number of reasons. Some elected and appointed state and local politicians, along with the private "gaming" corporations, have already made a decision that this casino proposal represents the highest and best possible use for this site at Columbus Blvd. and Reed Streets. That is why a timely and thorough public review and our local zoning authority has been restricted or entirely eliminated from the "approval" process. So, I do not think the site is (or will be) evaluated fairly by any party with a financial or political interest in that one outcome, that the casino be built.

And as far as the local community benefiting directly or indirectly from the value of the development, the cheaper it costs to build and quicker it can be opened, the better for the project stake holders. It is not likely that any (let alone all) potential problems for those who already live and work in the area will be taken seriously or mitigated adequately. It is in the corporations best interest to put as much of the secondary and tertiary costs of the project on anyone, and everyone, but the corporate shareholders in the project. That list of non-stakeholders includes the city, the neighbors and also, in truth, the casino's employees and customers. The casino's customers will always leave with less money than they came in with; the price of the thrill is the casino's gross profit. That same money will not be spent on housing, housekeeping, house improvements or renovations, food, entertainment, childcare or health care. Just as surly as this local money will leave the area, the social and economic problems caused by the casino's operation will stay right here in Philadelphia, in our homes, our neighborhoods and in our bankruptcy courts, social service centers, health clinics, jails, prisons and hospitals.

If you need some useful historic background information on how some corporations make a cynical game out of skirting the letter of federal and state lobbying rules, anti-trust, securities and accounting law, rent and watch the documentary "The Corporation." If you want to see what is really going on "behind the scenes" in big business, watch "Walmart, The High Cost of Low Price" and see how powerful corporations and local government are unequal partners in planning, zoning regulation and the granting of tax breaks to corporations. For more high crimes and MBA high jinks watch, "Enron, the Smartest Guys in the Room." Enron Inc. was long hailed as the corporation of the future, the best and the brightest, by the Wall Street powers that be, in and out of

government. It turns out many of the corporate officers were working hard at enriching themselves at the expense of their customers, employees and, yes, even the corporation's ill informed trusting shareholders.

As I see it, most of the community outreach by the casino is at best a half hearted effort to tell the half truth, but only if the selected fact will fit within the corporate business plan. Its main aim is to generally confirm the midnight decisions made behind closed doors in Harrisburg. The rest of the environmental impact reports and studies will likely downplay if not confuse the real economic impact and health issues involved and to appear complete to the uninformed. Have you noticed how little local or regional "press" or "media attention" this "casino in our town" issues is getting? That dearth of coverage is not because the situation is not news or because it is not known to be important to the public welfare. The lack of serial media coverage is because the people's right to know and act to protect their homes and neighborhoods from harm is being systematically infringed. We know, "Follow the Money" is the mantra of all serious investigative reporting. Is that being done here? Who stands to gain the most, and lose the least financially from this development? Certainly, this long list does not include many, if it includes any, of the proposed casino's residential and mixed-use neighbors.

Remember that these same neighborhoods fought the federal government over thirty years ago when I-95 was rammed over or through the poorest neighborhoods and under the wealthy neighborhoods along the Delaware River side of our city. The fact that our famous South Street is one of the most successful mixed use shopping and entertainment districts in the city and region is due to the successful fight against proposed interstate access ramps. These ramps from I-95 were being located there to make that historic street into a thruway feeder ramp between two interstates. The same tired arguments were used then; the area is "blighted" and the housing "sub standard. The residents are somewhat poor and not very well connected with the political power structure. They will be better off when the project is complete, with a little temporary discomfort, noise and dust. The public must have easy access to the highway. People will stay put and work in and visit the city if it is more accessible to automobiles. There will be little or no permanent ill effect to the health of the residents who live near the new highway. The highway will provide jobs, at least while it is being built. The list goes on and on.

So, as far as some fair questions for the state representatives supporting casino gambling and the casino interests, we ask the



following basic questions:

1. How can the same width and length roads that are jammed right now during the two rush periods (they last about two or three hours) every week day and all day Saturday be perfectly adequate with three times the volume? And how about all night long destination traffic in addition to the local day and commuter traffic?
2. What is the estimated dwell time, waiting and idling in slow or stopped traffic for a person going to or from the casino site when the casino is filling up or emptying on a daily basis. This is for a person on I-95 and for vehicles on adjacent streets. Graph and chart as follows: First on 5 weekdays, hour by hour in 24 hours. Second on weekends, hour by hour in 24 hours. Third on holidays, hour by hour in 24 hours, for all major holidays.
3. What is the estimated dwell time, waiting and idling in slow or stopped traffic for a person going by, north or south on I-95 when the casino is filling up or emptying on a daily basis. Graph and chart as follows: First on 5 weekdays, hour by hour in 24 hours. Second on weekends, hour by hour in 24 hours. Third on holidays, hour by hour in 24 hours, for all major holidays.
4. What is the estimated dwell time, waiting and idling in slow or stopped traffic for a person going to shop at any of the existing local shopping areas when the casino is filling up or emptying on a daily basis. Graph and chart as follows: First on 5 weekdays, hour by hour in 24 hours. Second on weekends, hour by hour in 24 hours. Third on holidays, hour by hour in 24 hours, for all major holidays.
5. How much economic loss to these various drivers, the companies they work for, the through state and local delivery services is estimated to be added to the un-reimbursed cost of living with the casino? How will the casino mitigate this economic and work time loss to the local economy and business and private citizens?
6. How does the additional traffic affect health of all the people living, not just those visiting or profiting from the casino, but living and raising a family in the adjacent residential neighborhoods? They will not benefit from all the additional toxic materials spewed from the exhaust pipes of the additional nine million annual automobiles going to and from the casino, 24 hours a day.
7. The construction jobs and hotel jobs would be there without the casino component of a mixed use, medium density development of the same site, so those jobs are not really at stake here.



They will be there in the future when a sensible and acceptable project is proposed. Will the casinos really try to offer South Philadelphians and commuters from South Jersey a few hundred, round the clock shifts, low paying, dead end jobs with little or no health benefits in the casino in return for what those same communities will lose? Is that the only long-term economic benefit of this proposal? That my children or I could get a job working the graveyard shift sweeping up cigarette butts off the acres of carpet in the casino? Or maybe, if I am smart enough, maybe dealing cards or counting money?

8. How much of the respiratory harm and the associated medical costs from the additional auto exhaust pollution will the casino reimburse the local population for? How, exactly, will these unavoidable adverse health effects be recorded, accounted for and mitigated by the casino's owners and investors. What is the benefit to the local community? How will the casino mitigate the associated economic costs and loss of health or loss of life to persons not employed by the casino?

9. Why have the local mass transit systems been ignored in the siting of this particular proposal?

10. How much will it cost to build and for the casino customer to use, a 6,000 car parking structure? Do you really think people visiting the casino will not first choose to park "free" in the local parking lots and on the local streets? Anyone who lives in Center City or South Philadelphia knows how few free parking spaces there are compared to the automobile population of the local neighborhoods. Is the need for permit parking in South East Philadelphia one of the "unintended consequences" of the casino?

11. How can this poor use for our valuable river front and public planning for public benefit be mitigated WITHOUT moving the casino sites and vehicular destinations closer to the existing network of the local low emission electric powered public transit, train and subway lines and away from established residential neighborhoods?

12. The loading docks for the development are concentrated at the East end of Morris Street. Morris Street is a one lane, parking on both sides, one way residential street, going east. Can I expect dozens of tractor-trailers and trash trucks, at all hours of the night and day "quietly" making their way across town to service the private megacomplex? Tasker Street is the same as Morris, except one way west bound. Dickenson and Reed Streets are the same, one going east and one going west again. These are the local residential feeder streets. I think the amount of traffic is high right now on these streets. What would it be like with

We need your help with the casinos!

two or three times the traffic? Well, not likely as nice as it is right now is my best answer. The casino traffic will detract from the character of my street and home and that will depress the market value of my home. Is that good for the city? I am sure it is not good for the city or me. What could I legally do to recover this economic loss? Probably nothing. It would be "my personal loss" and I and my family and my neighbors would have to budget for it out of our own earnings and savings.

These are some of two or three dozen serious questions deserving honest and accurate answers from our politicians and the developers. For them to offer, who knows what harm will or may come to the neighborhood or residents or what actions will be taken to mitigate adverse effects on the host community is the same as saying they do not care to know. It is the same as saying they do not really care what happens to the host community. The positive and negative effects can be statistically quantified. And all costs should be available to understand the impact in terms of additional health care costs, loss of economic value, loss of personal property, loss of time and fuel losses to local businesses, Then there are public funds, social and public welfare costs as some local casino customers will fall into debt, and other associated costs to the City of Philadelphia for, police, court costs, infrastructure, fire, health and other public services. This accounting can be done in both current and future dollars. Then we can see who will come out ahead in this gamble. I think we would all agree that willful ignorance of the scope and degree of adverse effects in the neighborhoods around the casino is unacceptable for the private gambling corporation proposing the venture and for any public servant or representative supporting the casino industry's proposals. It is most definitely unacceptable for a civil democratic government to misinform the public and place at needless risk the physical, medical and economic welfare of entire neighborhoods and the law abiding citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who live there.

Sincerely,

Joseph Peter Bridy, AIA

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**Id:** 1146603020827  
**From:** **Kenneth S. Mensack**

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 2, 2006 4:50 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am contacting you to oppose the casino development of the Delaware River waterfront.


Here is what I am opposed to:

I am opposed to the additional traffic that equates to an additional 1,000 cars per hour or a constant 3 mile traffic jam.

I am opposed to the increase of crime, which will affect an approximate 15 mile radius of Philadelphia that is admitted to by City Administration and the casino developers.

I am opposed to the fact that the residents of Philadelphia have not been given a fair and equal voice in the decision process of determining how the riverfront will be developed.

I am opposed to the expected 4.6% loss of property value for homes within a one mile radius of a casino along the waterfront.

Kenneth S. Mensack  


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**Id:** 1146602940403  
**From:**  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 2, 2006 4:49 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am contacting you to oppose the casino development of the Delaware River waterfront.

Here is what I am opposed to:

I am opposed to the additional traffic that equates to an additional 1,000 cars per hour or a constant 3 mile traffic jam.

We need your help with the casinos!

I am opposed to the increase of crime, which will affect an approximate 15 mile radius of Philadelphia that is admitted to by City Administration and the casino developers.

I am opposed to the fact that the residents of Philadelphia have not been given a fair and equal voice in the decision process of determining how the riverfront will be developed.

I am opposed to the expected 4.6% loss of property value for homes within a one mile radius of a casino along the waterfront.

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**Id:** 1146580605550  
**From:** Phyllis Fox  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative James, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 2, 2006 10:36 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I would personally like to advise the Gaming Control Board that I am against the casinos coming to Philadelphia in general and am particularly against their coming to South Philadelphia.

The impact this will have on my neighborhood will be tremendous and not in a good sense. The extra traffic on an area that consists of very small streets with inadequate parking for its residents will create a negative impact on the area. I understand they are expecting the casino to bring approximately eight million people to this area yearly and that it will be necessary to build a new off ramp to accommodate the traffic - another negative. The planned South Philadelphia casino will target Hispanics and Asians. Although this area is no longer a low income area this target group happens to be in the lower income range. The majority of these people cannot afford to waste their money gambling in a casino. It is a proven fact that crime in our area will increase - another negative.

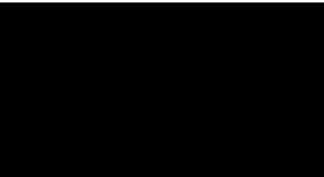
If you wanted to develop the dock area with homes - we would have no objections. I believe the residents of this city should have had more to say on whether or not casinos would

We need your help with the casinos!

come to Philadelphia. If I had had a vote in this matter – my vote would have been no. My vote at this time is NO. NO CASINOS IN PHILADELPHIA AND PARTICULARLY – NO CASINIOS IN SOUTH PHILADELPHIA.

Yours truly,

Phyllis Fox



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**Id:** 1146570883877  
**From:** Laura Hutton  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 2, 2006 7:54 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am writing to you to express my outright opposition to the development of slots parlors in my neighborhood. The size and scope of the gaming industry's plans for Philadelphia are almost beyond comprehension. The impact on my local community will be resoundingly negative, and a permanent blow to the the coming resurgence of the South Philadelphia area in general, and Passyunk Square in particular.

The river is a precious resource that should be kept open to the public and respected. Many of our great cities, Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle, come to mind, have understood that with water comes people and with people comes a vibrant city.

Philadelphia has begun to understand this as evidenced by the river drives which are always in use, the new Schuykill Banks trail which is used by so many Philadelphians who live nearby. Imagine if we did the same for the Delaware-- a river with access for all.

As our politicians your job is to fight for us, to think about

We need your help with the casinos!

what is best for the common good, not what is best for Foxwoods, or another casino developer.

Laura Hutton  


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**Id:** 1146530296290  
**From:** Eils Lotozo  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Representative Oliver, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 8:38 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

There must be a process put in place so that residents can find out about and have a say on what the casinos are planning. Casinos will only have a negative impact (traffic, crime, family violence, more people with gambling addictions and people losing money they can ill afford to lose) on all of the communities they are sited in. Gambling is absolutely not the way to move the city forward. Here are some things that will: lower wage and business taxes; a zoning code that makes sense for modern times; a department of Licenses and Inspection that is not corrupt, is efficient and actually does its job; a police force whose officers have more than a high school diploma and has some clue about how to handle its job; city leadership that is not beholden entirely to special interests and their own enrichment and hold on power; increased funding for our city parks and increased amenities like biking trails. The only reason Pa.'s and Philadelphia's politicians are so interested in bringing gambling here is so they can all divvy up the very rich pie of payoffs casinos represent. Period.

Eils Lotozo  



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**Id:** 1146527058654  
**From:** Judy Maira  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman

We need your help with the casinos!

**Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date: May 1, 2006 7:44 pm**  
**Subject: Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private: no**

I am against Casinos on Delaware Avenue. I would not like to see my neighborhood go this route. Thank you.

Judy Maira  


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**Id: 1146520125157**  
**From: Jade Sechrist**  
**To: Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Youngblood**  
**Date: May 1, 2006 5:48 pm**  
**Subject: Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private: yes**

Please take the time to consider and allow the public to consider all the facts in regard to the proposed casino sites in the Philadelphia neighborhoods. The allotted amount of time for the public to issue any statement is simply not enough. The public has only recently received any adequate information to form an opinion, let alone come forward on the issue. We need more time and more information made readily available. I also urge the Philadelphia City Council and Mayor's office to stand up for the citizens of Philadelphia by holding these casino operators accountable as it is ultimately City Council and the Mayor who will bear most responsibility for the overwhelming negative impacts of crime, traffic, and the need for increased city welfare, housing, police and other services including to those who already struggle with addictions to alcohol/drugs and gambling. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Concerned Citizen,

Jade Sechrist  


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We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1146519037216  
**From:** Cory Cowles  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Williams  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 5:30 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am a resident of East Falls and I am outraged by the Act 71 casino-enabling legislation as well as the Trumpstreet and other proposed casinos which threaten to irreversibly destroy this city. I urge the legislature to revisit the Act 71 legislation and to either repeal it or to at least prohibit the building of any casino within 5 miles of any residential community. I also urge the Philadelphia City Council and Mayor's office to stand up for the citizens of Philadelphia and fight this looming plague on our city by holding these casino operators accountable as it is ultimately City Council and the Mayor who will bear most responsibility for the overwhelming negative impacts of crime, traffic, and the need for increased city welfare, housing, police and other services to bail out the poor who will be victimized by these casinos.

As is evident from the publicly disclosed investors in the casinos (that is, when the individuals are not cowardly hidden behind the "cover" of LLC or partnership names), it is not the citizens of Philadelphia who will benefit, but the investors who have abandoned the city and live in the NJ and Montgomery/Chester county suburbs, etc. who will most benefit. We now need your help to protect the future innocent residential victims. Thank you.

Cory Cowles  


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**Id:** 1146513853578  
**From:** George Kelley  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 4:04 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need your help with the casinos!

As a Fishtown resident living in close proximity to three of the proposed casino sites in Philadelphia, I join countless neighbors in having deep concerns about both the impact of gaming on this community and in believing that our state and local leadership has turned a deaf ear to our concerns.

The Fishtown/Northern Liberties area has seen genuine revitalization in recent years. New stores...homes being refurbished...young families moving in, etc. I believe the addition of slots-parlors will be a serious blow to this steady progress and prove to have a very negative, long-term impact on our quality of life.

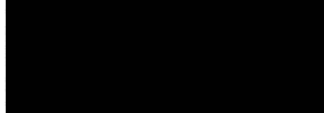
So many cities around the nation have found positive, creative ways to revitalize their waterfront into attractive, thriving districts. Casinos send the message that we don't really HAVE any good ideas...that we will simply settle for the promise of a quick fix at the expense of real planning and foresight.

We need more time, and as public servants I believe you owe us that courtesy. This process has been steamrolling forward with minimal public input.

A truly great city would not do this. They wouldn't allow one of their greatest assets to be swallowed by an industry that brings so many negatives.

Why should we?

George Kelley



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**Id:** 1146509456097  
**From:** paul kimport  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 2:50 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I beleive that the casino idea for a nationally significant historic city, that also has a burgeoning residential and cultural life that owes much to the growing desire for real community and culture, is an insult to the civic values of our

historic political and intellectual heritage as well as a poor vision for the future of a dynamic modern city. When there is an opportunity to build our community for the future and the solution is to profit from wagering and 24 hour liquor sales from clandestine operatives using up our cities resources and making life-time defining changes for those same neighborhoods that have been forsaken a reasonable political process by their elected officials, I believe one could speculate that this is about as sanctimonious of a proselytizing political collective as one could ever fear. The values in the balance while we trade on our cities name, image and future are defining of us as a community. Meanwhile, the state and the gaming industry are fixed on selling the lowest common denominators of entertainment to the masses in our neighborhoods. A stake on an uncertain outcome may be recreation for some but definatly not why people vote.

paul kimport



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**Id:** [1146506388527](#)  
**From:** Carol Blum  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Representative Oliver, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 1:59 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Do we really want another mind-numbing activity destination, to the tune of \$300 million, in Philadelphia? Do we want to increase crime, poverty, addiction, obesity, and traffic/pollution? Do we want to bankroll Big Business and help people become numb to that fact? I say "NO".

Why don't we look to our neighbors in New York? They have turned waterfront property into parks with bicycle paths to help them relax and have fun in healthy ways. Look at Baltimore where the waterfront has museums, shops, restaurants, and water taxis. Please let them be our role model and make our waterfront a family -friendly destination. Stop chasing families out of Philadelphia!


Carol Blum



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**Id:** 1146506210836  
**From:** Susan McAninley  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 1:56 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I live a few blocks from the proposed Foxwoods Caasino. In addition to the very real concerns about now existing traffic probles which will be exacerbated by additional casino traffic, I'm also concerned about disrupting the site for construction. I believe it is considered a brownfield by the EPA. Will the site be dug up and new topsoil be replaced? Will the buried barrels of unknown toxic waste be ignored? If topsoil replacement is to take place, what are the environmental hazards to the nearby residents? I read the Foxwoods proposal (incomplete to date) and this was not addressed in either the budgeting of the environmental impact on the neighborhood.  
Susan McAninley

Susan McAninley  


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**Id:** 1146504288787  
**From:** Jeffery L. Gaskins  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Williams  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 1:24 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am very opposed to casino gambling in Philadelphia. The ways do not always justify the means. Do not allow gambling into Philadelphia and lower the moral values and standards for young people. Please demonstrate that we as Americans do not always have to try to make the fast buck, but we should work hard and save our money to develop higher self worth. We have the Pa. Lottery, another form of gambling, isn't that enough demoralizing behavior for our children to observe.

Jeffery L. Gaskins  



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**Id:** 1146501788489

We need your help with the casinos!

**From:** Andres  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 12:43 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need more time and information about all casinos proposed in Philadelphia! Casino development will ruin this city, our neighborhoods.

Andres  


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**Id:** [1146498164244](#)  
**From:** Lilyan Maitin  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 11:42 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am vehemently opposed to casinos at Reed Street and Delaware River. I am opposed to gambling casinos in Philadelphia in general. I know that they will negatively impact the city, family and neighborhood quality of life as well as bring even more cars and buses onto already heavily trafficked NARROW streets. The charm of Philadelphia is that it is one of the only cities in the U.S. that has always had viable residential neighborhoods with diversity and families living in the downtown areas. Philadelphia's charm is its desirable human scale size and its city neighborhoods.

Everyday quality of life which has been declining and will decline even further. My street is already overloaded with large tour buses, trolley buses and those damn loud, uncontrolled two-decker London buses. There will be even more air pollution and dirty, obnoxious fumes pumped into my home from busses and cars on an already heavily trafficked residential street. These horrendous conditions that have increasingly negatively affected health and quality of life in Society Hill. These streets are not policed or controlled NOW (that is, with the exception of east South Street which is heavily policed to quiet loud radios - with a \$300 fine - and control disturbances of the peace. South

We need your help with the casinos!

Street is a very quiet, traffic controlled street where SEPTA buses are detoured to east bound residential Pine street).

Property values will go down dramatically. Who would ever want to live in a home with all surrounding streets congested with heavy traffic, honking horns, loud radios and excessive pollution at all times of the night and day?

And, Yes, there will Increased crime in the community. I am against a casino at Reed street and Delaware Avenue as well as the other casinos that will impact neighborhood quality of life. They would be better placed in areas with vast land space, parking areas and wide streets... not in residential or historic communities.

Lilyan Maitin

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**Id:** 1146497372115  
**From:** Mahmut Aydin  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 11:29 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

To My Elected City & State Representatives and the PGCB:

I too am against a casino/gambling parlor at Reed & Delaware Ave for all the reasons already stated (increased traffic, potential drunk driving, decline in home values, casino patrons parking in the neighborhood). My opposition is universal regardless of what specific type of gambling (slots machines, betting parlor, card games, etc..) is occurring.

My first specific concern not mentioned thus far is increased pan handling along the Columbus Blvd. corridor. At this time there is someone panhandling daily at: 1) both Wawa stores (Columbus Blvd/Second and Christian Sts.), 2) The intersection entering Home Depot/Super-fresh shopping complex, 3) the on-ramp on Columbus Blvd to both I-95 & 676. The presence of a casino will only exasperate this ongoing problem.

My second problem would be a potential increase in petty crime.



We need your help with the casinos!

Where there is perceived wealth (casino patrons arriving with cash or leaving with their winnings) there will be muggings and automobile break-ins.

I don't see how any proponent can assure us this will not occur nor can they control events off casino premises.

At best, the casino would be less harmful to our community further up Columbus Blvd closer to the sports complex. This area is barren with lots of potential and better served by the existing highway complex (Walt Whitman Bridge/I-95/76) which already handles large traffic flow related to the sports complex.

Sincerely,  
Mahmut Aydin



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**Id:** [1146491399370](#)  
**From:** Laura Zarrow  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 9:49 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am writing to express my opposition to the planned casinos and slot parlors in Philadelphia. The effected neighborhoods, especially South Philadelphia and Fishtown are working diligently to re-emerge as vital, safe, attractive, livable, green, pedestrian friendly communities. Over the past few years, we have seen property values rise, weed strewn lots transformed into attractive homes, community groups formed, trees get planted by the hundreds, and young families and businesses move into what were decaying neighborhoods.

The casinos /slot parlors are at odds with the type of greater vision this revitalization represents, due to the baggage they bring with them: increased traffic, increased crime, and the perception that the neighborhood surrounding the casinos / slot parlors is nothing more than an adjunct to the casinos, and not a separate entity. People will not want to live or move here. And while the casinos may provide some low-paying jobs to the Philadelphia region,



We need your help with the casinos!

they will not help Fishtown, South Philadelphia or its residents specifically, and we are the ones who will be bearing the brunt of their operations. In fact, it is the low income residents of these neighborhoods who are most statistically at risk for falling prey to the dangers of gambling.

A more fully considered, creative plan is needed for this region. Cities all over the world have created centers of commerce, culture and community along their rivers. Why can't Philadelphia aim high, instead of condemning our riverfront to the service of a transient, night-time population that will treat our neighborhoods as their personal trash cans?

Laura Zarrow

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**Id:** 1146490009241  
**From:** David Segal  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 9:26 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I think that the redevelopment of the waterfront can be done without casinos. There is so much potential for residential and commercial space for people of all ages from Philadelphia. Adding a casino would draw people from all over to get off 95 for the casino and get right back on. It does not help the growth of the neighborhood...not would it attract quality visitors to that area of the city. In addition, the traffic is bad right now...it can only get worse (since the streets are not ready for more traffic and who knows when the Girard interchange will be upgraded).

I think the East Falls site would be much better...it out of the way and is not as prime real estate as the Waterfront.

David Segal

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**Id:** 1146488097638  
**From:** Jeff Morris

We need your help with the casinos!

**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 8:54 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

As a resident of the Passyunk Square neighborhood in South Philadelphia I want to express my opposition to the proposed casino on Reed and Columbus, as well as all other proposed casinos in Philadelphia. The gaming board, the state legislature and the business interests in this venture treat city residents as passive anamaton. They almost seem to expect us to welcome any outside investment without weighing the consequences. Casinos will cheapen the Philadelphia experience and take advantage of the large immigrant classes of South Philadelphia, primarily Hispanics and Asians. Why would the leaders of our "Commonwealth" impose a de facto tax on those with the least ability to pay. Why not put these casinos in Wayne, Bryn Mawr, Conshohocken or Bucks County?

Jeff Morris  


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**Id:** 1146487264931  
**From:** Anne Cecil  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 8:41 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

Dear Lawmakers and Casion Commission,  
I am in favor of gambling in Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia, however, I have concerns about the current plan. I am most worried about how the additional traffic will impact the surrounding areas. The added influx could considerably impact the quality of life of residents in the area through traffic congestion, increased parking issues and added environmental strains.

I would like to see the city take time to study these issues in depth and come up with several plans for the community to review and discuss BEFORE giving any casino a go ahead. In addition, I would encourage the Lawmakers and Commission to make the communities involved partners rather than adversaries by giving the communities ample time, to review proposals and

We need your help with the casinos!

engage in open dialog BEFORE implementing their plan.

I am a lifelong resident of this city and I want to see it grow and succeed. I have no problem with casino gambling as part of that growth strategy, however, it is a step that should be taken from a position of inclusion of affected neighbors, rather than from a position of political power.

Sincerely,  
Anne Cecil

Anne Cecil

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**Id:** 1146482359971  
**From:** Matthew Feldman  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Senator Kitchen, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilwoman Miller, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Youngblood  
**Date:** May 1, 2006 7:19 am  
**Subject:** casino  
**Private:** no

I am a resident of Germantown. I vote and contribute to political campaigns. I do not want any casino's in philly, especially in my neighborhood. What are you doing to stop the casino's from comming

Matthew Feldman

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**Id:** 1146453466024  
**From:** 123 <123@aol.com>  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 11:17 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

test

We need your help with the casinos!

[REDACTED]

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**Id:** [1146442894222](#)  
**From:** Doris and Phil Steinberg  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Williams  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 8:21 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We are opposed to the proposed Trump Casino in East Falls, because of the increased traffic in our neighborhood, the additional air pollution, the increase in crime in the neighborhood, and the decline in the everyday quality of life which will result from the presence of gambling, drinking and other vices in our immediate vicinity.

Doris and Phil Steinberg  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** [1146433341910](#)  
**From:** J. Bates  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 5:42 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Please allow our community more time to assess the impact the casinos / slot parlors will have on the neighborhood. As you are aware, Fishtown is a neighborhood that is on a rapid economic upswing. Adding slot parlors into the mix during this crucial time could potentially destroy any hope this community has of becoming something more vital. There is currently a highly funded revitalization going on, and the casinos /slot parlors are at odds with the type of greater vision this revitalization offers, due to the baggage they bring with them: increased traffic, increased crime, and the perception that the neighborhood surrounding the casinos / slot parlors is nothing more than an adjunct to the casinos, and not a separate entity. People will not want to live or move here. And while the casinos

We need your help with the casinos!

may provide some low-paying jobs to the Philadelphia region, they will not help Fishtown or its residents specifically, and we are the ones who will be bearing the brunt of their operations.

J. Bates



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**Id:** [1146427776375](#)  
**From:** Daniela Ascarelli  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 4:09 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am writing to you to express my outright opposition to the development of slots parlors in my neighborhood. The size and scope of the gaming industry's plans for Philadelphia are almost beyond comprehension. The impact on my local community will be resoundingly negative, and a permanent blow to the coming resurgence of the South Philadelphia area in general, and Passyunk Square in particular.

The river is a precious resource that should be kept open to the public and respected. Many of our great cities, Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle, come to mind, have understood that with water comes people and with people comes a vibrant city.

Philadelphia has begun to understand this as evidenced by the river drives which are always in use, the new Schuylkill Banks trail which is used by so many Philadelphians who live nearby. Imagine if we did the same for the Delaware-- a river with access for all.

As our politicians your job is to fight for us, to think about what is best for the common good, not what is best for Foxwoods, or another casino developer.

Daniela Ascarelli

We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1146418642277  
**From:** amber dorko stopper  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 1:37 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

The Foxwoods Casino's attempt to locate in South Philadelphia will be a tremendous misstep.

This community is young, tireless, creative, motivated and connected.

No one wants Foxwoods here.

No one in this community will stop coming up with ideas to boycott the businesses that serve this casino's traffic and clientele, much less the casino itself. No irritation or transgression by any patron, member, or official of Foxwoods will be overlooked. Everything that will be possible to make an example of, will be made an example of.

Regardless of the muscle behind the gaming industry, Foxwoods in South Philadelphia will always be a mismatched, transplanted organ on the verge of rejection -- never stable, never welcomed -- until the project is given up for dead.

Find somewhere else to build the casino.

amber dorko stopper

**Id:** 1146413548637  
**From:** Jesse Gardner  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas

**Date:** April 30, 2006 12:12 pm

**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help

**Private:** no

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I and my family are residents of Northern Liberties and property owners in Kensington, two communities that are seeing strong re-investment and positive development without the reputed benefits of Riverfront Gambling.

Anyone who has visited Atlantic City knows that the main beneficiaries of Casino development are the Casino Corporations. Atlantic City has suffered from a business model that prospers only when customers spend their time and money in windowless rooms and shopping malls where relationships with the community and the outside world are purposely minimized. The notion of putting such inward-looking enterprises on our commonly-owned and shared riverfront is repugnant.

The Casino Commission has purposely limited dialogue on this issue, as a Philadelphia with riverfront gambling is an ugly one. Again, take a look at Atlantic City, now a suburban nightmare of confusing highways, ramps, and overscaled parking garages. The casinos are surrounded by sub-standard housing and a gutted downtown where the few pedestrians must dodge a continual stream of tour buses.

The promise of easy tax dollars is a false one. With this money comes the potential of high social costs and declining property values. We are a unique city, unlike Atlantic City or even Las Vegas. We should not look to these places for a "one size fits all" solution. The diverse tools of urban re-development are already working here. Instead of imposing private gambling venues along our shared waterfront, we ought to be building public parks along the river, which will in the long term stimulate sustainable, positive economic growth in the River Wards.

Please work for the repeal Act 71 or at the very least support our call for an extension of the public comment period.

I join others in this letter writing campaign to urge you to support true riverfront planning for Philadelphia which will stimulate long-term sustainable economic development for our city.

Sincerely,

Jesse J. Gardner



We need your help with the casinos!

Jesse Gardner  


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**Id:** 1146407546941  
**From:** Erika Katz  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 10:32 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes


As a resident of Philadelphia I implore you to think about the future of this great city. I know that it is inevitable that I will have a casino 6 blocks from my house. If planning does not happen now, we will lose the opportunity forever to make the Delaware waterfront a cohesive truly usable city space. NOW IS THE TIME to demand public access to the waterfront, responsible architecture that fits into the vernacular of Philadelphia, and a responsible traffic plan that does not overwhelm the neighborhoods. PLEASE, take the needed time so we, as a united city, can have input and demand responsible development!!

Erika Katz  


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**Id:** 1146406116587  
**From:** abigail bascome  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 10:08 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I do not want the casino anywhere near my house, it will be detrimental for my neighborhood, which is congested enough already, please consider some other form of development, gambling has not had the promised benefits for Atlantic City, what's to say it will benefit here.

abigail bascome  


[REDACTED]

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**Id:** [1146395914538](#)  
**From:** Anne Gill  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 30, 2006 7:18 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I have lived in my South Philadelphia community for 30 years. We have a very positive and active neighborhood association that helps maintain a strong desire to continue living here.

I have not read about any positive contributions that a casino would make to this community. I am very concerned about the negative impacts.

Please seriously consider what this casino would do to this thriving community.

Sincerely, Anne Gill

Anne Gill  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** [1146364552523](#)  
**From:** Kate Somerville  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 10:35 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Just put up the website:  
<http://local.live.com/>  
and type in any Philadelphia address along the river, such as on Richmond St. Move the aerial image along the entire river [drag or click on the next block]. You can see the degradation, it is very graphic. A casino would just add to the desecration of our river habitat.

We need your help with the casinos!

Kate Somerville  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146355023122  
**From:** Bruce & Tess Trumper  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 7:57 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

As residents who live within a few blocks of the two proposed casinos we implore you to give us more time to review the current proposals that have been thrust upon us. We were disturbed to discover that after 20 years of talk of the possibility of casinos coming to the waterfront, both city and state officials seem as prepared to deal with the consequences as were the officials in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hit. It's patently absurd for the state to jam casinos into operation while at the same time dragging it's feet in implementing the most basic infrastructure improvements such as the new I-95 interchange. The city and state's lack of any cohesive plan should not constitute an emergency for us. We need time to consider a plan, and apparently the officials need time to come up with one.

Bruce & Tess Trumper  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146351433027  
**From:** Claire Mencke  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 6:57 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I would like to add my voice to those who are calling for more time for assessment of the impact of gaming establishments in Fishtown.

Aside from the more widely publicized issues of increased traffic on streets not meant for traffic, proximity to schools, general overburdening of infrastructure, impact on riverfront and property values in the neighborhood (as if that were not enough), a few other factors need to be considered.

One is the impact that gaming establishments have on lower income residents who would spend a larger percentage of their incomes in such businesses. The other is that gaming businesses bring powerful enabling factors into a neighborhood that already has substantial issues with additive behaviors. How wise is it to bring slot parlors into a neighborhood already struggling with alcohol and drug addiction?

Claire Mencke



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**Id:** [1146340714443](#)  
**From:** John Politis  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 3:58 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

The river wards cannot handle casinos... Save the river bank for the people.

John Politis



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**Id:** [1146339109814](#)  
**From:** Kate Somerville  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 3:31 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need your help with the casinos!

Don't you dare put another junky crappy building by the river. Almost every square foot is taken up. When I go birding or looking for damselflies or butterflies by the river, I have to trespass because the only fields left are fenced in. What the hell is a Dave & Busters or a casino, or any of that other crap along the river got to do with a healthy waterway? It seems like the city planners don't know anything about ecosystems, aesthetics or nature. Not everybody is a money-grubbing lazy fantasizer of wealth and sex (Scores). Keep that entertainment industry junk away from here. Philadelphia residents needs the trees, fields and riverbeds.

Kate Somerville



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**Id:** [1146335442323](#)  
**From:** Benjamin Levin  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 2:30 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am writing to you to express my outright opposition to the development of slots parlors in my neighborhood. The size and scope of the gaming industry's plans for Philadelphia are almost beyond comprehension. The impact on my local community will be resoundingly negative, and a permanent blow the the coming resurgence of the South Philadelphia area in general, and Passyunk Square in particular.

This is vibrant, active, socially responsible community. Just an hour or so ago, dozens of volunteers came together to plant over 100 trees in and around our neighborhood. This is an incredibly positive development for our community, but one which will be obliterated by the pervasively negative impact which the gaming industry will bring with it.

Many have said, with resignation and dim hope, that it is "too late to stop the casinos from coming - they're coming, and it's a fact which we'll have to deal with." This is utter non-sense. While I can't say for sure how the rest of this city will respond, the residents of South Philadelphia are overwhelmingly opposed to the negative impact these casinos will bring, and

We need your help with the casinos!


determined to stop their encroachment.

Your help is desperately needed. There will be no single issue more important to the economic vitality of this city over the next 50 years than what happens in the next 12 months. The jobs and economic impact the casinos are pledging (and really, they're not even pledging much) are a chimera. 10,000 minimum-wage food and hospitality service jobs are not going to jump-start our city's economy. Attracting rail car and wind-turbine manufacturers to the region, along with the construction and engineering jobs they bring, offer far greater benefits to our community, and greater opportunity for our residents. What do casinos have to offer? Traffic, low-paying jobs, an industry predicated on exploiting human weakness and an utter disregard for the communities that host them, wrapped up in a glitzy, shimmering package of neon and gold leaf?

It's time for you to step and do what's right for this community. The stakes are enormous. We can't fight the good fight without you.

Thank you,

Ben Levin

Benjamin Levin  


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**Id:** 1146333374018  
**From:** Christine O'Connor  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Thomas  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 1:56 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am a concerned citizen and homeowner in the Northern Liberties neighborhood of Philadelphia. I am writing to join the growing number of people from neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia who feel that all casino planning for this city should be delayed until proper steps are taken to insure that the families and homeowners living near the proposed casino sites have had an opportunity to view all plans and comment--themselves, and through experts--on the impact of each possible casino.

I know full well the danger of hasty development without proper government and citizen oversight. I am especially amazed that these casino projects could have moved so far so quickly without more oversight, since many of them are located in the area where the city has had the most problems with unmonitored development--in part because of the juxtaposition of city, state and federal land near the waterfront. Need any of us be reminded how many senseless deaths and injuries there have been on Delaware/Columbus Blvd in the past ten years because of the unmanaged (and unmanageable) development of small and medium-sized nightclubs along this road? And can you imagine the possible impact to this thoroughfare, and all the neighborhoods bordering on it, if large casinos drawing thousands of people 24 hours a day are built? There is no reason for the city or state to be in a hurry to approve any plans; the only hurry is based on the desires of the builders.

The neighborhoods along the river have, in many ways, been the key to Philadelphia's revival in the 70s and again in the past decade. They are the city's most precious urban resource, and must be protected at all costs--not only when it comes to safety issues, but because the rising property values in those neighborhoods have been the key to the city's growth. It is vitally important that no development is allowed anywhere in this city that will negatively impact the safety, or the property values, of core neighborhoods.

I urge you to delay any decision making on casinos until:

- 1)an acceptable period of public comment--at least until december 31--is mandated
- 2)the city activates its own gaming commission to assist in citizen involvement, and the state gaming commission begins releasing all information about the casinos plans and
- 3)the city provides financial assistance to those citizen groups representing families and homeowners within a mile of the casinos, so they will be able to bring in their own experts to assure a fair and open debate.

Christine O'Connor

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**Id:** 1146319879556  
**From:** **stephen fried**  
**To:** **Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr.**



**Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**

**Date: April 29, 2006 10:11 am**

**Subject: Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**

**Private: no**

My name is Stephen Fried. My wife and I are concerned citizens and homeowners from the neighborhood of Bella Vista; I am also a longtime journalist in the city and the former editor of Philadelphia magazine. I am writing to join the growing number of people from neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia who feel that all casino planning for this city should be delayed until proper steps are taken to insure that the families and homeowners living near the proposed casino sites have had an opportunity to view all plans and comment--themselves, and through experts--on the impact of each possible casino.

As someone who has lived in this city and covered it for over 30 years, I know full well the danger of hasty development without proper government and citizen oversight. I am especially amazed that these casino projects could have moved so far so quickly without more oversight, since many of them are located in the area where the city has had the most problems with unmonitored development--in part because of the juxtaposition of city, state and federal land near the waterfront. Need any of us be reminded how many senseless deaths and injuries there have been on Delaware/Columbus Blvd in the past ten years because of the unmanaged (and unmanageable) development of small and medium-sized nightclubs along this road? And can you imagine the possible impact to this thoroughfare, and all the neighborhoods bordering on it, if large casinos drawing thousands of people 24 hours a day are built? There is no reason for the city or state to be in a hurry to approve any plans; the only hurry is based on the desires of the builders.

The neighborhoods along the river have, in many ways, been the key to Philadelphia's revival in the 70s and again in the past decade. They are the city's most precious urban resource, and must be protected at all costs--not only when it comes to safety issues, but because the rising property values in those neighborhoods have been the key to the city's growth. It is vitally important that no development is allowed anywhere in this city that will negatively impact the safety, or the property values, of core neighborhoods.


I urge you to delay any decision making on casinos until:

- 1) an acceptable period of public comment--at least until december 31--is mandated
- 2) the city activates its own gaming commission to assist in

We need your help with the casinos!

citizen involvement, and the state gaming commission begins releasing all information about the casinos plans and  
3)the city provides financial assistance to those citizen groups representing families and homeowners within a mile of the casinos, so they will be able to bring in their own experts to assure a fair and open debate.

Stephen Fried  
former editor, Philadelphia magazine  
homeowner for nearly 20 years in a neighborhood where casino development is planned

stephen fried  



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**Id:** 1146317287247  
**From:** David April  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 9:28 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Dear Ladies and Gentleman:

As a resident of Fishtown and a citizen, I am writing to express my concern regarding establishing casinos along the Delaware River. No doubt you have already heard the pros and cons of the economic, socially and cultural impact that casinos may or may not have on communities in which they are located.

My concern is simply that riverfront development needs to be guided by a comprehensive masterplan that proposes a variety of options and includes thorough economic, environmental and social impact studies. It appears that currently planning is reactionary and in response to proposals from developers such as casinos and land development companies. A master planning document would provide for a coherent and consistent.

David April  


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We need your help with the casinos!

**Id:** 1146317025682  
**From:** nicole stranko  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 9:23 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

Please do not put a casino in South Philadelphia! The increased traffic, crime and congestion will make an already congested, semi dangerous place to live VERY unappealing. I plan on buying a home in South Philadelphia in the next year but will probably MOVE OUT OF STATE, taking my taxes and home based business with me, if a casino is put in South Philly.

nicole stranko  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146316203826  
**From:** Patricia Moore-Martinez  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 9:10 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed casino sites. As a Philadelphia resident for the past 15 years, my husband and I have made a commitment to raising our children in the diverse community of this city with all of its advantages and disadvantages (schools, cleanliness, etc)

I have believed that our city officials were working to keep the residents recognizing that there is no renewal, no neighborhoods, no local arts, no commerce, no tourism without real people in real neighborhoods. However, this proposal serves to divest me of my idealism. This proposal will do nothing for residents and ultimately the city.

As our elected officials, I am counting on you to work towards the betterment of Philadelphia; the casinos must not come.

Sincerely,

We need your help with the casinos!

Patricia Moore-Martinez

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**Id:** 1146315966942  
**From:** Yasheene Currie  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 9:06 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I was astounded to hear that the city was allowing conversations to be had for building casinos along the Delaware Avenue waterfront. It shows the same type of shortsighted planning that allowed I-95 to be built, which cut the waterfront off from the city.

I was further surprised to hear that the reason that permission to do this was granted is because our neighborhood is considered blighted. This assessment, considering the rapid development that includes Mt. Sinai to the hundreds of homes renovated and sold over the past 2 years makes this an invalid label. Those of us who paid \$200,000 plus don't want to hear that the neighborhood is blighted. While other prts of the city are losing people, South Philadelphia, Passyunk is growing. Many of us who live here now will leave if these casinos come, because the current level of noise, traffic, and public nuisance will undeniably increase... and it will be around the clock.

Anyone who has driven along Delaware Ave. at rush hour or lives within 4 blocks of Pat's and Geno's knows that this will mean disaster for a neighborhood that is already packed.

I would strongly question (and vote against) any politician who has spent any time here and doesn't feel the same way! We will get no benefit from having them here and a neighborhood will be destroyed for the sake of billionaire developers and others elsewhere in Pa. who will reap the only benefits of the taxes they generate.

Say "NO" to casinos along the South Philly Delaware, no matter what the scale.

Yasheene Currie

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**Id:** 1146313604480  
**From:** Elizabeth Benjamin  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione, Representative Taylor  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 8:26 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am a very new resident to Fishtown (and to the area). I am deeply disturbed by your lack of care and willingness to listen to your constituents, we the residents most affected by the proposed casinos.

I am concerned over the lack of solid information we have received and the lack of time we have to ask questions and respond. I implore you to give us more time, to give us the resources we need to make informed decisions and to not turn a deaf ear to our outcry.

Work with us to develop a better solution for the Riverfront and for Philadelphia. We have ideas, we have a better solution - give us a voice and then listen to us. Work WITH us, not around us. Remember, officials are elected by the people to Serve the People - not "serve it to us".

Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth Benjamin  
[REDACTED]

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**Id:** 1146307250782  
**From:** Andres  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 6:40 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need your help with the casinos!

Green space on the water front is the way to go for long term development for the future of our city and our families.

Thank you  
Andres Barrera

Andres  


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**Id:** 1146287858038  
**From:** Roy Conard  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 29, 2006 1:17 am  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

I am not writing to ask you to stop the proposed slots parlors in the city. I know they are coming. My goal is to make sure what is built and operated be sensitive to the city's residents and improve the city's landscape.

I am concerned with many quality-of-life issues including traffic, crime, round-the-clock serving of alcoholic beverages, and light pollution. I am glad we now have many stores on Columbus Boulevard so I don't have to go to the suburbs to shop. Traffic is already fierce on the weekends on Columbus Boulevard. Without realistic planning, the traffic will get worse and many people might opt for other locations to shop.

I'd like to see coordination between the casino operators and our transportation agencies to expand access not only for patrons and employees to the site, but also for patrons of the casino to visit such nearby attractions such as the Italian Market (Foxwoods), Old City (Sugar House, et al), and Manyunk (Trump Street). Instead of choking neighborhoods with increased traffic, we need to find ways to efficiently bring the casino patrons to the places that make Philadelphia unique; not slot machines, but cheesesteaks, the Liberty Bell, and vibrant neighborhoods.

I am also concerned about how the slot parlors will effect our cityscape. I would like to see the city create and be able to enforce stricter zoning and planning requirements for these sensitive sites. I would like to see full public river access

We need your help with the casinos!

(at the river sites), street exposure, building massing, signs and lighting, and landscaping to be mandated as high priorities for scrutiny by the city. The sites should require a full public hearing at the Zoning Board of Adjustments and be subject to approval by the Art & Architecture Committee of the Art Commission.

I want the proposing casino operators in the City of Philadelphia to be required to meet with the citizens of the neighborhoods where the casinos are proposed to mitigate potential deleterious effects; not public hearings, but public workshops dedicated to allowing residents to have a reasonable say in these monumental additions to our neighborhoods. I would like to see the casino operators be required to negotiate in good faith with the city and its residents to plan facilities that do not produce blight in the name of profit.

The casino operators want to set up shop in our communities; most of us did not ask them to come. If they are to be our neighbors, they need to come to the table as member of our healthy, vibrant, historic communities; not with the attitude that they are building on a blighted site.

Please help us mitigate the problems that concern us and produce additions to our communities that the leaders and the citizens of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania can take pride in through a true partnership between the casino operators, our government and our citizenry.

Roy Conard

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**Id: 1146287466821**  
**From: Dan Roth**  
**To: Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione**  
**Date: April 29, 2006 1:11 am**  
**Subject: Please do all you can to keep casinos out of Fishtown!**  
**Private: no**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a resident of Fishtown, and someone who works to serve the people of Fishtown and Kensington, I am extremely bothered by the



prospect that casinos may be placed in or near our neighborhood.

I'd be lying if I denied the appeal of nearby high-quality and affordable dining and entertainment options, included in the plans with most of the slot parlors. However, the price for those appealing options is way too high - slot machines which will be destructive to the social fabric and economics of our neighborhood, and those nearby.

Likewise, I understand how those in your position could find the easy tax money and shallow veneer of economic improvement that slot parlors promise appealing. However, they too come with too high of a price - problem gambling alone will cost more in economic loss than the total tax benefits of the casinos. Add in the cost of extra policing, extra traffic, and the injury or loss of local businesses, and casinos are one big losing bet for everyone - not merely those who enter the casino walls.

I urge you to work for the repeal Act 71. Its well-cloaked passage is an affront to the citizens of our commonwealth. Regardless of whether or not you are willing to do this, I urge you to seek the delay of the issuing of licenses to allow for an extension of the public comment period.

Finally, I urge you to encourage comprehensive riverfront planning for Philadelphia which will encourage true economic development rather than the false promises of the gambling industry.

Sincerely Yours,  
Daniel Roth

Dan Roth

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**Id:** 1146285100973  
**From:** **Jethro Heiko**  
**To:** **Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **April 29, 2006 12:31 am**  
**Subject:** **Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private:** **no**

As a resident within one block of a proposed casino and 1/3 of a mile of two other proposed casinos I implore the City and State

We need your help with the casinos!

to work together to delay the public comment period for the casinos until December 31st of this year. To my elected representatives in the City I ask that you quickly and intelligently provide necessary professional staff and financial resources to help the most directly impacted residents and neighborhoods study the potential impact of the casino(s) proposed in our communities. To my elected representatives in the State I demand that you revise Act 71 in order to enable extension of the public comment period and licensing of casinos. I also ask that you do what other states have done and make the casino licenses renewable on a 5 or 10 year basis rather than do what you did which was pass a law with no accountability for the most corrupt industry in our country. To the Governor I ask that you not stand in the way of what Philadelphians need at this time, adequate time to study inadequate and incomplete proposals.

Jethro Heiko  


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**Id:** 1146279337806  
**From:** AD  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 10:55 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

SIMPLY PUT,  
NO CASINOS IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.

AD  


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**Id:** 1146277031795  
**From:** Gin MacCallum  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 10:17 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need your help with the casinos!

Honestly, if I had known about the possibility of this casino, I never would have bought my home here. It is incredibly disturbing to me that I have invested all of my assets and energy in a city and state that so carelessly disregards its residents. "For the good of the economy" is empty rhetoric. Even if monies are produced that actually impact residents positively in terms of property taxes and education, the trade off is huge and will be felt for generations. Not only will property value be diminished around the casino sites, but also residents' sense of safety and community, the ease with which we travel and live in our neighborhoods, and the quality of the air we breathe. Perhaps most importantly, these casinos encourage residents to spend their time and assets gambling rather than investing in the longevity of local business, in the well being of community, and/or in the good of their own. There is no gain here, except perhaps for those involved in the immediate deal. The fact that this was decided under the guise of improving conditions for the city makes it clear that 'city' does not refer to its residents. In the long run, the casinos are a stake in the heart of Philadelphia. SLOW down, please consider what is happening with a forward thinking mind, an overview that stretches beyond the immediate payback. Philadelphia has such enormous potential to revitalize itself in ways that can model and inspire innovation. Why in the world do you want to chop the legs off this city? Why in the world don't you see that these "proposed sites" are essentially the living rooms and back yards of peoples' homes? A radical action would be to actually stand up as elected officials without concern for the next election and represent the people this will most directly and negatively impact.

Gin MacCallum

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**Id:** 1146270811152  
**From:** Lanette Noel  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 8:33 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

Please hear the single plea of the residents whose lives and property values you will negatively impact - do not put the casino at Columbus Boulevard and Reed. We don't want to live near the casino or experience increases in crime, drunk drivers and congestion on our streets!

Why aren't you listening to the people of this City? Find a location in a less residential setting.

We need your help with the casinos!

Don't rush this decision - instead work along with the neighborhood groups who have been trying to get your ear - let's make this work for all of us, not just you!

Lanette Noel

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**Id:** 1146270421277  
**From:** Jeffrey & Joan Less  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 8:27 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

No casinos near our residential neighborhoods! Keep them out!

Jeffrey & Joan Less

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**Id:** 1146262990678  
**From:** Marjorie E. Greenfield  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Senator Hughes, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street, Representative Youngblood  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 6:23 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

It is time that you, as my elected representative, listen to me and the others in our neighborhood who oppose putting Trump's casino in East Falls or any casino in other residential neighborhoods. We do not want the increased traffic on streets already jammed at rush hour, the increased pollution, the increased crime (8%) according to reputable studies, the negative impact on families which can least afford it, the harm to our local businesses from all of the above. The proposed Trump site is too close to Abbottsford which was recently renovated, too close to too many children at home and in the many schools in our neighborhoods (Penn Charter, Mifflin School, St. Bridget's School, Philadelphia University, Randolph Skills Center.

We need your help with the casinos!

Wissahickon Charter School, to name some of them. We do not want the old MCP site across the street used for hotels catering to a casino. We do not want gambling next door to the new Salvation Army facility which will be built on the Budd site. That site will offer programs for children as well as adults.

Trump may be able to buy people to pass around petitions and "Trump" jackets and to pay people to take down our signs but we continue to object.

There are many other uses for the site Trump wants which would also provide jobs and needed services to our community.

The traffic studies done by Trump did not begin to look at the impact on Henry Avenue, Fox St, Midvale Avenue, Coulter St., School House Lane, Kelly Drive and all of the other streets which would be used to get to the site.

We have major traffic problems now in East Falls and do not need more.

Trump is financially unreliable.

The area around the proposed Trump site is not blighted.

People can get to jobs at sites not in residential neighborhoods. They don't need jobs in their backyards.

It is my distinct impression that our "representatives" are being bought. Otherwise, I cannot understand how they could write letters and offer testimony supporting Trump's proposal. Saying that it is important that Trump work with the Community is nonsense. Once he is approved, he has no obligation and he simply cannot address the problems he will create in any meaningful way.

No Casino in East Falls. No casino in any residential neighborhood.

Mariorie E. Greenfield  


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**Id:** 1146258350621

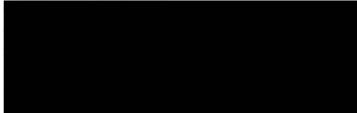
**From:** Carrie Cook

**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Councilman Mariano, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman

We need your help with the casinos!

**Rizzo, Mayor Street, Senator Tartaglione, Representative Thomas**  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 5:05 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

We need more time and information about all casinos proposed in Philadelphia! Casino development will ruin this city, our neighborhoods.

Carrie Cook  


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**Id:** [1146257368127](#)  
**From:** Laura Moore  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 4:49 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I live within a ten minute walk from the proposed Foxwood Casino site. I think my neighborhood will likely be completely overwhelmed by the casino if it is built. It is already a closely populated, busy, noisy, congested and very diverse urban neighborhood. I cannot imagine 9 million more people walking and driving through it. Even if the casinos find some way to route some of the gamblers around me the deliveries, likely increased public transportation within the City and local traffic to the casinos will still travel past my house 24 hours a day 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Then there will be the crowds of workers needed to staff the casinos, many of whom I suspect will not be very well paid, going to work on 24 hour shifts. I would not want to deny work to anyone but employers already send shuttles to my block to pick up workers. The casinos would mean that the horns will never stop honking outside my windows. It may not look like it to people who may be used to more green, suburban settings but this is a good urban residential neighborhood. People live their lives here. We sleep, go to work, raise our children, take walks and actually want to enjoy our residential city neighborhood!

In my view there is no way that any deals or negotiations that any neighborhood groups have individually with the casinos can




We need your help with the casinos!

protect us from the chaos they will create. Nor do I believe the casinos are well equipped to do so. To be fair that is not what they are organized around. They are in the business of trying to draw as many millions of people as they can to their facilities to part them from their money as efficiently as possible. You can't really fault them for doing it well. Protecting us is the responsibility of the people we pay to do that: our City and State government.

This entire process from it's very beginning shows a breathtaking level of contempt for the City and it's residents. It ignores any concerns about the quality of our lives and the peace and safety of our families, it insults our intelligence and tramples upon our affections for our City and really, although I know this is a negligible concern given what is at stake, demeans an historic neighborhood in an historic city.

City and State officials need to slow this process way down. The casinos are coming to stay. We will live with the choices made now for all of our lives, and and our children will very likely live with it for all of theirs.

Laura Moore  


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**Id:** 1146255296178  
**From:** **Jeremy Beaudry**  
**To:** **Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **April 28, 2006 4:14 pm**  
**Subject:** **Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private:** **no**

I am a resident of Fishtown and I am deeply troubled by the possibility of casinos coming to my neighborhood and the city of Philadelphia at large. Let us put aside, for the moment, the fact that this gambling legislation was enacted behind the backs of the public, in the middle of the night on a holiday weekend and without our support or input. Let us put aside the fact that the so called tax revenue generated by these slots parlors will be in large part sucked from the working class and fixed-income people who live within the immediate areas of the casinos. Let us put aside the fact that, to date, four employees of the PA Gaming Control Board have been arrested for a range of illicit activity. Let us put all of that aside and start anew today.



We need your help with the casinos!

We in Fishtown and in Philadelphia need the support of you, our elected officials! The impact reports provided by the casino developers are unacceptable. They read like travel brochures, touting the wonderful and exciting opportunities slot parlors will bring to our neighborhoods, glossing over the countless adverse impacts that previous data has shown. And they certainly do not offer a comprehensive view of all the development that is already proceeding along the riverfront.

\* We need an objective, comprehensive, and current casino impact study undertaken by an independent commission.

\* We need at least 6 more months to appropriately organize and poll our community to measure their needs and desires; and then present this commentary to the Gaming Board.

\* We need the city to step forward and represent its citizens, not outside developers.

Please understand, we want development and economic growth in our neighborhoods -- but we want it done the right way and with our input and needs considered. We want so much more for the riverfront than what these casino developers have proposed. Please stand with us.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Beaudry



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**Id:** 1146255216496  
**From:** **keri white**  
**To:** **Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **April 28, 2006 4:13 pm**  
**Subject:** **Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private:** **no**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please support us in keeping casinos out of our neighborhoods. We are concerned about the serious negative consequences of slot parlors on our quality of life. They will attract vagrants, adversely affect safety, compound traffic problems to name but a few. This type of establishment does

We need your help with the casinos!

not belong anywhere near a fine residential community.

keri white



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**Id:** 1146254982255  
**From:** Peggy Lane  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 4:09 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Dear Elected Representatives:

It is urgent that you represent the citizens who live in the immediately affected areas of the proposed casinos. Our neighborhood is historic, tranquil, residential, safe, and convenient. Introducing large scale casinos will negatively affect all of these characteristics that have attracted today's residents and commercial establishments. You will forever alter the landscape of one of this country's most memorable neighborhoods. Please help us protect this national treasure and our homes. We elected you to be our voices and now is the time to take that commitment seriously.

Peggy Lane



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**Id:** 1146251447877  
**From:** Denise  
**To:** Councilman Clarke, Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 3:10 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

As a resident of Fishtown, I have watched the casino proposal process unfold with rising concern and deep disappointment. Just as our community has shown the promise of blossoming into a

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vibrant mix of the arts, dining, shopping and lovely homes, the Gaming Board and our elected officials are moving at breakneck speed to throw it all away. Rather than a thoughtfully planned riverfront that would improve the quality of life in the entire region, we have been expected to meekly accept rising crime, gridlock and dropping property values. It's an unfair and unacceptable bargain. Riverfront residents and, indeed, the entire City, deserve better.

Denise

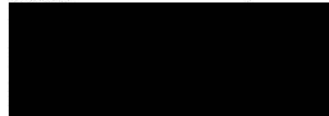


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**Id:** 1146248749232  
**From:** jody sweitzer  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Keller, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 2:25 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** yes

my neighborhood is already too congested by pats & genos  
and the bestbuy plaza...we don't need anymore white trash magnets

jody sweitzer




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**Id:** 1146244336755  
**From:** Tally Brennan  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 1:12 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

Dear Representative, The casino proposed for South Philadelphia offers no good and much harm to the neighborhood. This is a successful neighborhood, in no need of more development without a coherent plan for the entire waterfront. Any visitor to

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Atlantic City know what devastation follows in the wake of gambling, and government officials at all levels are well aware this is true. Let's at least site these cancers where they will do some good as far as employment is concerned. We don't need them and we don't want them in South Philadelphia.

Tally Brennan  


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**Id:** 1146242123771  
**From:** **william**  
**To:** **Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Representative Lederer, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street**  
**Date:** **April 28, 2006 12:35 pm**  
**Subject:** **Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help**  
**Private:** **no**

As a resident of the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia, as well as a business owner in Fishtown, I am very concerned that there are three casino proposals near my doorstep.

I have attended the informational meetings and listened to all three proposals ( RiverWalk, Sugar House and Pinnacle). The plans seem rushed and slap-dash with very little thought given to how the casinos will relate to the surrounding neighborhoods. These are huge projects that will have major impact in whatever area they are sited. I am appalled that the applicants themselves have expressed how little time they have had to adequately prepare their presentations.

Smart waterfront development would be a huge success for Fishtown, Northern Liberties and Philadelphia as a whole. But this must include both respect for, and input from the existing neighbors. The Casino proposals have neither.

In short:

We need a master plan for the waterfront development.

The plan should emphasize public access to the waterfront.

The adjoining neighborhoods need input into the planning process.

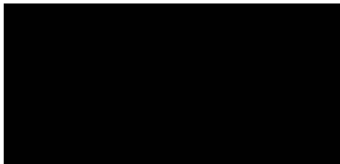
The Casino plans need to be subservient to the master plan, not

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the other way around.

Traffic issues should be studied and remedied before future major development is completed.

William Reed



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**Id:** 1146241524223  
**From:** Theresa Bremer  
**To:** Ms. Colins, Mr. Coy, Mr. Decker, Councilman DiCicco, Senator Fumo, Councilman Goode, Representative Josephs, Councilman Kelly, Councilman Kenney, Mr. Marshall, Mr. McCabe, Councilman Ramos, Governor Rendell, Councilwoman Reynolds Brown, Mr. Rivers, Councilman Rizzo, Mayor Street  
**Date:** April 28, 2006 12:25 pm  
**Subject:** Communities overwhelmed by casinos need City's immediate help  
**Private:** no

I am very concerned about the speed with which the casino's are moving forward, and not leaving time for overburdened community groups to organize and respond. The casino's will have far more impact on communities than any other proposed public site has ever had.

The proposed sites along the waterfront are especially bad, given the high population density, and vulnerable populations that would be negatively impacted by drunk drivers, 24 hour activity, traffic, lowering home values, children and elderly at risk, increased stress with shopping and living and day to day activities. Please postpone any decision so that the existing community can make an informed choice about issues which will affect them.

Theresa Bremer



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**Id:** 1146235955140  
**From:** Gretchen Miller