



### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	Stephen Kosenzwerg	_ 1400
Address:_		
Telephon Crica Organizat		
Employer	<b>A A</b>	
СОММЕ	ENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)	
	See affached document	

I have been a resident of Queen Village since August 1980. My family and I were pioneers, the first inhabited house on the 700 block of Passyunk Avenue. We and other residents of Queen Village have made a considerable investment of money, resources and time to reclaim this area and convert it from low revenue generating tax base to a high one. With the opening of all of the businesses on Columbus Boulevard including IKEA, Home Depot, Best Buys and many others, the traffic congestion on Columbus Boulevard is becoming more than a nuisance. There is only a single exit of I-95 to Columbus Boulevard in the Society Hill/Queen Village/Pennsport area. It is already over taxed with traffic and the trip home has been markedly extended for residents of these areas. The addition of gambling in this highly congested residential area will create the following problems:

1. A lowering of property values

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- 2. A safety issue for our children with more traffic on the streets and a lack of City of Philadelphia resources to provide more police traffic management during peak periods.
- 3. Significant additional congestion and a lack of parking for local residents in an area already crunched by the influx of new residential construction. The current roads are not adequate for the expected increase in traffic. The impact of South Street on weekends has already created parking issues for Society Hill and Queen Village residents and the additional draw it will receive from gambling patrons will make the area unlivable.

In addition to these logistical issues there are other, more fundamental issues that gambling creates in a residential community. We only have to look across to New Jersey to see the experience of the residents living close to the boardwalk. Gambling creates pawn shops, prostitution, and violent crime and becomes a magnet for the homeless and panhandlers. It will also increase property crime in an area that already has its share.

There are other areas of the City of Philadelphia that would be better suited for gambling. These include (1) the Sports Complex. There is plenty of parking and a great deal of down time when these lots are not used. This site has a ready customer base of Eagles, Phillies and Flyers fans who might be eager to have a place to go after a game; (2) The Naval Shipyard. It has parking, is under utilized and could be the beginning of hotel development, a true cruise ship port and entertainment center for cruise visitors to Philadelphia. Moreover, ship sizes would not be impacted by the Walt Whitman Bridge. Both of these sites have good access to I-95, I-76, Delaware, New Jersey and all of the five county Philadelphia area. There is SEPTA service to the sports complex with the prospect of shuttle buses or even a subway extension to the Naval Shipyard site.

It appears that site selection is being influenced by people who have a financial interest in real estate rather than the social, economic and environmental impact on the residential communities in the proposed Reed Street site.

My family and I strongly oppose any attempt to harm the sense of community and neighborhood for which Philadelphia has stood out among first class US cities. If gambling is necessary, and I don't believe that it is given our proximity to Atlantic City, then in the interest of the public, it should be placed in an area that has the smallest impact on quality of life. Delaware and Reed is not such a site.

Stephen Rosenzweig

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

(See attached document)

I, Supher Rosenzweig verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

5----

### Gregory J. Pagano, P.C.



May 31, 2006



Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board P. O. Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106

#### RE: COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

Dear Members of the Board:

I was born and raised in this fine City and went on to raise my five children here, graduated Temple Law and now practice in a center city law firm. I believe in Due Process and in Rules of Order. The people of Philadelphia have not had the right to exercise either.

I enjoy the walk after work to my home in Pennsport. I particularly treasure passing our incredibly impressive historic area. In the early spring through the fall tourists are lined up for tours all day long and into the evening. They can be seen standing and staring in awe at our great monuments. It is Philadelphia: History, heritage, America.

Casinos will offer nothing to this city but a new culture of tourists bringing with it traffic gridlock and increased crime. Philadelphia is not an appropriate town to host such an industry. Those of us who have worked hard to make this city great do not want them here.

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the age safe a more little to the leader

My oldest son, his wife and two of my eleven grandchildren also live in Pennsport. It is a joy to have them so close and a daily part of my life. Our homes are less that one tenth of a mile from the proposed Foxwoods site. If construction proceeds as planned our quality of life will undoubtedly change significantly. This will not be tolerated.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Montgomery





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Doma I. Pancari	
Address:	
Telephon	
Organization, if any:	<u> </u>
Employer: Washington Trip High School	

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

The proposed site of Columbus Avenue and Reed Streets a prepostures place for a cashno. This site borders a thriving neighborhood and would only add traffic and conquestion to an area already crowded with retail. There is absolutely nuthing positive a slot partor can bring to this neighborhood. Philadelphia as a city is seeing a remarkable revitilization of many contor as neighborhoods. Why would the state want to isopordize such continued growth by showing such disespect for the quality of life in those very neighborhoods? Attentic city should serve as a sad example of what casinos can do to a city.

historical sites, a thriving restaurant scene, numerous nationally recognized cultural institutions and a pedestrian friendly layout. You may not have an opportunity to rectify your mistake once such a foolish decision is made. Casinos are atarible idea for Philadelphia — and most certainly ridiculously unworkable at Columbus Avenue and Reed street. Consider the throughout of hard working Philadelphia residents who live that in this neighborhood — many of whom moved in when the area was not so desiredde and worked hard to improve it.

Donkk





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Maxine Mayer
Address
Telepho
Organization, if any:
Employer: Thomas Secteson Hospital for New December
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)
Please make it known that I am
against the Foxwoods casino plans for
the Location on Columbus Blud.
between Tasker + Reed Sheeds in
Philadelphea.
thank Jae,
marine Marcher





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	To	RRY		Nic	12/5		
Name:	76			1010	1012		
Address:							
5 to	*						
Telephone:							
Organization	, if any:		1		7.		z
Employer:		K0	Syst	ems,	In	C.	
COMMENT	ΓS: (Please	use secon	d page if m	ore space is	required)		

makaniga masanija jeme e dana

and my family greatly oppose Comments: Page 2 (continued) the Foxwoods Casino Propost on Columbus Blvd between Tasker and Reed Streets in Philadelphia. This will negatively affect the community by causing major traffic longostion and partir

true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

verify that the information contained in this written

May 30, 2006

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board Post Office Box 69060 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17106-9060

Attn: Public Comment

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of South Philadelphia my whole life, and more particularly, a resident of the waterfront area of Philadelphia for over eighteen (18) years, you are advised that I am in opposition of the proposed casino site at Columbus Boulevard and Reed Streets, known as the proposed "Foxwoods" casino.

You must, with all due respect, reject the proposal of Foxwoods and their backers. I and my neighbors do not want a Casino in our backyard. This casino is proposed to be constructed approximately four (4) blocks from my beautiful home in my upscale neighborhood. Homes in my neighborhood are selling for approximately \$400,000, and more specifically, new construction's asking price only one half (½) block from my home is \$699,999 and over. Thus, it must be concluded that Foxwoods' credo that my neighborhood and area are a blighted one is distorted and frankly erroneous and/or misleading. This categorization is a strategy to get approval for their casino by making the claim that they will enhance our neighborhood. You are advised that our neighborhood does not need enhancing, at least that prescribed by Foxwoods. A viable comparison would be to ask the question: "What type of enhancing has been done for the residents of Atlantic City – none"!

I hope you realize that my letter constitutes thousands of letters for those individuals who cannot voice their opinions and requests in writing, but have had their desires expressed in person and during some of our recent protests.

My neighbors and I do not want a Casino built in South Philadelphia, and more specifically, in our neighborhood, where "everything is dumped" – movie theatres – sporting stadiums, etc. Enough is enough. Gridlock is starting to be a real problem with the construction of the Ikea and Lowes facilities in the newly-created malls, on Columbus Boulevard, coupled with the previous constructions of the home improvement centers.

Quality of life particularly in today's environment is so crucial to all of us in this country. We strive to achieve a better life – a life free of drugs, altercations, murders and just a better well-rounded life style – just like the life-style that my sisters and brother enjoy in the Charlottesville, Virginia area and in the suburbs of Indiana and Long Island, New York. I want the same life-style that they enjoy; to build a casino in my neighborhood

will destroy my quality of life and those of my children and my neighbors. Prostitution and drugs will be rampant; altercations and armed robberies will prevail.

For once, government must honor the desires of those they govern, particularly when it is a viable, meaningful and life-enhancing request.

Therefore, with all due respect, what do we need to do to have you respect our wishes?

Are our letters and petitions enough? Please advise what is needed to stop this action of building a casino in South Philadelphia on Columbus Boulevard, and I will garner our neighbors to take the necessary action required.

With all due respect, I am,

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Braciale





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Address:_
Telephone
Organization, if any:
Employer: Flaster Greenberg, PC
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)
I have lived in Philadelphia, close to the
Delaware Rever since 1977. The mix of Amall
hummerses along South Street, the wonderful
small neighborhood restaurants, and well-
waintained houses give Philadelphia its.
unique appealing character. To allow
a caseno, such as the grogoved Foxwoods
casino, on Delaware Loenne will destroy
the neighborhoods along the Delaware.
The revidential character of the area will
change. The traffit well be labysmal.
Don't allow it.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

1, <u>Janet S.Kole</u> verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JanelsKole





#### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	LINDA	PENEW			SCHOOL FAMI	2000 - 20 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10
Address:_						
₹ <del>-</del>						
Telephone.						
150		YOU STREET		SOCIAMO		
Employer:_	PONNS	& COMPAN	1, INC.		·	
				MANUSARANG ANARYANISHINI MAKA		

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

To all it key Concera:

Regarding Fox words Casino on Delawaie & Reel

A vote to oppose. To all ANTOTALE less to

this section of Delaware Overne would be

Making a bal situation worse.

All anyone has to lo is try to drive in this area

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

lasily see. It is already a parking lot.

To all this much more traffic will criffle

the area. I am all for the casers is, but

take them to an area that can handle the traffic

With all the large stores already there, it is errugh!

Don't forget all the festivals, Jacades & such

that Delaware avenue hosts also.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Linda JEDA





#### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	Julie	McDonald	l	2 2 2 2	WB	292
Address:						
-						
Telephone:	W W 8				2 0	(n. 2.5.)e
Organization,	if any:	<u>1828 - 3</u> 3 3 3 3 3				
Employer:	Saint	Joseph's	University			
COMMENT	S. (Dlesse i	see second name if	mora ennoa is raquire	24)		

ase use second page if more space is required)

I strongly oppose the granting of a licens to foxwoods for a casino in South Philadelphia along Columbons Blud. No casino should be located here unless and until the city of Phola. undertakes a comprehensive revertrant developme. plan. Without such a plan, we local residents

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

for example, I have seen studies for projects Columbus Blud. Each project (new condos, tre forwolds Casino project) assume that its project alone should be entered as a variable in the traffic studies. traffic studies bothers None of these . to acknowledge other traffic studies for =-other-proposed river front projects. Thus in the obsence of overall 4 Comprehensive planning, no development on the Riverfront should proceed.

omment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Julie M. McDonald

John 1 holling 2006





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and

considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot
operators:
Name: Marget Vinen
Address:
Telephone:
Organization, if any:
Employer: Astra-leneca
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)  May 30 76
I am very much against the foxwoods casin
on Delawave Ave & Keed St.
As a resident of nearby Quen Village -
I am very concerned about the addition
traffic Volume, potential for increases
crime, drunk driving and proshituti
in the newby neighborhoods
Please register my objection to the
casino go mo boli 1+

WILLIAM F. KELLER, MEMBER





House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

May 22, 2006

COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS LABOR RELATIONS

**URBAN AFFAIRS** 

FREED

Mr. Frank Donaghue Chief Counsel Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

#### CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT

Dear Mr. Donaghue:

I am writing to you to express my strong and unwavering opposition to the granting of the proposal by Philadelphia Entertainment and Development Partners, LP (Foxwoods Casino Philadelphia) to build a 16-acre casino and entertainment facility on South Columbus Boulevard, between Tasker and Reed Streets.

I have received numerous letters and telephone calls from the residents of the neighborhoods which would be affected by this proposal. These residents are very much concerned about the negative traffic implications during construction, the social costs of the project, the impact the traffic and overdevelopment will have on their homes and neighborhoods and the adverse affect upon the existing businesses. Additionally, a recent study has shown that this proposal would generate less tax revenue than the other sites in consideration. I must unequivocally state that I am opposed to the development of this area in this manner,

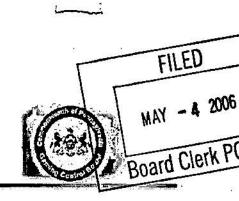
Again, I cannot express to you strongly enough my opposition to this plan. As one who has spent a lifetime living and working in the neighborhoods that will bear the brunt of this proposed casino development, I urge this Board to reject Foxwoods' proposal. The location they have chosen simply cannot adequately sustain such a venture, and in the end, the taxpayers will fail to see the fruits of the legislation we worked long and hard to craft in their favor.

Thank for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Keller





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Joseph Matie	₽
Address:_	
Telephone	
Organization, if any: Bruce Brook & A SSOCIATES	Engineering 5
Employer:	

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Fan writing to voice my concerns towards the Foxwoods Gaming Casino site which has applied for one of the Philadelphia licenses. The site is located in my neighborhood on Reed 5 and Columbus Boulevard. Although I was unable to affend the public hearings on the proposals I did want to write became the direction of the debate focused on traffic issues ha in my opinion taken an unfortunate turn.

Through interpretations of materials made public on the casis proposals, I gather that large portions of money must be spent a dealing with traffic issues brought about by the casinos themselve It is unfortunate that the solutions all deal with adding traffic la to existing streets and building new exit ramps from Interstate into my reighborhood. The problem is that this reighborhood was

#### Comments: Page 2 (continued)

crisidents when less are present. That does not mean than this casino proposal will not work on the reed street site. I believe that public mass transit apprades in lieu of traffic based upgrades will better serve both the casino and the neighborhood New bus lanes and bus shelters are not included with any plans I have seen despite having this site already served by multiple Septa bus routes. Buses alone would not be a solution for all traffic issues, but I will also point out the a rail service right-of-way already exists down the center of Christopler Columbus Boulevards

In Closing I urge the board to put more emphasis public transit solutions to the increased density. It was bad planning that put I-95 in our neighborhood to begin with, and the Philadelphia Waterfront still has not recovered. Future traffic planning should move away from those types of decisions, not add to them.

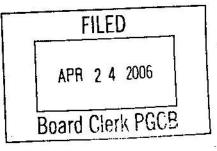
I, Sosph Matter verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JAA 5.1.06

#### JEFFREY M. LEVINSOHN & ERICA J. GLOSS

April 18, 2006

Gaming Commission Office of the Clerk PA Gaming Control Board P.O. Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106



To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is a statement of opposition to the proposed slot parlor on Christopher Columbus Blvd. and Reed Streets in Philadelphia. The Foxwood Casino Development Company should not be allowed to develop this facility at that location.

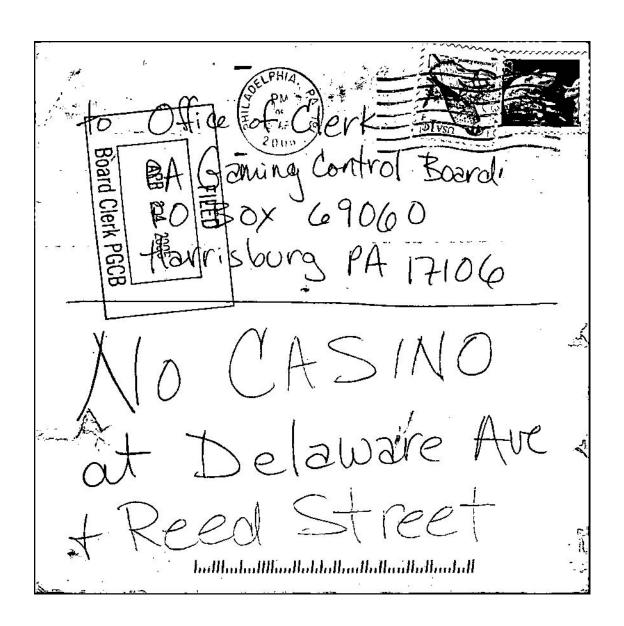
The development of this gaming facility at that location will increase the amount of traffic in surrounding residential neighborhoods. It is estimated that 70,000 cars would travel on Columbus Blvd. every day. This will result in cars and busses traveling to and from the west using Washington Avenue and Christian Streets, which are already extremely crowded and have limited parking.

Additionally, there are many schools, playgrounds and religious facilities in very close proximity. Parents who do not wish to expose their children to gambling will not have that choice.

We urge you to prohibit the Foxwood Casino Development Company from building this facility on Columbus Blvd. and Reed Streets.

Sincerely,

Jeff Levinsohn & Erica Gloss



Office of the Clerk
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg
PA 17106

FILED

APR 2 4 2006

Board Clerk PGCB

April 10 2006

Dear Gaming Control Board:

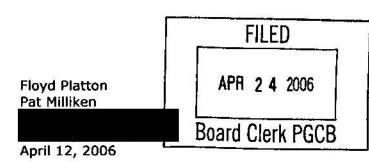
I object to any proposal by Foxwood Casino Development Company to build a large slot parlor at Delaware Avenue (Columbus Boulevard) and Reed Street in Philadelphia

This development will severely increase automobile and bus traffic and traffic congestion; elevate pollution levels; make neighborhoods less safe for families and children; and lower property values. A large scale casino development such as the one proposed by Foxwood will negatively impact on adjacent South Philadelphia neighborhoods including my own.

I urge the Gaming Board not to approve locations for slot parlors which will result in damage to Philadelphia's residential neighborhoods.

Yours sincerely,

James Dickinson



Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106

We, the undersigned, live in the neighborhood which will be affected by the proposed placement of the Foxwood Casino. We strongly oppose it.

In recent years, a shopping complex was built on Christopher Columbus Blvd., betwen Snyder Avenue and Oregon Avenue which more than doubled the traffic on Columbus Blvd., which had already been swelled by previously-constructed strip malls with a Super Fresh market, a Home Depot, an Old Navy and a Wal-Mart.

At any time of day or evening, any day of the week, traffic on Christopher Columbus Blvd., an essential artery for anyone traveling from Center City to South Philadelphia, is reduced to an agonizing crawl. Placement of a casino at Reed Street, with accompanying access ramps to I-95, would be disastrous.

This is a residential neighborhood. We cannot accommodate the additional stress put on our community by the proposed placement of the Foxwood Casino.  $\triangle$ 

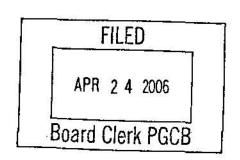
Platton '

Pat Milliken

Arleen Weinstein

April 10, 2006

Office of the Clerk State Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106



Dear Board Members:

South Philadelphia is a densely populated area of two and three storey row houses. Block after block, the houses shelter families with children, the needy, the infirm and the elderly.

Please, please, we do not want, we do not need slot machines.

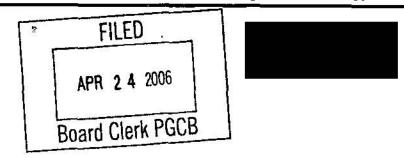
We need streets that are safe to cross, and clear enough for the firemen and ambulances.

Please come to visit our neighborhood. We have no lawns, we have no side yards, we have no place to park our cars, let alone a casino.

I urge each of you to vote "no" for the proposed casino at Columbus Blvd. and Reed Street in South Philadelphia.

Very truly yours,

Arleen Weinstein



April 11, 2006

To: Gaming Commission P.O. Box 69060

Harrisburg, PA 17106

From: Joan and Richard Behr JANBella Kuhan Behr

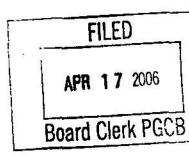
Commissioners, as residents of South Philadelphia we are strongly opposed to locating any sort of slot parlor at Columbus Blvd. and Reed Street. One primary concern is the increase in traffic that such a facility would create--many more buses and perhaps 70,000 cars traveling Columbus Blvd. every day. The idea of another ramp from I-95 to Front Street in that area is counterproductive for an already overdriven, overtraveled, overpopulated neighborhood.

Not only would such an enterprise be inappropriate in a residential area, but also the negative effect on property values clearly make this an ill-conceived proposal.

There are many other more appropriate and attractive sites along the Delaware River. For example, the Jack Frost Sugar Factory site is ideal - an already existing plant, situated along the waterfront, and zoned for commercial use. Nicetown residents are eager to have a casino, so why consider the Reed Street area, the residents of which strongly oppose casino development in their neighborhood.

We urge you to consider our opposition to the Foxwood proposal in your decision on locations for Philadelphia casinos.

Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board P.O. Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106



April 10, 2006

This letter is to inform the PA Gaming Commission that we are against the proposed development of a Casino at Delaware Avenue and Reed Street, Philadelphia, PA.

We live in and own a home near the intersection of 9th and Fitzwater with our baby daughter. The proposed casino would increase traffic, crime, noise and general congestion in our family-based neighborhood.

We have worked long and hard to transform this neighborhood into one which is safe and pleasant for the families who have chosen to make it home, rather than leaving for the suburbs. We will continue to fight to ensure that developments in this neighborhood align with our goal of continuing to create a neighborhood that is clean, safe and child friendly.

We will not be deterred. We protest the proposed development of a slot parlor at Delaware and Reed Streets as well as the plan for another ramp from I-95 onto Front Street.

Then

Laari A. Brunton Christopher Dardaris







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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Diam Ko	driquez Wal	lach	<u>.</u>
Address:_			
<u></u>			
Telephone			,
Organization, if any:	esident	9.1	
Employer:			
COMMENTS: (Please us	e second page if more sp	pace is required)	

Please see attached letter.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Please see attached letter.

I, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

11.101 2006



Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106

June 1, 2006

#### To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I own a home in Queen Village, blocks from where Foxwoods has proposed building a casino (on Columbus Blvd. between Tasker and Reed Streets). We moved to the neighborhood three years ago, primarily drawn to its quaint family atmosphere and quiet streets. We have greatly enjoyed our home and our neighbors over the years, and have been lucky enough to see our property significantly increase in value. However, we fear the addition of a casino in our backyard would wash away the charm that has made this neighborhood so attractive, and would ultimately cause many of the young professionals that occupy its blocks to flee the city.

I'm sure you've received hundreds of letters about the gridlock traffic, chaos and crime that we would incur should the proposed casino be built. And I'm sure you appreciate the value of these arguments. But my opposition to the casino isn't based on these gloom-and-doom theoreticals, it's based on my previous experience. My husband and I lived in Manhattan for three years, one of them in a high-rise apartment in Times Square.

As you probably know, Times Square is located on one of Manhattan largest streets and is home to many of the city's most famous venues. It's exciting, and entertaining, and absolutely maddening to live near. The amount of tourists clogging the streets and sidewalks on a daily basis make it difficult and frustrating for residents to simply walk to work. The blare of car horns and police sirens constantly filled our apartment—even on the 35<sup>th</sup> floor—and forced us to always keep our windows shut. The clientele at night was suspect at best, with strippers and drug dealers as present as the Broadway performers. The doorman in our building was an utter necessity to maintain safety. And I rarely felt safe walking anywhere alone after dark.

Queen Village and its surrounding communities are nothing like Times Square. Our sidewalks only occupy the occasional neighbors walking dogs, our streets are never filled with traffic, I feel completely comfortable walking to my gym at 9 o'clock at night, and I love to enjoy the fresh air through my windows in the summer. A casino would undoubtedly destroy all of this.

Columbus Boulevard is already home to several strip clubs. Right now, luckily, they don't cause a problem for the residents. But I am certain that adding a casino across the street from these venues would attract a dangerous clientele. It would degrade our neighborhood, devastate our property values, and ruin our quality of life.

I can only hope that you recognize how a casino on Columbus Blvd. between Tasker and Reed Streets does not appeal to its locals. I hope that you realize the value of the inconvenience you will be putting upon us, and that you ask yourselves this question before making your decision: If all of the current families, professionals and retirees flee this community, who will take their place?

I sincerely hope you do what's best for Philadelphia and vote down the proposed Foxwoods casino in our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Diana R. Wallach

& wallon





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	MATTHEW	C.	WE	BER	
Address:					
— Telephone:	Azon e e		, Å.		
Organizatio	n, if any:				
Employer:_	UNIVERSIT	۲ (	PF	PENNSYLVANIA	

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

Please allow me to express my strong opposition to the proposed site of a casino along the Delaware River in South Philadelphia, the site known as Foxwoods Casino. I am on the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania and I have lived in this area for many years, however, I am very concerned about the future of my community. This is the worst possible choice for a casino for many reasons. First, the South Philadelphia neighborhood near this site does not need revitalization, it is already booming with new construction and rehabilitation of existing homes. A casino will only hurt the widespread development that is already occurring, and it will most likely depress property values. Second, traffic congestion, which is already a nightmare, will certainly become nearly impossible at certain times, mainly on the weekends. I am aware that traffic studies have been done, and the casino has proposed additional lanes and ramps, but their studies are very shortsighted. First, their traffic studies have not been done during the peak summer season when traffic and congestion dramatically increases. Second, these studies have not taken into account the tremendous increase in traffic that will automatically occur with the further development of this neighborhood. High rise condominiums and townhouse development is already under construction or is in the preconstruction phase throughout this area. We already have traffic problems, a casino can only add to them.

Lastly, rather than list all the other negatives surrounding Foxwoods casino, let me briefly describe a better use of this land. The City of Philadelphia Planning Commission has proposed two visions for the development of the riverfront. The first is the "RIVER GREENWAY" development plan in which the rivers surrounding the city be zoned for "unrestricted public access to the river's edge". This includes a waterfront setback with a minimum of 50 feet for public use. Currently, Center City Philadelphia and South Philadelphia has no large green spaces along the Delaware River. Second, the planning commission has proposed the "New River City" initiative, which encompasses development along the Delaware riverfront to include urban housing, retail and waterfront recreation, including a network of trails and open space. Therefore, a much, much better use of this land would be for a riverfront park, a large open space for the residents of South Philadelphia to enjoy. With the further development of the high rise condominiums and townhouses, residents will need a place to go for a walk (walk their dogs), meet with their neighbors, jog or play,

and just sit and enjoy the waterfront. Please don't take away our waterfront.

I, Matthew C. Weber, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



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## Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



#### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: DAVID SANDERS	
Address:	
Telephone	
Organization, if any: NOWIDUAL	
Employer: SELF-EMPLOYEN	######################################

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I HAVE LIVED IN PHILADELPHIA'S QUEEN VILLAGE DEIGHBORHDONDER TOR SOME 15 YEARS, AND I AM STRONGLY OFFOSED TO BRINGING THE FOXWOODS CASIND TO THIS AREA. QUEEN VILLAGE AND THE FOXWOODS CASIND TO THIS AREA. QUEEN VILLAGE AND THE FOXWOODS CASIND TO THIS AREA. QUEEN VILLAGE AND THE FOXWOODS CASIND TO THE FRONT EXCERTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF PRINCIPLE OF PRINCIPLE OF PRINCIPLE AND TERRIBLE TRAFFIC, INCLUDING FROM. THE DESTRUCTIVE INVACT OF ADDING A CASIND IS VERY CONCERNING TO IMAGINE. THIS IS ONE OF PHILADELPHIA'S OLDEST AND MOST HISTORIC PETGINSORITODDS. ITS STALE IS SMALL AND INTIMATE YET IT IS ALDERNY RECOMING DENSELY DEVELOPED IT DUES NOT NEED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MATURICASIND CASIND COMPLEX FOR ITS ECONOMIC ITERATING. OF ALL THE PROPOSED OF ALL THE PROPOSED.

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Comments: Page 2 (continued)

1, DAVIDSANDERS verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Duf Ender



## Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

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Organization; if any:	· .	race e		Kr <del>an</del> ia.	<b>.</b>	
Employer: SECF				22-23-20	<u> </u>	
COMMENTS: (Please )	ise second page	if more	space is	required)		*1

I TIB	12 15	verify that the information contained in this written
comment is true as	nd correct to the b	est of my knowledge and belief.

TAP. U.B

May 30, 2006

Office of the Clerk
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

RE: Proposed Slots Casino Site on Columbus Blvd/Delaware Ave at Reed Street in Philadelphia, PA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to raise concerns in regard to a proposed Slots Casino on Columbus Blvd/Delaware Ave at Reed Street in Philadelphia, PA. The site is along a major arterial that has seen tremendous growth in traffic in the past half dozen years to the point where traffic is already spilling over into the adjacent residential neighborhoods as drivers try to avoid slow, stop and go movement along the Boulevard. Putting a slots casino at this location would further aggravate traffic along the Boulevard, impacting the level of service for vehicles and further degrading the ability of residents to walk to destinations along the Boulevard. It will also add considerably more traffic in the adjacent residential neighborhoods as drivers try to avoid the congestion along the Boulevard. There is no benefit to the adjacent neighborhoods to be had from this location.

In addition to traffic impacts the proposed site would have other detrimental impacts on the adjacent neighborhoods. Bus parking would be an immediate problem along with increased air pollution in a densely populated urban neighborhood and its attendant impact upon respiratory diseases. This will impact the young and old disproportionately. This area is also not equipped for the types of ancillary businesses and activities that go with a major gambling location, both the licit or illicit activities. There will be a significant and detrimental impact upon the quality of life and the provision of city services (both everyday and emergency services) if this proposed site were to be used for a slots casino.

This site can be summarized as ill-advised and detrimental to the health and well-being of existing active and healthy neighborhoods in the South Philadelphia area. It should be rejected out of hand for areas that are less densely populated and with better capacity to absorb the increased vehicular and human activities from a slots casino.

Sincerely,

Peter R. Hecht

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# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

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## Comment on Proposed Gaming SitesS: Philadelphia Entertainment & Development Partners

Given: Gaming has been approved for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with 2 sites in Philadelphia. There is nothing we can do about this now. So, let's work together to make the best of a bad situation.

I find it difficult to understand that the PGCB holds exclusive rights to determine where the casinos are placed no matter the input from the City of Philadelphia and the neighborhoods which will be directly affected by these decisions. Residents in the neighborhoods surrounding any proposed site deserve a voice equal to that of the developer and licensee. We live in the neighborhoods. It's the quality of our lives that will be significantly impacted for decades after the developers and licensees complete their project, leave town and sell to be next licensee.

Granting a license for the proposed site at 10<sup>th</sup> & Reed is simply not a good idea. There is simply not enough space. There are simply not enough roads and capacity to handle the estimated volume of people and cars. There is simply no reason to build a casino IN a thriving neighborhood.

Our neighborhoods are a treasured asset of Philadelphia. Families have been raised in the neighborhoods surrounding 10<sup>th</sup> & Reed for up to 200 years. Children, parents, grandparents. The fabric of our community will suffer significantly. Traffic. Congestion. Crime. Safety. Would you want to raise your children within blocks of a casino?

If Philadelphia must have 2 casinos, other sites located in previously industrial areas away from neighborhoods are a better choice.

Do not destroy what makes Philadelphia a great city.

I,	Shirley	J. Coo	verify that the information contained in this
writt	en comment is	true and correc	to the best of my knowledge and belief.
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### Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and

considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators: Name: Address: Telephon SSINK SQ. CIVIC Organization, if any: " Employer: COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required) verify that the information contained in this written is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



### Pennsylvánia Caming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: WILLIAM AND	· MARICYA	JACBURT	_	125
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Organization, if any:				<del></del>
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COMMENTS: (Please use se	cond page if more sr	pace is required)	( MAE	!(CYN)
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I, William reliable verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dear Gaming Board members:

As a resident of South Philadelphia, I am very alarmed at the decision to offer our neighborhood as a casino site, without considering the concerns of the area residents. Please consider carefully the impact of adding a casino to South Columbus Boulevard, and try to envision this happening in close proximity to your home.

- Inserting a huge, limited appeal, entertainment complex into a residential & retail zone shows little consideration for urban design & planning. The negatives obviously outweigh the positives, which can be determined by reviewing the impact study (Final Report, Philadelphia Gaming Advisory Task Force, 10/27/05, pp.111 112). <a href="http://www.phila.gov/gamingadvisory/pdfs/PGATF">http://www.phila.gov/gamingadvisory/pdfs/PGATF</a> Final Report.pdf One item in this report identifies this site as being less than desirable because of its distance from other entertainment zones. What influences a decision to ignore this data? Is it the beautiful view of South Camden's decrepit waterfront that makes this site so attractive?
- This area has recently become very congested following the opening of the newest retail complex below Snyder Ave. Regardless of the modifications proposed by the developers, the volume of traffic will bring congestion, air quality, noise and litter to unacceptable levels. If one of the by products of development is improved quality of life, this type of development is the wrong approach.
- The increased volume of traffic has the potential to force residents away form this area, which will eventually have a negative impact on the retail outlets situated nearby.
   Statistical data also shows casino traffic is accompanied by increases in speeding and DUI violations. Considering the recent increase in violent crime, the Philadelphia Police Department cannot afford to be burdened by an increase in workload of any type.
- The proximity to residential neighborhoods is inappropriate and ill-advised. When the new civic center was built, the location was chosen for its proximity to other entertainment and commercial areas. While the proposed casino is adjacent to retail outlets, how many casino patrons are anticipated to top off their day of gaming with a shopping trip to Home Depot? As far as other retailers feeling any benefit, most casino operations include a variety of retail outlets under their roof, in order to capture every possible dollar. That deprives the established retailers of revenue.
- Many residents of the surrounding neighborhoods chose to live here because it was removed from this type of environment. Allowing a casino to invade this environment is a betrayal of the taxpayers of this city and state.
- While the casinos promise employment, they will draw from the entire region, adding to
  the volume of traffic and congestion in this area. To assume that the surrounding
  neighborhoods would realize any noticeable economic or aesthetic benefits from the
  addition of a casino is foolhardy and ridiculous.

In closing, I would ask each of to honestly consider how willing would you be to live within 4 blocks of a casino? Personally, if that's where I wanted to live, I would have moved to Nevada. Except, I don't think in Nevada you can live that close to a casino because of their zoning restrictions.

Sincerely, A very concerned voter & taxpayer Bill Jalbert

Bill Jullest

5/29/06

# WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:  Name:  Address:
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Organization, if any:
Employer:
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Comments: Page 2 (continued)

QUALITY OF THE ENTIRE REGION: MORE POLLITION & NOISE - WHICH HAS NOT BEE FIDIED OR CONSIDERED

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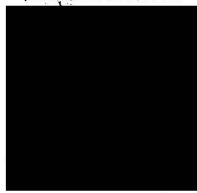
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I, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

From C. Well 5-/29/06

WILLIAM F. KELLER, MEMBER

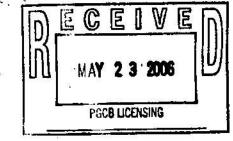




# House of Representatives commonwealth of pennsylvania harrisburg

May 22, 2006

Ms. Susan Hensel Director of Licensing Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060



COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

LABOR RELATIONS URBAN AFFAIRS

#### CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT

Dear Ms. Hensel:

I am writing to you to express my strong and unwavering opposition to the granting of the proposal by Philadelphia Entertainment and Development Partners, LP (Foxwoods Casino Philadelphia) to build a 16-acre casino and entertainment facility on South Columbus Boulevard, between Tasker and Reed Streets.

I have received numerous letters and telephone calls from the residents of the neighborhoods which would be affected by this proposal. These residents are very much concerned about the negative traffic implications during construction, the social costs of the project, the impact the traffic and overdevelopment will have on their homes and neighborhoods and the adverse affect upon the existing businesses. Additionally, a recent study has shown that this proposal would generate less tax revenue than the other sites in consideration. I must unequivocally state that I am opposed to the development of this area in this manner.

Again, I cannot express to you strongly enough my opposition to this plan. As one who has spent a lifetime living and working in the neighborhoods that will bear the brunt of this proposed casino development, I urge this Board to reject Foxwoods' proposal. The location they have chosen simply cannot adequately sustain such a venture, and in the end, the taxpayers will fail to see the fruits of the legislation we worked long and hard to craft in their favor.

Thank for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Keller

April 10, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this memo to voice my concerns regarding the Casino project on Columbus Avenue in South Philadelphia. I live in Bella Vista and would not appreciate this project in my neighborhood. Isn't that why Atlantic City is only 1 hour away? Please pass this on to the powers that be and thank you all for all your-hard work in-rallying for NO Casinos. Thank you.

Judy Maira



# —Bella Vista— United Civic Association



April 19, 2006

Mr. Tad Decker, Chairman Penna. Gaming Control Board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Re: Opposition to Foxwood Casino Proposal at Columbus Blvd and Reed Street

Dear Chairman Decker:

The members of the Bella Vista United Civic Association (BVUCA) are opposed to the proposed plan to build a casino at Columbus Boulevard and Reed Streets in Philadelphia. Accordingly, we have joined with the other surrounding community associations and are part of Riverfront United.

Unfortunately, BVUCA was not given notice of the proposal and only learned of it and the hearings in early April 2006. As all of our board members volunteer their time and have other demands of work and family, we were unable to participate personally to voice our opposition at the hearings. However, we incorporate and echo the remarks made on behalf of BVUCA by the representatives of Riverfront United who testified at the hearings.

In addition, in the past few days, we have circulated petitions for residents to sign who are opposed to a casino at Columbus Blvd. and Reed Street. The attached petitions represent only a few days of efforts. We plan to continue such efforts and to work with Riverfront United in opposition to the Foxwood Proposal.

Sincerely,

Brett J

Brett T. Mapp, President, on behalf of

Bella Vista United Community Association

Enclosures

cc (w/enclosures)\*: Governor Edward G. Rendell

Penna. State Senator Vincent J. Fumo

Penna. State Representative Babette Josephs

Phila. Councilman Frank DiCicco

Philadelphia Gaming Advisory Task Force

Riverfront United

\*The enclosed petitions contained private and confidential information and are not to be distributed, copied or used for public use, or used for any other purpose than in connection with opposition to a casino located near Reed Street and Columbus Blvd, Philadelphia PA.

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**EMAIL** 

## NO CASINO on Reed and Columbus B

#### I am OPPOSED to a Casino on Reed and Columbus

**Traffic:** Columbus Boulevard is already congested with traffic. The current infrastructor of vehicles. The applicant estimates the traffic will peek over 80,000 vehicles per day Foxwood Casino recommended adding additional access ramps to 195 from Front Street disrupt the community channeling traffic into an 84% residential neighborhood.

**Social Impact:** Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addict neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly. handle the damage this casino will cause.

Please print requested information then add your signature

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NAME ADDRESS/ZIP CODE

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Denise Marine

Johns A LOUGARD-DANS

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ADDRESS/ZIP CODE

PHONE

**EMAIL** 

Shella Ballen

**EMAIL** 

Please print requested information then add your signature

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**NAME** ADDRESS/ZIP CODE 133 ( 725 Estelle Bronstein Marian Real Munciole Laura

Please print requested information then add your signature

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**Social Impact:** Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addicting neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly, handle the damage this casino will cause.

Please print requested information then add your signature

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**Traffic:** Columbus Boulevard is already congested with traffic. The current infrastruct of vehicles. The applicant estimates the traffic will peek over 80,000 vehicles per day Foxwood Casino recommended adding additional access ramps to I95 from Front Street disrupt the community channeling traffic into an 84% residential neighborhood.

**Social Impact:** Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addict neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly. handle the damage this casino will cause.

Please print requested information then add your signature

AROL RETANO

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MICHAEL J. Y.TSKO JR.

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**Traffic:** Columbus Boulevard is already congested with traffic. The current infrastructuof vehicles. The applicant estimates the traffic will peek over 80,000 vehicles per day of Foxwood Casino recommended adding additional access ramps to 195 from Front Street disrupt the community channeling traffic into an 84% residential neighborhood.

**Social Impact:** Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addicting neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly. handle the damage this casino will cause.

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Social Impact: Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addiction neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly. handle the damage this casino will cause.

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#### Ms. Patricia Steele

May 23, 2006

Office of the Clerk

→ Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060

Harrisburg, PA 17106

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please accept this letter in opposition to the proposed casino at Reed Street and Columbus Boulevard.

As a long time resident of Philadelphia, specifically the Pennsport section of South Philadelphia, I am troubled by the negative forces that would impact my community as a result of the casinos.

The anticipated influx of traffic will overwhelm an already congested area, causing an increase in air pollution and crime. It is wrong to unfairly burden the community with these influences and lower the quality of life for the children and the elderly in our community.

The price that our neighborhood children and adults will pay for the building of these casinos far outweighs the benefits for the state of Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your anticipated concern for the South Philadelphia communities that will surely benefit from your consideration in regards to the building of the proposed casinos.

Sincerely,

Patricia Steele

#### Ms. Leigh-Ann C. Deissroth

May 23, 2006

Office of the Clerk
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please accept this letter in opposition to the proposed casino at Reed Street and Columbus Boulevard.

As a former resident of the Whitman area and a new homeowner and taxpayer in the Pennsport section of South Philadelphia, as well as a public high school teacher, I am outraged by the proposal for a casino at Reed Street and Columbus Boulevard.

The children of our city are already exposed to far too much crime, addiction and financial burden without being subjected to the negative influences that are sure to arise as a result of a casino in the community. Our children are maturing into productive citizens and contributing members of society despite the negative influences that already surround them and do not need the unnecessary of burden of temptation a casino will bring.

The negative impact a casino would have on our children is just one of the issues surrounding the proposal. Our community, which is primarily residential, would be exposed to an overwhelming influx of traffic and reduced parking, which is already limited, as a result of a casino. Moreover, it is unfair to subject our community to the increased crime rate and social decline that will follow the building of a casino.

Thank you for your anticipated careful consideration of the casino proposal and the resulting impact your decision will have on the children and communities of Philadelphia.

C. Deusney

Sincerely,

Leigh-Ann C. Deissroth



7.

# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



# WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

We request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Judith Sachs and Anthony Bruno

Address

Telepho

Organization, if any: Bruno/Sachs

Employer: Self-employed

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

We strongly protest the recommendation to use the Delaware-Reed Street Site for a slots casino. Both of us live and work in Queen Village and are well aware of the many problems that such a casino would incur.

- 1. Traffic. The congestion, speed, and potential for drunk drivers will increase phenomenally. Having an off-ramp from 95 into Queen Village will ruin quality of life and be a hazard to pedestrians.
  - 2. Parking. There is a dearth of parking currently in this neighborhood. The influx of buses and cars would be highly detrimental and would take needed space away from those who live and work in the area.
  - 3. Crime. We have a relatively safe neighborhood where we are able to recognize one another. With thousands of strangers mobbing the streets, coming only to gamble, there will be an increased incidence of robbery, theft and sexual harassment crimes.

4. Influence on the young people. Queen Village is a residential neighborhood with parks, schools, and churches as the mainstay of family and community life. We do not want our teens to be drawn into the seamy side of casino gambling.

Please take our recommendation to keep the slot gambling (and any other kind) out of our neighborhood.

We, Judith Sachs and Anthony Bruno, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.



### Pennsylvania | Gaming Control Board



# WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Micah Ford	
Address:	
Telephor	
Organization, if any: None	
Employer: Buckfield Group	
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)	

Dear PGCB.

I live 4 blocks away from the proposed Foxwoods Casino. I am vehemently opposed to this location. I also feel that the state should not have taken the city's control of the zoning for these sites. We know the areas better than anyone in Harrisburg and our communities could have and should have been able to provide our valuable insight during the zoning of these areas. We should have the right to help decide the fate of our communities.

With regard to the planned development of the Foxwoods location, I see the following issues as being insurmountable if this site is chosen.

1. Traffic. Our area already experiences grid locked traffic conditions and this development is planning to increase the traffic by an estimated 50%. To make matters worse, they have yet to show a full, workable and detailed plan to alleviate the increased traffic. This increased traffic will strangle our developing shopping district, doing damage to not only the existing business, but also any future business that would plan on moving here. Additionally this traffic would be devastating to the quality of life for the adjacent residential communities.

2/

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

- 2. This location is too close to a thriving residential community. Some people have said that I-95 will form a protective barrier for the neighborhood. I completely disagree. The portion of I-95 in this area is a Viaduct (bridge) and will provide zero protection to the community. Drunken drivers and drunken pedestrians will be free to enter our community.
- 3. This location does not have access to enough public transportation (i.e. Mass Transit Lines).
- 4. This casino would not be the most profitable site for such a development. Other current proposals are more profitable.
- I feel that this development will have a negative impact on property values and this location would inflict the most property value damage because of the large concentration of residential properties located near it.

I hope (and also believe) that this Board will try to do what is best for Philadelphia and it's voting public. Please say "NO" to the casino at Reed St and Columbus Blvd.

Sincerely,

Micah Ford

I, Micah Ford verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control board PO Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106

Re: NO Casino on Reed & Columbus Blvd.

Dear Sir:

I am a resident of the above-captioned site. I strongly oppose the building of the casino. It is a threat to the neighborhood. Presently, we are already overwhelmed with heavy traffic on Columbus Blvd. Any given day, you will find numerous tour buses going through our neighborhood and parking on the shopping lots all day. The limos also congest the neighborhood mostly going to the "gentlemen's club" for bachelor parties, etc. The people of this neighborhood have worked hard to keep this a safe one. Now, with the casinos coming our quality of life will be comprised as well as our safety. I work for the City of Philadelphia and am not permitted to move out of the city like some of my neighbors are planning to do. Please register this comment in the evidentiary record.

Sincerely,

Maureen Wootten

Edward J. Wootten III

J. Wootten W



Office of the Clerk Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106

To Whom It May Concern:

Somewhere I have read that those people objecting to a casino on the Delaware at Reed and Columbus Boulevard are in the minority, and that Firefox (or whatever the concern's name is) has been negotiating with residents who are encouraging of the project. If YOU have heard such a thing, please keep in mind that it is a bald-faced lie. The residents of all the neighborhoods in and near South Philadelphia are OPPOSED to such a casino, and will do everything in their power to prevent it.

It is madness to put an enterprise whose goal is to solicit thousands of patrons daily to an area that is already saturated with residents, buildings and traffic, into an area which is increasingly congested because of new, and continuing residential building. The area in question has also just built a large shopping center that attracts numerous people from outside the neighborhood, and there is simply no room for any other traffic-bringing project. NO ROOM!!!

Harrisburg has no right to impose its choice of location for any of these casinos. It is Philadelphia, and Philadelphians, who have to live with the traffic, noise and litter (if not worse) that they will create, and therefore it should be Philadelphia and Philadelphians who decide where they should go. Why John Street and the City Council have not REFUSED these plans is beyond me. There is a perfectly good site in South Philadelphia: the Naval Shipyard. There is another good city site: the one considered not long ago for the baseball field. Maybe there are other good sites, but they are not the ones Harrisburg has chosen.

Not the ones, no; but the one at Reed and Columbus is beyond simply "not the one". It is OUT OF THE QUESTION.

Thank you.

Ruth K. Crispin



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: VERN HWYSTYSIU, E	<u> </u>
Address:	
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Ofganization, if any:	··· <del>·</del>
Employer:	
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)	

See attached

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, VERN AWSTUSID verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and belief.

Kenlint

My name is Vern Anastasio. I am a founding board member of Bella Vista United Civic Association, a resident organization representing a neighborhood that begins a mere six blocks from the Delaware River. I am a real estate attorney who primarily focuses on large commercial and residential development. I am father of two small children. I am a homeowner; a former member of Philadelphia's Gaming Task Force and its Site Selection Committee and a life-long resident of Philadelphia.

I submit this testimony because I love my city. And therefore, I will speak on just one site: Foxwoods' proposed casino at Columbus and Reed Street.

Everyone knows casinos will generate revenue and create jobs. Everyone knows that the State's share of casino revenue will permit Philadelphia's wage tax to fall dramatically. Everyone knows the possibilities.

But, as someone who owns a home within one mile of Columbus and Reed, let me say this - I don't care how many construction jobs will be created or how much revenue will be generated if a reckless casino development ruins my neighborhood and causes property values to drop. Let me be clear - there is no single site that will do more damage to more people than the Foxwoods site at Columbus and Reed.

Now let me tell you why.

First, there's the proposal for an I-95 on-ramp - or as I call it Operation Eminent Domain. Let me be crystal clear - this part of the Foxwoods proposals is an eminent domain nightmare for Philadelphia's middle class homeowners. And frankly, we don't need concrete on-ramps as much as we need middle class taxpayers.

In the wake of the Supreme Court's Kelo decision, there aren't too many elected leaders in the city of Philadelphia or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who will recklessly use eminent domain for a casino development. It could take more than a decade for Foxwoods to realize its dream of an off-ramp. And honestly, it could end up costing more than anyone ever imagined. Faced with these hard realities, Foxwoods could scrap this proposal, leaving many of the new cars heading to the casino on our city's streets.

And that leads me to my second point-- the traffic. Conservative traffic studies tell us that approximately 50,000 cars travel Columbus Boulevard on any given day. If you lived anywhere near the river, you'd know these numbers are accurate. Density, congestion and mile-long traffic jams are the norm. And all of this is before a Foxwoods casino comes to the area.

Now, imagine a massive casino smack dab in the middle of this mess. That means an additional 10,000 to 25,000 cars on any given day. More congestion, more density and more noise. And here's the kicker - while Columbus boulevard is a wide highway, many of these vehicles will travel through small, narrow residential streets that were created for horses and buggies -- not greyhound busses and SUVS - just to get to Columbus Boulevard and the Foxwoods casino development.

And finally, I will respectfully submit that there are other potential sites that are more appropriate than Columbus and Reed.

For instance, the Trump site in the Allegheny West community is being embraced by many in the community because it will create jobs, spur development and lead to much-needed amenities like a supermarket and a school. The Trump casino can ignite economic recovery for an area that has seen little prosperity in the past decade. The same cannot be said for Columbus and Reed. Additionally, the Jack Frost site on North Delaware Avenue is the farthest from people's homes than any other Delaware Avenue site. With a risk of property values dropping up to ten percent

as a result of these casinos, this is a site that will have little or no negative impact on residential property value. The same cannot be said for the Foxwoods casino at Columbus and Reed. For all these reasons and for the many reasons so many of my friends and neighbors stipulated in the three days of public testimony, I respectfully request that you choose not to place a casino at Columbus and Reed Streets.

Our city and its people are at your mercy. Choose wisely





## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:	CHARLES	PETRON1	S				
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Telephon							_
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COMME	NTS: (Please	use second	page if n	nore space	is required)		•3

DEAR SIR, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CASINO AT DELAWARE AVE. AND REEDS STS.

- 1. THE TRAFFIC THE MOVIE DRAWS IS VERY HIGH.: CASINO -FORGET ABOUT IT. DELAWARE AVE. IS ALREADY A MESS PRACTICALLY ALL DAY LONG.
- 2. THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY STRANGERS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SINCE THE MOVIE WAS PUT IN. SCARY, A LOT OF DAMAGE IS DONE LATE AT NIGHT WHEN. THE MOVIE LETS OUT
- 3.TRASH IS RAMPANT IN THE MOVIE AREA ON THE STREETS WHICH THEY DON'T BOTHER TO CLEAN. THERE WILL BE MORE TRASH WHEN AND IF THE CASINO GETS IN. IF THEY WERE SERIOUS ABOUT WHAT THEY SAY THEN WHY ARE THEY LEAVING THE AREA LOOKING LIKE A CRAP HOUSE. IF YOU HAVE GOOD INTENTS CLEAN IT UP A LITTLE.

I, have verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.







## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and

operators:
Name: Susan Ciambrano
Address:
Telephone:
Organization, if any:
Employer: Thom 50 N
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)
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Comments: Page 2 (continued)

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— Upist in this over-developed region. All

mot focus on clocations where a gambling compley

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bring much need economic development to

underserved neighborhoods?

as traffic jams are an existing Problem Columbus Blud, especially from Christian to T development efforts for this region should focus on Dedestrian - oriented Projects

A unge you to consider what is best for Philadelphia neighborhoods.

I, Just verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

5/23/06

Hello

I am writing to tell you that I am OPPOSED to a casino at Columbus Blue & Reed Streets in Philadelphia PA.

I am opposed to casinos any where on the del River water front but especially at col Blud & Reed St because of the hourible impact it will have on the neighborhood

Day truly yours





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: ELISSA TORRE-LEWIS

	Address:_
	Telephone
	Organization, if any: Queen Village neighborhood Association
	Employer:
	COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)
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## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot
operators:
Name: DAMY - LILLE
Address:
Telephor
Organization, if any: SVN.4
Employer: Preen treeks
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)
Why just when our reighborhoods are begin
La state and would believe de une monthed.

Why fust will our reighborhoods are beginning to prosper as never before do you want to -destroy them with all is the negatives that come along with casinos. Take the promise of "economy prosperity" and the "nutriplies effect" if you so strongly relieve in such empty words to an own when they are nelded --- not to South Philadely I completely oppose the Foxwoods Casino Project and Know that it will not be the anchor for a "world





### WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot

operators:	A .	NA 1/2			
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COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Signatures of Spanish speakers, mostly Mexican, who live in the area near the proposed Foxwoods site at Columbus & Read-Signatures are in opposition to having a casino in the vicinity.

### No al casino en Reed y Columbus Boulev

#### Yo, me opongo al casino en Reed y Columbus Boulevard p

Trafico: Columbus Boulevard actualmente ya esta congestionado con el tráfico. La actual infraestructura vehículos. Los aplicantes calculan que va a traer más de 80,000 vehículos por día en Columbus Boulevard recomendado agregar vías de acceso adicionales al I-95 de Front Street. La construcecrón podría interrum comunidad en un 84% a los vecindarios residenciales.

Impacto social: aumentará el crimen, basura y numerosos problemas sociales incluyendo adicciones, deca familia, le costará a nuestra comunidad; familias niños y instituciones de beneficiencia. Nuestra comunidad este casino causará.

La compañía ha declarado que su enfoque son las comunidades minoritarias y planean enforcarse en las confideraciones y Asian para juegos de azhar y gastar su dinero en el casino.

Favor escribir la información solicitada y agrege su firma

Telefono

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Correo

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### No al casino en Reed y Columbus Boulevard

Favor escribir la información solicitada y agrege su fir

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La compañia ha declarado que su enfoque son las comunidades minoritarias y planean enforcarse en las co Afroamericancas y Asian para juegos de azhar y gastar su dinero en el casino.

Favor escribir la información solicitada y agrege su firma-

Correo

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Telefono

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### No al casino en Reed y Columbus Boulevard

### Favor escribir la información solicitada y agrege so fir

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Submitted by Ani Martin

#### **ENGLISH TRANSLATION:**

#### NO CASINO on Reed and Columbus Blvd.

## I am OPPOSED to a Casino on Reed and Columbus BECAUSE:

**Traffic:** Columbus Boulevard is already congested with traffic. The current infrastructure cannot handle the influx of vehicles. The applicant estimates the traffic will peak over 80,000 vehicles per day on Columbus Boulevard. Foxwoods Casino recommended adding additional access ramps to 195 from Front Street. The construction would disrupt the community channeling traffic into an 84% residential neighborhood.

**Social Impact:** Increased crime, trash and numerous social problems including addiction, financial decline, family neglect, will cost our neighborhoods, families, schools, children and institutions dearly. Our community cannot handle the damage this casino will cause.

Please print requested information then add your signature.

NAME

ADDRESS/ZIP CODE

PHONE

**EMAIL**