

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: E. Alan Cameron <ejabaka@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 4:31 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposed to proposed Nittany Mall casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To Whom It May Concern;

I am opposed to the approval of a casino at the Nittany Mall (State College). The supposed 'benefits' of a casino are realized by owners (if financially successful) but very few others. Negative benefits impact the entire community and they are numerous.

State College residents value a healthy natural environment. This includes clean air and water, open green space, abundant forests and aesthetically pleasing landscapes, reasonable vehicular traffic that does not cause excessive pollution, and minimal crime. Our social and cultural environment, including abundant walking paths and bike lanes, clean public transportation, small independent businesses, parks, and institutions that foster healthy personal and community growth, are equally important. We choose opportunities that promote personal growth, a healthy ecosystem, and meaningful interpersonal relationships. Casinos increase traffic, pollution, construction, and noise, and attract an element that includes a larger than normal proportion of individuals who are characterized as undesirables. Our community has tens of thousands of impressionable students who have not yet learned to make critical decisions when choices are tough, who succumb often to peer pressure, and who do not have the resources to be able to afford to gamble. Casinos drastically increase potential gambling addiction according to available documentation. By removing gambling temptation from easy and convenient access, we as a community want to help them to develop into citizens who will contribute to society rather than being a social burden on society as they move on.

Please reject the proposed casino application in the interests of my community. Thank you for registering my opposition to this permit request.

E. Alan Cameron
(State College resident)

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E. Alan Cameron
500 East Marylyn Avenue, Apt. G-106
State College, PA 16801-6289

Phone: (814) 237-9531
Cell: (814) 404-3291
E-mail: Ejabaka@gmail.com

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Al <pittpenn1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:41 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] State College casino update?

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear,

I'm a resident of State College and give my strongest support for this casino. It will be great for the local economy and lifestyle. I'm wondering any updates on it? When will it be opening? Appreciate it!

Best,

Al

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Catherine Alloway <allowaycs@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 11:29 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] NO State College casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Board Clerk and Members:

We are against a gambling casino in our community. Gambling addiction has risen during the pandemic, and this is an additional outlet that encourages destructive behaviors for those so inclined. Pennsylvania ranks 24th in gambling addiction issues, so why expand opportunities for individual and family economic loss? Layer this with local opioid addiction rates and a lack of local affordable housing - this is not a good recipe for a thriving community, and helps assure there will be even more people struggling in the area.

Meanwhile, we argue against the "economic benefit" of the casino. There is now plenty of commercial and retail interest and construction ensuing on the Benner Pike without a casino to be added in the mix.

We find it ironic that a casino, a proven, quick and easy way to LOSE money, is applying for a site in a community where people pay big bucks to learn how to EARN money, via a degree from Penn State University.

WE ARE AGAINST THIS CASINO.

<https://wallethub.com/edu/states-most-addicted-to-gambling/20846>

--

Kevin Catherine Alloway
119 Trinity Lane, Port Matilda, PA

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Jackie Esposito <archivist122@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 2:10 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in Centre County

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

NO!!!! NO!!!! NO!!! This would be a phenomenally bad decision.

Jackie Esposito

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Clark(she/her), Darlene <dac128@psu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 3:15 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] PGCB license for casino in State College, Centre County

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PGCB approving a license for the proposed casino in State College, Centre County. Gambling addiction is a real and present danger that every day ruins people's lives. Placing a casino a few miles from a college campus with 48,000 students is a particularly bad idea.

State College is a vibrant, relatively affluent community that can maintain local government with its existing tax structure. And it is also a community with many different forms of entertainment. Placing a casino in State College will not enhance our community and the overwhelming opposition to the proposal we see in the community indicates that local residents understand this. And for that small minority of residents who feel a need to engage in casino gambling, they can do what they have always done—drive a little more than an hour to the nearest casino.

Please do not approve a license for a State College casino.

Darlene Clark

Darlene Clark
she/her

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Pat Dolan <pat.dolan.artist@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 4:17 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittanty Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly object to having a casino in our county. My family has genetic predispositions to all forms of addiction. Gambling is one way to destroy a gambling-addicted persons personal, public, employment potentials. Most addicts do not recognize gambling as any sort of abuse, since it's not an addiction to a substance. But being addicted to the 'high' achieved when winning is just as strong an addiction as a substance addiction.

Additionally, having a casino in a college town is just plain stupid - how many students will loose their academic standing due to a gambling habit/addiction? Is that how we want to support our community - to exchange positives for money? That seems to be the way of the US at this time in history.

I find it's a tragic trajectory that our community sets for itself if it chooses gambling over health, education, families, and society itself.

Sincerely,
Pat Dolan

Pat Dolan
114 Midway Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823-8511
814-353-4935

<https://pat-dolan.pixels.com/>
<https://bellefonteart.herokuapp.com/artists/39>
<http://patsartjournal.blogspot.com/>

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Pitterle, John Thomas <jxp10@psu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 4:21 PM
To: Office of the President
Cc: GB, Board Clerk; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Public Statement of Opposition to Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

President Barron,

I heard that you are not in favor of the proposed casino coming to this region. This is encouraging and welcome news. I am happy to hear this.

There are very many reasons why a casino could be harmful. You are apparently aware of many such reason. For the most part, the only significant benefit would be more money for the people associated with the proposed casino.

I am thankful that you have recently spoken out regarding your concerns about the negative impacts of gambling addiction and sports betting on PSU students.

In order to more fully help not only Penn State students but also employees and Centre County residents, can you please speak out publicly against the casino on behalf of the university?

Why not? Since you are leaving soon, you have nothing to lose. This could become part of your legacy. And who knows, maybe doing so would save one or more students or residents from really messing up their lives due to a gambling addiction if the casino is allowed to come due to lack of public opposition.

Thanks in advance for making a public statement in opposition to the proposed casino in order to help inform the Penn State students.

All the best,

John

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Heather Ricker-Gilbert <heatherrg160@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 6:16 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in Centre County

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am writing to inform the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board that, as a resident of Centre County, I strongly oppose the establishment of a casino at the Nittany Mall on the Benner Pike between State College and Bellefonte. I am sure the casino developers are interested in this location because the State College area is full of young people and lots of retirees. This demographic is exactly why we should not have gambling so accessible in our area. Connecticut, where I lived for a number of years, has two large casinos which attracted masses of people both young and old. It's my experience that gambling addiction, bankruptcy, crime, and traffic are the by-products of these casinos. There is no advantage for our community to have a casino.

Sincerely,
Heather Ricker-Gilbert, D.Ed
State College. PA

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Laurie L. Mulvey <laurielmulvey@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 8:07 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Against Nittany Mall Casino in State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am totally against a casino coming to State College. Simply, it will do more harm than good for our community.

Very Sincerely,
LM

Laurie L. Mulvey, MSW, PhD
Associate Clinical Professor in Sociology
Director, [World in Conversation](#)

[College of the Liberal Arts](#)

The Pennsylvania State University
107 Pond Lab | University Park, PA 16802
laurielmulvey@psu.edu | 814-865-5692

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: YOUNG, MARTHA <mjz11@scasd.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 9:44 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] State College Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

As a resident of State College I am opposed to the building of a casino in Centre County. I base this on the grounds that with the extremely high population of young people who live here, the influence of gambling will be detrimental to their development and will contribute to existing addictions.

Sincerely,
Martha Young
451 Hawknest Rd
State College, PA 16801

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Emily Filling <efilling76@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:17 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] plan for a casino in Centre County

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

As a resident of Centre County I am strongly opposed to having a casino here. The problems associated with casino gambling far outweigh the benefits in tax revenues, in my opinion. Please remember we have a large population of young people at Penn State.

Emily Filling
500 E. Marylyn Ave., Apt. I-137
State College, PA 16801

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Betty Harper <harper.betty@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 2:50 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to State College casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Good afternoon,

I am writing to lodge my opposition to the development of a casino in State College. We are a community focused on education and creating an environment that would foster gambling addiction in our student-focused community is simply irresponsible. Further, there is growing evidence of strong community opposition to the casino and I do not see why the desire of a few developers should override those of the community.

Regards,
Betty Harper
State College resident and registered voter

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Alan Finnecy <alan.finnecy@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 4:46 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposed to Proposed Casino in Centre County

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Members of the PA Gaming Board:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed casino in Centre County at the site of the former Macy's department store at the Nittany Mall.

As the parent of a young adult son who has a gambling addiction, I have seen first hand the destruction such addiction can cause. And though I understand that gambling is available everywhere--including many online sites--I have also witnessed how easy access to physical gambling sites increases the chances compulsive gamblers have to gamble. I have witnessed people and heard stories from others who, on payday, stopped by their local convenience store with "games of skill" and gambled away their paycheck in a matter of hours.

My son started gambling in college and started at one of the existing casinos in PA. The proximity of such casinos is already a temptation for many. To have an operating casino within just a few miles of Penn State's University Park campus, home to 45,000 young people, seems an unnecessary temptation for that group. I am sorely disappointed that one of Penn State's former trustees (and himself an alumnus), who has developed many successful real estate projects in PA and elsewhere, would not recognize the inherent risks in having a casino so close to a major college campus.

I urge the Gaming Commission Board to truly consider the community opposition to this proposed casino. I believe the responsible gamblers have outlets for their entertainment close enough, in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg for example. I think increasing the number of casinos, particularly near a college town like State College, PA, merely invites more irresponsible, compulsive, and harmful gambling by those with gambling addiction.

My son's gambling addiction has impacted our entire family. I would not wish anyone else to experience this.

Sincerely,
Alan Finnecy
2335 Marengo Road
Warriors Mark, PA 16877

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Bob Maney <rlmaney@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 4:47 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Please disapprove the application for the Nittany Mall Casino. We are a small, student-centered community, and having a casino in our midst will be extremely detrimental to us. Thank you for your consideration.

Robert L. Maney
208 Horizon Dr
State College, PA 16801

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Kamens Helen <h_kamens@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 8:03 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am writing to express my strong feeling that a casino should not be placed at the Nittany Mall. As researcher who studies addiction I see daily the harms of gambling addiction. In a town with so many youth at Penn State, a casino is a recipe for long term harm. Please vote NO.

Helen Kamens

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Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Barbara Massey <shellseeker1@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 10:45 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Against the proposed Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I grew up in South Jersey and spent a lot of weekends at the Jersey shore in Ocean City. The town was popular for college students in the summer working their way thru school waiting tables in local restaurants. After the casinos were built in Atlantic City that all changed. What used to be a healthy vibrant area virtually changed overnight, and not for the common good. Atlantic city and their boardwalk suffered as well .. It's a fact that casinos can destroy healthy environments. I dread the thought of what can happened to State College and central PA if the casino becomes a reality. I never went to Atlantic City nor would I frequent a casino in State College .. nor would my family! So who do you think will support this casino? People from this town or people coming from surrounding towns who can't afford to lose their hard earned money? College students? And really .. what will be the effect on admissions. Two of my three children graduated from PSU? I doubt this town will be the same if a casino is within easy access. I would encourage friends from around the state to send their children elsewhere. What are you thinking? Are tax dollars more important than the general well-being of the community.

Please take the negative responses seriously. People like me who have seen the havoc and communities change for the worse are passionately imploring you NOT to proceed with this project. Not in a college town. Not in beautiful farmland Central Pennsylvania.

Barbara Massey
Boalsburg PA

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Strauss, Susan G <sgs9@psu.edu>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 8:42 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: Office of the President; bot@psu.edu; Bendapudi, Neeli
Subject: [External] STRONG opposition to the Casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear PA Gaming Control Board,

Please carefully review the correspondences you have been receiving with arguments both in favor of and in opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College, PA.

It is patently clear that those of us who oppose this casino have the wellbeing of State College and the PSU community in mind. The reasons that opponents have voiced are varied and powerful and clear. They address potentially major crises that can and will likely emerge as a result (including gambling/alcohol/drug addiction, crime, personal financial loss, decrease in neighboring residential property value); they debunk the economic arguments put forward in favor of such an enterprise; some speak from direct experience in having worked in the casino industry and outline more risks and more dangers that come from such direct perspectives; many address the very narrow patronship of this endeavor--it does not serve the needs of the community at large. And our needs are great:

State College currently has very few venues for family-oriented activities. We have plenty of bars, plenty of clubs; but markedly few venues for younger children, teens, high school students, and college students who prefer activities that do not center around alcohol.

Some pinpoint the fact that the developer of this endeavor (a major donor to the university as well as a former member of BOT) likely does not have the wellbeing of our community and our university in mind, elucidating the fact that the greatest financial gain will indeed be enjoyed by that very developer -- not the community, not the Township.

These arguments are solid and based in fact and research.

They are serious and complex arguments from local residents of all townships (including College Township) who are adamantly opposed to this plan for reasons that extend far beyond the personal pleasure that a casino may bring to a town, and far beyond the extraordinary profits that will go to the real estate development entity.

Proponents of the casino mention: the convenience of a nearby place of gambling (thereby reducing travel time to other casinos in the area), potential for job growth (yes, most large new enterprises have this potential), potential for reviving the now defunct Nittany Mall (again, it does not need to be a gambling hall that accomplishes this), and more.

These are hypothetical and grounded in the domain of personal pleasure and preference. Moreover, each and every one of those arguments is so easily refutable with far more solid, research-backed arguments that strongly oppose this plan.

It is clear that money talks. Money also blinds... It deafens...It obscures common sense.

The moral and ethical decision is to not build a casino here in State College. The reasons are patently obvious. They are clear. They are well-founded.

But if those of us who oppose this plan can garner enough visible and vocal support among the State College community against this plan, we may actually succeed against what looks to us now as a Goliath of green, of greed, and of self-serving motivation.

We may just be able to silence that roar of money and start working toward developing the Nittany Mall real estate into a major venue that will benefit our entire community.

Meanwhile, as we work toward strengthening and unifying our collective voices of opposition, we respectfully request that the PA Gaming Control Board and the Penn State administration please **carefully and critically** review all arguments that have been put forward thus far from both sides.

Sincerely,

The Strauss Family (and this counts as 6 voices)

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Otis Statham <cstatham109@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 9:04 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External]

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Please do not subject us to this gambling. Many have problems from gambling and I don't want this near my home.

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Sonya Woods <sjsmwoods@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 9:09 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] opposition to proposed casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I am writing to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. This town has enough problems with addiction without adding gambling to the mix. The casino would hurt our community and add nothing of value. I live between the mall and the campus and I don't think a casino would be good for anyone, but especially not the students who are here to learn and many of whom invest in the community in positive ways through community service, internships, and jobs. The casino would just provide an unhealthy diversion that would take money and life out of the community, and attract pawn shops and payday lenders. I have been to Las Vegas and Reno, NV and seen the proliferation of these types of businesses - all there to help people get more money to lose at the gambling tables.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Regards, Sonya Woods
Houserville resident

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Anna Engels <annaengels@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 10:15 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: president@psu.edu; bot@psu.edu; neelibendapudi@psu.edu
Subject: [External] Oppose Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I'm writing once again to voice my strong opposition to the Nittany Mall Casino. I'm very concerned about the effect this casino will have on the health and well-being of the State College community. I hope you take note of the volume of opposition feedback from our community, and do what you can to help stop this casino.

Thank you,

~Anna

--

Anna S. Engels, Ph.D., E-RYT 500, YACEP

www.annaengels.com

Co-Founder of Yoga Lab

www.YogaLabStudio.com

Creator of Sunny Get Up

www.sunnygetup.com

Yoga Instructor, PSU Dept of Kinesiology

email: annaengels@gmail.com

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Leon, Georgina <gxl2@psu.edu>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 10:29 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: andrewshaffer148@gmail.com
Subject: [External] NO to proposed Nittany Mall casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I suppose I'm naive, but I cannot understand why Penn State's president Eric Barron will not forcefully oppose the planned casino to be built at Nittany Mall. After all, he is on his way out the door at the University and has little to lose. I would like to see our new mayor come out against the proposal as well. However, even a lowly 43-year resident of the Borough of State College should have a voice, and my voice is this: A gambling casino with a bar is the **last** thing that State College and environs needs. Traditional stores are quickly vanishing, giving way to package pick-up warehouses (Amazon on Allen Street), restaurants replaced by even more pizza and beer joints, flower shops replaced by tattoo parlors. Do we really need more outlets that cater to and take advantage of the more vulnerable among us? When the great push to turn Atlantic City into a mecca of gambling for the East was being sold, people were told of the miracles that would occur. Instead, it has been a complete disaster, with casinos being torn down and the city left in more disrepair than before. Please say no to the casino, for the sake of our future and our children's future.

Gina Leon, State College

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Leon, Georgina <gxl2@psu.edu>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 10:29 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: andrewshaffer148@gmail.com
Subject: [External] NO to proposed Nittany Mall casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I suppose I'm naive, but I cannot understand why Penn State's president Eric Barron will not forcefully oppose the planned casino to be built at Nittany Mall. After all, he is on his way out the door at the University and has little to lose. I would like to see our new mayor come out against the proposal as well. However, even a lowly 43-year resident of the Borough of State College should have a voice, and my voice is this: A gambling casino with a bar is the **last** thing that State College and environs needs. Traditional stores are quickly vanishing, giving way to package pick-up warehouses (Amazon on Allen Street), restaurants replaced by even more pizza and beer joints, flower shops replaced by tattoo parlors. Do we really need more outlets that cater to and take advantage of the more vulnerable among us? When the great push to turn Atlantic City into a mecca of gambling for the East was being sold, people were told of the miracles that would occur. Instead, it has been a complete disaster, with casinos being torn down and the city left in more disrepair than before. Please say no to the casino, for the sake of our future and our children's future.

Gina Leon, State College

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Jeff Martin <jeff@dgjc.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 5:24 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: nainoia-inc@signedon.net
Subject: [External] I oppose the casino planned for Centre County

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

To whom it may concern:

I hear that a casino is planned for Centre County in the Nittany Mall. I oppose this decision. Every thoughtful study about the impact of gambling has proven that it is a Trojan Horse with initial appeal and promise, but inside lurk destructive forces that harm individuals, families, and the community. Please consider the results of scientific study and reconsider the casino.

Sincerely,

Jeff Martin

Jeff Martin
814-574-7957 cell
[HTTP://WWW.AIONIANBIBLE.ORG](http://WWW.AIONIANBIBLE.ORG) ~ BIBLE
[HTTP://WWW.DGJC.ORG/OPTIMISM](http://WWW.DGJC.ORG/OPTIMISM) ~ GOSPEL
[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JEFF.MARTIN.94651](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JEFF.MARTIN.94651) ~ SOCIAL

"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living," Psalm 27:13.



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Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Kyle Becker <kmb@alum.mit.edu>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 5:51 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] "Nittany Mall Casino"

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello –

I'm writing to register opposition to locating a casino in College Township, Centre County PA. Specifically we oppose the intent announced by Bally's Corporation, in partnership with Mr. Ira Lubert, to develop a Category 4 Mini-Casino in the former Macy's Department Store location at the Nittany Mall.

Our opposition to gaming extends to refusing to claim the homestead exclusion available to me through our primary residence. I don't want tax payer relief funded by gaming in my community or anywhere else in PA.

Kyle Becker and family
130 Ridge Ave
State College, PA 16803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Pflumm, James Scott <jsp116@psu.edu>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 6:09 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: Office of the President; bot@psu.edu; bendapudi@psu.edu
Subject: [External] Nittany mall vision

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am a resident of State College, PA. I oppose locating a casino in State College.

Recommendation:

The Nittany Mall facility can and should be used as a center to support regional residents and legally vetted refugees facing man-made and natural emergencies.

Happy Valley may be geographically insulated from some pressing problems facing humanity, but I believe between our town, faith and campus communities we have the desire, knowledge and resources to be a role model for extending the circle of compassion envisioned by Albert Schweitzer.

We are fortunate to have a current and in-coming university President who model the university's education, extension, outreach and research mission to serve Pennsylvania and the world.

Draw upon Dr. Bendapudi organizational leadership and expertise in Marketing to realize this vision. Planting this seed at the Nittany Mall will return dividends far beyond State College and will dwarf any sums of money wagered at all the state's gambling facilities combined.

This may sound all very idealistic. I was in Iraq while serving in the Army. It was idealistic to attempt to rebuild that country and help its citizens who suffered greatly. Uphold the values we claim to be a beacon for, but do it pragmatically. State College is a pragmatic location to undertake this vision in the form of a pilot project that can serve humanitarian research goals. The proposed casino is neither, idealistic, visionary or pragmatic.

Respectfully,

James S. Pflumm
3144 Sheffield Dr
State College, PA 16801

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Kara D <karadee@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 7:34 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to State College Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

As a resident of College Township PA, I want to express my opposition to the proposed casino for the Nittany Mall in State College, College Township, PA. This is not something that will benefit our community and, in my opinion, will harm it. I live approximately a mile from the Nittany Mall and believe its opening will negatively impact the value of my property. I'm concerned that a casino's presence here will lead to an increase in criminal activity and emergency calls that our current police and first responders will not be able to handle. This will force an increase in local taxes to pay for police and because our local emergency services (ambulance & firefighters) are volunteer, it will put residents at higher risk of longer wait times for a response. Furthermore, this area has an enormous population of college-aged people, a population that is very vulnerable to addictive behavior like gambling. Please reject approval of this casino.

Thank you,
Kara Dixon
State College, PA

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Parrish lake <sclane5133@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2022 2:23 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Where are the brains of these people who want a casino in State College? College kids are too vulnerable to have a casino "up the street!" Never mind the parents who now have another thing to worry about.

Sent from my iPad

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: horneop@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2022 2:37 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to casino in State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Board,

I have more than once submitted my opposition to the casino development. I see virtually no positive reason, either financially or in terms of community definition, to support it.

Respectfully, Horacio Perez-Blanco

Sent from my iPhone

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Lydia Vandenberg <lbvanden@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2022 3:38 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to the State College casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Gaming Commission Members,

I urge you to reject the proposal to approve a casino in the Nittany Mall in State College, PA. Casinos will not benefit our local Centre County economy with stable jobs and will actually cause more money from our local governments in the form of real estate defaults, social services and police services. As we look at what our neighboring states that have approved casinos in the past decade have experienced, it will not provide the benefits promised. Especially in our inflationary times, we need to create stable, well paying jobs. This will not occur with the casino.

Please turn down this proposal.

Sincerely,

Lydia Vandenberg

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Rocky Landers <landersnol@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2022 4:24 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Centre County casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am writing to express my unhappiness with the proposed casino in Centre County - at the Nittany Mall. I believe this to be an ill-advised enterprise and sincerely do not support it. It is hard for me to understand how an establishment such as this benefits a variety of community members.

I serve on the board of a local non-profit (and have been for years); I am committed to helping our community continue to grow as a thriving, positive place to live with diverse options from beautiful outdoor parks and trails, to various sports activities to museums and performing arts entertainment. I believe this type of business does not provide a positive, socially responsible addition to our community.

Sincerely,

E. (Rocky) Landers
502 Orlando Ave
State College, PA 169803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Andrew Shaffer <andrewshaffer148@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2022 4:54 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Even more feedback regarding proposed casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

As you are evaluating the licensing decision for the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall, please consider the following additional letters to the editor that have been published by the Centre Daily Times and StateCollege.com regarding this casino since I last submitted information on this topic on 3/17/2022. A total of 11 additional casino-related letters to the editor have been published on these sites during this time period, with nine letters opposing the casino and two in support.

The relevant letters are copied below and have been sorted chronologically for your convenience. Each letter is also followed by a link to the URL from which it was copied on 4/10/2022.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew Shaffer

=====

Letter #42

Casino a win for State College

3/18/2022

We too are so very excited about a casino for our area. We come to State College for dining, shows and more every week. Now we and our friends have another reason to visit. In all my years in real estate on the East Coast, I have never seen property values decrease because of casinos, but rather increase. If you don't drink you don't have to go to a bar. If you don't like football you don't have to watch. If you don't like to gamble, you don't have to come to our casino. From what we have already heard, it's a done deal. Hooray for State College!

Brady Carnahan and John Gradel, Lock Haven

https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259495279.html?ac_cid=DM621451&ac_bid=-722983346

Letter #43

3/18/2022

Casino will tempt too many

I know what gambling is about. I've seen it alter unfavorably cultures that surrounds it. Having grown up in a family of thoroughbred horse owners, breeders, trainers and jockeys, I've witnessed how it rewards those with resources, mental skills, and self-discipline it takes to walk away with large sums of cash. I've also witnessed how it decimates the lives of the rest who have not those things.

A casino in our town will tempt too many average Penn State college students bereft of those skills, disciplines and resources. It'll turn them from students into gambling addicts as they speed the short path up Route 26 from campus to the mall. It'll ruin the work ethic our town depends on as it preys upon the weak elsewhere. And all along the route will pop up things like what the gambling casinos of Tampa Bay, Florida caused: pawn shops, bail bonders, and strip joints. Every community that cares anything about its safety will gate itself the way those communities in Florida had to gate themselves.

I don't oppose any individual in their right mind who wants to place a friendly wager. But that's not what we're talking about. A casino in our town would be like running a 24-hour incinerator upwind from a gas station. Its effects will be too pervasive, deeply damaging, chronically enduring, and completely irreversible. I know. I've seen it happen elsewhere.

Let's not allow a gambling casino to set up shop in our fine community of State College, Pennsylvania.

Walter Fillmann, State College

https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259495279.html?ac_cid=DM621451&ac_bid=-722983346

Letter #44

3/23/2022

Casino is nothing to fear

You know, I am getting perturbed by all the letters against the proposed casino. The detractors seem to know it all, can predict the future and have all the answers and I doubt if they ever were in a casino. My wife and I are in our 70s. We don't smoke, we don't drink, we don't go on expensive vacations, and we are not social butterflies. We do like occasionally like to visit casinos and spend a couple of hours for entertainment. We have been to Las Vegas to visit our sons in the past but don't go anymore. We do go to a couple of casinos in PA but we like the casino in Maryland, and try to go a couple times a year with another couple. We stop in Maryland for lunch, go to the casino for a couple of hours, have dinner there and head home. I would prefer to spend my money at a local casino in PA and not travel to Harrisburg or Philly. The casino will provide many good paying jobs, local tax money and workers looking for housing. Don't make me spend my money somewhere else. I believe I can speak for a lot of no-letter writers who support the casino.

Frank "Bud" Halderman, Bellefonte

<https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259649570.html>

Letter #45

3/24/2022

Casino not worth the risk

I write to urge fellow residents to publicly oppose the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall, which would pose a significant and irreversible threat to our community's public health, social welfare and quality of life. The extensive social science and public health research is very clear that the community-born costs of having a casino far outweigh its minimal economic benefits; one scholarly book argues that the cost:benefit ratio is more than 3:1! These socioeconomic costs include clearly documented increases in casino communities in crime, bankruptcy, suicide, compulsive/pathological gambling, alcohol and drug abuse, and domestic violence. They also include business and employment costs, direct regulatory costs and abused dollars.

Moreover, the risks posed by casinos disproportionately affect the most vulnerable in our community: lower income residents, senior citizens, and youth and college students. Among college students in particular, scholars have identified gambling as an "epidemic" that is correlated with alcohol and drug abuse, negative learning outcomes, eating disorders, and the development of serious ("compulsive"/"pathological") gambling problems. PSU students have enough challenges without the presence of a casino a short bus ride away.

In short, this proposed casino would certainly line the pockets of the casino investors, but it would come at significant price for State College taxpayers, families, students, and our community. We deserve an investment that will actually benefit our public health, social welfare, and quality of life, not one that will directly harm it. Please write to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to express your opposition!

Michelle U Campos, State College

<https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259681015.html>

Letter #46

3/31/2022

Casino concerns are real

I have been watching the letters arrive regarding the proposed Nittany Valley casino but I am not seeing any sent by people who truly know what they are all about. I worked as a security head in Atlantic City casinos for years and I have seen it all, as well as interacted with the leadership of these places. I must assure everyone that the casinos are not there to improve the community, to share the wealth with anyone but themselves, to provide inexpensive entertainment, and to police themselves. They know that there are few people who will enter and leave a casino without losing money in total, and there are also few who can go for a relaxing time and will not gamble. Their entire existence revolves around getting you in the door and separating you from your money. They take advantage of those who can least afford to lose it, with slots being the ultimate money maker for the casino from this population. They encourage a culture of gambling excessively (hence why you will see no windows or clocks — they don't want you to realize how long they have you in there). Gambling addiction rises, they find excuses to pay less in relation to the damage they cause, and you have a population of excessively at-risk people here, especially with the students. Any questions if this is true? Research what has happened in Atlantic City and other areas independently, not by what casinos tell you. They lie.

Mina Yindra, Bellefonte

<https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259930590.html>

Letter #47

3/31/2022

Casino Brings Community to a Crossroad of Values

I strongly oppose the proposed casino. Considering the current rapid pace of growth and development in the Centre Region, any major project, including a casino, needs to be weighed against the values of the community. As a long time resident of the Centre Region, I share with many others the value of a healthy natural environment – clean air and water, lots of open green space, abundant forests and aesthetically pleasing landscapes – as well as a robust social and cultural environment comprised of abundant walking paths and bike lanes, clean public transportation, small independent businesses, parks and institutions that foster healthy personal and community growth.

The community finds itself at a crossroad of values: will we choose a path that promotes personal growth, a healthy ecosystem and meaningful relationships with others as well as with the natural world? Or will we take the darker road that risks – through potential gambling addiction, increased traffic, pollution, construction and other means – the health of individuals, communities and local ecosystems?

Please do not allow development of the proposed casino to proceed.

*Andrew McKinnon,
Pennsylvania Furnace*

<https://www.statecollege.com/letters-send-pa-7-packing-benninghoff-hasnt-learned-what-democracy-is-about-politics-of-gas-prices-no-to-casino-supreme-conflict-of-interest/>

Letter #48

4/1/2022

Casino puts county at a crossroad

I strongly oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. Considering the current rapid pace of growth and development in the Centre Region, any major project, including a casino, needs to be weighed against the values of the community. As a longtime resident of the Centre Region, I share with many others the value of a healthy natural environment — clean air and water, lots of open green space, abundant forests and aesthetically pleasing landscapes — as well as a robust social and cultural environment comprised of abundant walking paths and bike lanes, clean public transportation, small independent businesses, parks, and institutions that foster healthy personal and community growth.

The community finds itself at a crossroad of values: Will we choose a path that promotes personal growth, a healthy ecosystem, and meaningful relationships with others as well as with the natural world? Or will we take the darker road that risks — through potential gambling addiction, increased traffic, pollution, construction, and other means — the health of individuals, communities and local ecosystems?

Please do not allow development of the proposed casino to proceed.

Andrew McKinnon, Pennsylvania Furnace

<https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article259973945.html>

Letter #49

4/8/2022

Another Open Letter to PSU President

Dear President Barron,

Maybe you've been hoping for the casino opposition from the Happy Valley community to just fade away before your retirement ceremony. Oh my, but what if it doesn't?

WE ARE keeping track and two casino-related Open Letters to you were published at StateCollege.com on [March 5](#) and [March 12](#). Each letter asked you to please break Penn State's continuing silence about the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.

Maybe you swiftly directed your team to absolutely ignore those nearly 500 public comments from area residents that are being closely tracked and posted on the College Township website [here](#).

What percentage of those hundreds of public comments have you already looked at? Did they provide you with a pulse-check metric of sentiment analysis on the determination of the hundreds of casino opponents in Happy Valley? Do you realize the community has already anticipated your choice to pass along this uncomfortable decision to your successor when Dr. Neeli Bendapudi becomes the Penn State University president on May 9?

In case both you and your team missed this, earlier this year [Dr. Bendapudi said](#) she doesn't plan to isolate herself in the ivory tower. The president-elect went on to say:

"Those days are long gone. I've always thought of our universities as places that should have ripple effects. In other words, the goodness of what comes out of Penn State should first be felt by the community of State College, then the commonwealth, then the country, and then the world. So, you will see me quite active in the community."

Please don't pass the buck to your successor to make the decision to break Old Main's silence about the planned casino in Happy Valley. Dr. Bendapudi brings to her new job no unspoken pledge of allegiance to the developers of a casino in State College.

The hundreds of casino opponents in Happy Valley will continue to maintain their nonstop momentum of e-mailing their feedback of strong casino opposition directly to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) at boardclerk@pa.gov. To allow for proper prior planning by your successor, the public should make their comments of opposition especially more effective by e-mailing the PGCB as discussed above, and including Dr. Bendapudi as a CC: addressee at one of the President-Elect's three psu.edu e-mails already in place and available with an easy search using the online Penn State directory available [here](#).

Senders of that suggested e-mail to the PGCB and Dr. Bendapudi, might opt to also include a CC: copy to your Office of the President at president@psu.edu. But then again, leaving off that particular courtesy copy to you might be more effective than some folks might imagine.

Regarding this future chaos a casino would bring to our college town, this absolute silence from Old Main should not remain in place until after your retirement parties in early May. Please break Penn State University's silence about the casino and speak out soon. The plan of silence was initially crafted to be very effective, right up until now. Our community's concern regarding Penn State's silence about the planned casino will not just fade away as you may have hoped. Your focused consideration to not reject this third open letter is very much appreciated!

Sincerely,
Daniel Materna,
Howard

<https://www.statecollege.com/letters-psus-silence-on-casino-support-for-organizing-at-the-meadows-climate-litigation-regime-change/>

Letter #50

4/8/2022

Can't Ignore a Casino

Recently, there have been supporters of the Nittany Mall Casino — some not even residents of Centre County — offering a short-sighted retort to all those concerned about the negative effects a casino would have on our community: “If you don’t like the casino, don’t go there.”

This viewpoint is one that history has repeatedly shown to be erroneous. Not going to the casino will not result in it not affecting our community. It is similar to the position of segregationists who argued that we should allow them to impose racial discrimination as long as they do not force us to personally participate in it. Ergo lies the adage: “the only thing evil needs to win is for good men to do nothing.”

While each of us must tolerate some behaviors of which we disapprove, some activities demand public refutation as they are to society’s detriment. Ultimately, casino owners sell a highly addictive product and exploit the community in which they operate for their own financial gain. They acquire status and power by extracting resources from the community, causing harm to many who did not choose to become involved. These are those who did not go. For example:

- The dozens of children who are locked in cars each year while their gambling-addicted parents or guardians are inside of casinos
- Children who are neglected at home by parents who are addicted to gambling
- People whose spouses lost their jobs because of gambling addiction
- Single parents whose ex-spouses stopped paying child support due to their gambling addiction
- Business owners and employees whose work suffers because their employee or coworker became addicted to gambling
- Homeowners whose property value decreased because their gambling-addicted neighbor’s home fell into disrepair as they no longer had the finances to maintain it.

Despite not gambling, the people mentioned above were affected. None of them can buy the support of expensive attorneys, public relations firms, and state politicians the same way that casino owners can. The possible introduction of a casino into our community warrants the kind of massive public opposition that the College Township Council noted at their meeting on March 3 (starting at 2:17:55).

I’d also like to put to rest the “strapped financially” rumor that is circulating. The College Township Council previously noted that “the township is in excellent financial shape and will do just fine with or without a casino.” Considering this, and their recently acknowledged overwhelming opposition to the casino from the community, the path forward is obvious. However, the Council cannot prevent the casino from coming to the Nittany Mall on its own.

Far from being a “done deal,” the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) has the final say on whether or not the license for the new casino will be approved. If you oppose the casino, please take a moment, however brief, to send your opposition to the PGCB by e-mail at boardclerk@pa.gov with “Nittany Mall Casino” in the title of your message.

*Kirk Heller,
State College*

Letter #51

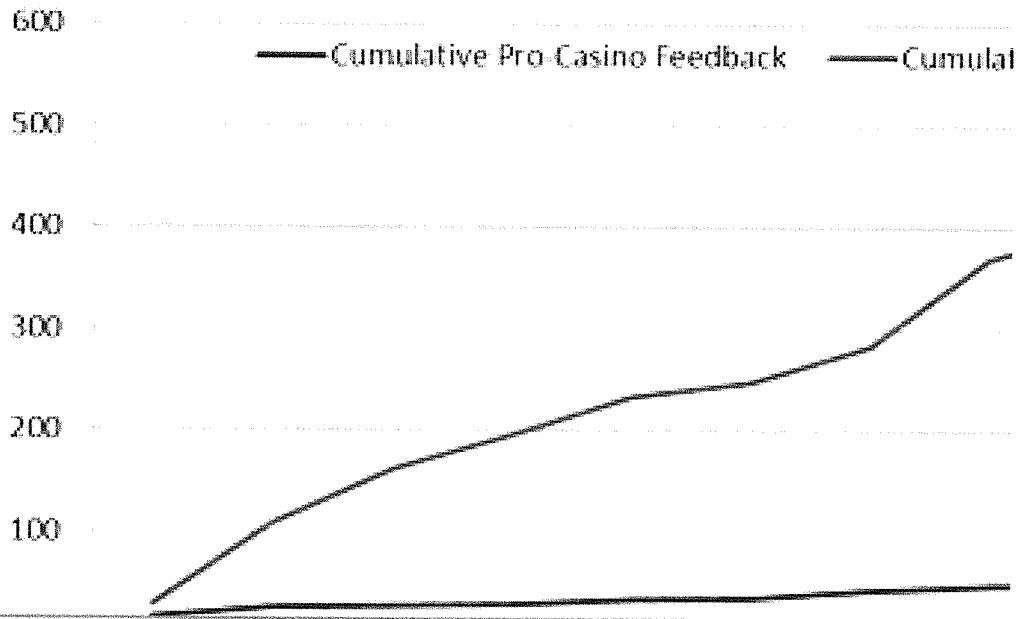
4/9/2022

Citizens Want to Defeat Casino

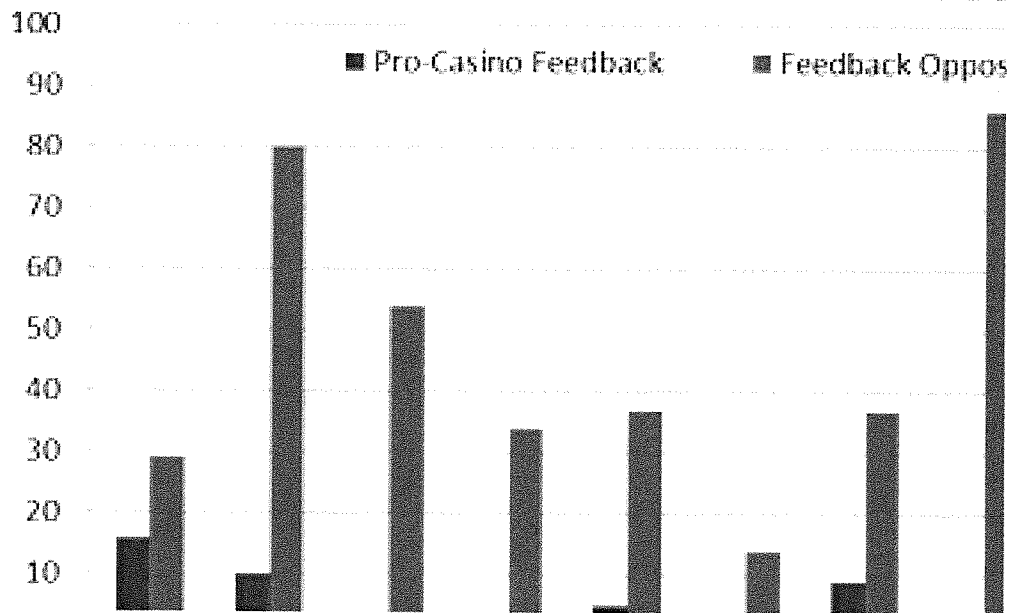
Public comments regarding the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall began to be posted by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) around the time of the initial public input hearing about the casino on Aug. 16, 2021. As of April 4, 2022, a total of 510 messages from 350 individual contributors have been posted in opposition to the casino, while a total of only 57 messages from 47 individual contributors have been posted in support of it. The margin of community opposition to the proposed casino has been increasing steadily since feedback began to be accepted; it currently stands at a ratio of nearly 9:1.

The following charts illustrate the level of feedback received in support and opposition to the casino over time:

Cumulative Casino Feedback O'



Casino Feedback For Each PGCB Post



All of the public comments that the PGCB has received about the casino are available on College Township's [Casino Information webpage](#).

No public officials from the State College community have yet spoken out to protect our community from the increased gambling addiction, severe financial impact on families, and increase in crime that the proposed casino is expected to bring to Penn State and the surrounding area. The casino would also bring pawn shops, payday loan and check cashing stores, physical assaults, increased arrests and other undesired chaos that has previously been uncommon in Happy Valley.

Our community's opposition to the casino would undoubtedly be stronger if several courageous public officials would step up and lead the spontaneous grassroots opposition to the disastrous proposal to develop a casino at the Nittany Mall. However, we will defeat this casino even if none of our public officials has the courage to stand with us. Most of us

who oppose the casino are doing so to protect the people we love – our families, neighbors and friends – and we are determined in our opposition, as is clearly evident to anyone who actually reads the publicly posted community opposition feedback. We are voters, and we will not forget those elected officials who could have spoken out but instead chose to remain silent. We also will not forget those elected officials who do eventually find the courage to stand with us to protect our community.

Please stand with us now and help to protect our community by sending your opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino to boardclerk@pa.gov.

*Andrew Shaffer,
State College*

<https://www.statecollege.com/letters-staggering-new-alzheimers-statistics-rallying-democracies-supreme-hypocrisy-opposition-to-casino/>

Letter #52

4/9/2022

The Shoulds and Should Nots of Proposed Casino

We SHOULD be sympathetic to Penn State President Eric Barron and his Board of Trustees who cannot speak out to protect our community from the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. They could incur the disapproval of Gov. Tom Wolf and the Republicans in the state legislature if they did, and that could affect their social status and the prospects for the Pennsylvania-based businesses that some of them own.

We SHOULD NOT draw attention to President Barron's past statements about the harms of gambling addiction or e-mail Penn State's leadership at president@psu.edu or bot@psu.edu to ask for them to get involved.

We SHOULD be grateful that a new casino will provide students with an alternative recreational activity to binge drinking – one that will be especially effective in distracting students from the new bar that will be built in the casino itself!

We SHOULD NOT be concerned that college-aged adults are 6 times more likely than the general population to become addicted to gambling, or that the \$116 million that the Nittany Mall Casino is projected to extract from the local community each year is 100x more than the impact of most bars.

We SHOULD be thankful that the new casino will create jobs.

We SHOULD NOT be concerned that the people who fill these jobs will be unavailable to work at other area enterprises that are economically productive and which produce needed goods and services at a time when Centre County is in the midst of a historic labor shortage.

We SHOULD be thankful for the tax revenue that the new casino will generate. College Township does not need the additional revenue, so the Township can use this money to fund new social services and support programs for individuals and families who are impacted by addictive behavior disorders.

We SHOULD NOT consider that the overwhelming majority of the new casino's patrons will be our neighbors, or that whatever they spend at the casino can no longer be used to support other area businesses that have been operating in our community for years.

We SHOULD be thankful that the new casino will revitalize the Nittany Mall. The casino could easily attract a pawn shop and a payday lender to the end of the mall where the casino will be located, and the mall will now be able to afford

more security guards. Our area's counselors, therapists and psychologists will also enjoy increased demand for their services in treating gambling addiction and family breakdown!

We ABSOLUTELY SHOULD NOT ask any questions about why the Nittany Mall's occupancy rate is only 45% while the strip mall located across the street from the mall has an occupancy rate of 95% despite both locations being subjected to the same changes in consumer preferences and covid restrictions. It is obvious that only a new casino can address the root cause of this discrepancy.

Please send your opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board at boardclerk@pa.gov.

*Justin L.,
State College*

<https://www.statecollege.com/letters-staggering-new-alzheimers-statistics-rallying-democracies-supreme-hypocrisy-opposition-to-casino/>

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Judy Gromis <jugromis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 8:30 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I feel it would be detrimental to the community, pose a risk to college students, and adversely affect residents who live near the mall. It is likely to become a financial drain on area resources with negative impacts on first responders, policing, traffic patterns, local businesses, and safety.

Judy Gromis

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: McTernan, Jesse Kane <jkm249@psu.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 10:56 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Clerk,

I was recently made aware that there are plans to build a casino in the Penn State community. I want the decision makers to know that me and my family strongly **oppose** this plan. I am willing to give more details if requested.

Regards,

Jesse McTernan, Ph.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor
School of Engineering Design, Technology,
and Professional Programs
The Pennsylvania State University
124-F Hammond Bldg., University Park, PA 16802
jkm249@psu.edu



PennStat
College of En

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Scott Sheeder <sas371@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 11:41 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I'm writing to voice my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I won't bore you with statistics illustrating the negative impacts of casinos on the communities that surround them. Just tally another "no" vote for this proposed casino. Thank you,

Scott Sheeder
State College Resident

--

Scott Sheeder
Cell: 814-777-7395
Email: sas371@gmail.com

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Christie Orr <christie.orr.not@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 4:07 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposed to Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am a Pennsylvania citizen, living in Boalsburg, and I am opposed to having a casino at Nittany Mall in State College.

--
Christie
she/her

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Marcus Englert <marcusenglert1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 6:08 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Support for College Township/State College Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

I am writing to voice my full support for the proposed casino in College Township at the Nittany Mall. As a local resident, I feel this added business will rejuvenate the area and spur further business investment and development. Those opposed are simply repeating decades old fallacies about gambling and the gaming industry. I fully support it and think it will be good for the community.

Thank you,

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

Subject: FW: [External] opposition to the proposed casino in State College

-----Original Message-----

From: Ellen Stroud <ellen.stroud@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 4:09 PM

To: GB, PGCB <RA-PGCB@pa.gov>

Subject: [External] opposition to the proposed casino in State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello. I am a resident of State College, Pennsylvania, and am appalled by the idea of a Casino opening here. How may I best register my extremely strong opposition?

From what I understand, community feedback has been overwhelmingly in opposition to the planned Casino; I sincerely hope that is taken into account.

Thank you,

Ellen Stroud
State College, PA 16803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Maggie Ellis <maggie.langelaan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:13 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Oppose the Casino at Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello,

I am a Patton Township resident and Physician Assistant at Mount Nittany Pediatrics.

I strongly oppose a casino coming to State College. The addiction risk for the community is terrible. Our Mental Health system cannot support the fallout from such a significant cause of mental health distress from addiction.

Margaret Ellis
606 Devonshire Drive
State College, PA 16803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Sheridan Miyamoto <sheridanmiyamoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:51 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Opposition to the casino at Nittany Mall

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Hello,

I am a Ferguson Township resident and faculty member in the College of Nursing.

I strongly oppose a casino coming to State College. The addiction risk for the community is terrible. Our Mental Health system cannot support the fallout from such a significant cause of mental health distress from addiction.

Sheridan Miyamoto
684 Crandall Dr, State College, PA 16803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Frank Ritter <frank@frankritter.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:11 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] don't want a casino in state college, pa

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

I'm told you are collecting information about a potential casino in state college.

it is totally inappropriate to have a casino in state college. they on average bring much misery to a community. they basically are a legal way to take money from people in compensation for lights and a small chance to win back half their money.

I really don't want to see such a thing in my town.

sincerely,

Frank Ritter

lived in state college for 20 years

--

Frank@FrankRitter.com
(814) 599-5535
<http://frankritter.com>

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Anne Bastian <ahbastian@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 11:38 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: president@psu.edu; neelibendapudi@psu.edu; bot@psu.edu
Subject: [External] Please say NO to a Casino at the Nittany Mall

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Dear PA Gaming Control Board, President Eric Barron, President-Elect Neeli Bendapudi and the PSU Board of Trustees,

Please exercise your power to prevent a new casino from opening at the Nittany Mall in College Township. A casino will only increase crime, gambling addiction, poverty and other serious problems among students at PSU and residents in the Centre County.

An increase in these issues do not align with the family-oriented and educationally-focused Happy Valley where we reside.

Please deny the license for the proposed Nittany Mall Casino.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Respectfully,

Anne H Bastian
1767 Cambridge Drive
State College, PA 16803

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Cynthia White <cynthianwhite@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 2:31 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Cc: president@psu.edu; neelibendapudi@psu.edu; bot@psu.edu
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board-

I am writing with urgency for you to deny the Nittany Mall Casino a licensing permit. I am CC'ing the above people of importance in our community to encourage them to **speak out against** this proposal.

Casino's are harmful to our communities. They take advantage of members of our community who are already **financially vulnerable**, they create **gambling addiction** and often drive people to **financial ruin**. In an area that is already experiencing an economic recession, with homelessness on the rise, building a Casino is a poor and irresponsible choice for our community.

Casino's also bring increased crime, increased substance abuse and increased issues of mental illness. Research shows that crime rates near and around casino's increase along with other social ills. People who are addicted to gambling commit crimes to get money to continue gambling; it is a vicious cycle. I know this because I have known friends with gambling addictions. **It will destroy families.**

I urge you to take a stand against this and OBJECT to the license of the proposed Nittany Mall Casino.

Thank you,

Cynthia White

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Meredith Doran <meredithdoran@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:27 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Oppose Nittany Mall Casino Development

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Dear PGCB,

I am writing as a resident of Centre County to express my opposition to the development of a casino in the Nittany Mall area in State College.

I believe that the presence of the casino would negatively impact the income of economically vulnerable residents who would be attracted to gambling, would not produce significant jobs in the area, and would create an undesirable temptation for students, who are themselves typically low in income.

Thank you,
Meredith Doran
928 Metz Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: L Rapsey <lrapsey@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 7:10 PM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello,

I just read your article with the letters lined up with the amount of people that oppose the casino. How ridiculous!!! I actually oppose the mess we have at home football games and all the drinking and driving and drunks all over the town. Can we discuss that and stop it?

I DIDN'T THINK SO!

The opportunity of bringing business to State College and entertainment far outweighs this false narrative these people have of some gambling addiction.

My God, let's quit selling lottery tickets then.

For those of us over 40 and aren't football fans or into Penn State sports. Could we please have some sort of entertainment? I'm sure it's hard for some people to believe that we aren't addicts of gambling and don't set up tents outside to cook and drink like fools, and then get in a car!!!

Hmmmmm

Respectfully,

Leslie RapseyThompson

Grays Woods

Sent from my iPhone

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Scott Williams <swill49612@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 7:54 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Nittany Mall Casino

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Hello, I just saw the article about the letters opposing the new casino and thought I would put my two cents in. For one, 500 and some people do not represent the majority of people in the area. I don't understand why people are against the casino maybe they have no self control. I feel if they are worried about students and others losing money maybe they should also oppose all the bars and the now approved fireworks store that will sit closer to town then the casino would. Obviously i am for the casino and with the new jobs maybe people that haven't gotten back to work yet might just be enticed by something new to the area like this. It's as simple as if you don't like it don't go and your opinion is not mine.

Sincerely,

Kelly Williams

--

Scott M Williams

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Christina <cfetterpillot@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 8:35 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in College Township—NO!

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Please register my concern and disapproval of a possible casino in the former Nittany Mall. I can't think of a worse idea for our community health and well being.

Christina Pillot
Resident, Borough of State College

Lloyd, Linda (PGCB)

From: Howard Pillot <howardpillot@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 8:52 AM
To: GB, Board Clerk
Subject: [External] Casino in College Township State College

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.

Dear Executive:

I am not in favor of having a casino in our area. Our town is populated by thousands of young people, students at Penn State, and this business will make them the victims of all the negatives casinos carry with them. We already have issues with alcohol abuse and our police force is already stretched thin in controlling this problem. Adding a casino adds more alcohol and the possibility of gambling addiction. It has the potential of abuse of young coeds as well. In addition this is a major college sports town. We don't need the temptations for athletes to shave points or throw games. Surely State College does not need the casino as an economic stimulus as education is the primary business and is doing quite well. I believe the negatives of a casino far outweigh any advantages and profiteers should seek another location. State College is a great family town and my children grew up with many family oriented services. This casino is the first step in destroying State College as a fantastic place to raise children.

Howard Pillot,
State College Borough Resident

Sent from my iPad