

SAY NO TO THE CASINO CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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NASSAU RESIDENTS CALL FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF LVS CASINO AT HUB

Residents say: "County trying to railroad Legislators to approve predatory casino"

Mineola, NY: Today, the *Say No to the Casino Civic Association* called on Governor Kathy Hochul and the four Board Members of the NYS Gaming Facility Location Board, Quenia A. Abreu, Vicky L. Been, Carlos P. Naudon, and Stuart Rabinowitz, to disqualify the proposed Nassau County/Las Vegas Sands (LVS) casino project from consideration for a NYS casino license due to repeated failures to follow the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) and site selection guidelines. In November, the County lost in court after lawmakers made a discretionary decision about a lease to LVS without full disclosure of the environmental impacts. The court found the County's May 26, 2023 lease with LVS was illegal, due in part due to segmentation and annulled the lease. It appears the County is going down the same path again by having the Legislature vote on a new lease without first completing the SEQR process. These multiple efforts to circumvent NYS law should be disqualifying.

Nevertheless, Legislators have scheduled an August 5th vote on a new lease with LVS without first disclosing the environmental, economic and social impacts as required by SEQR.

The terms of the lease give site control to LVS for 42 years. Although the County/LVS are trying to position the lease as an effort to "save coliseum worker's jobs," and the lease with LVS states that it is not for a casino, it is clear that the sole purpose of this lease is to better position LVS to win one of the casino licenses and/or be first in line for any future licenses if it is passed over this round. Moreover, it does not negate the need for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), as required by SEQR. Even if you believe that the lease is not for a casino, the County still needs to evaluate the full impacts of leasing the property to LVS for 42 years (including the economic impact of possibly shuttering the Coliseum after two years) without the LVS casino project. Or, the County must look at the full impacts of the LVS casino proposal. Either way, there are very significant impacts on the community which by law, must be analyzed and disclosed to Legislators and the public prior to voting on any lease with LVS.

Indeed, the NYS Gaming Facility Location Board [requires](#) the completion of the SEQR process to identify potential adverse environmental effects of proposed actions in order to assess their significance, and to propose measures to eliminate or mitigate significant impacts.

If the County leadership truly cares about the Coliseum jobs, they can simply enter into a management agreement with an operator to run the Coliseum until the future of the site is fully resolved, or until new leadership develops a vision for the Nassau Hub that does not include a predatory casino in the heart of our community.

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* *Say No to the Casino Civic Association* is a non-partisan group, composed of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents from across Nassau County, who have come together with one goal: to stop the Las Vegas Sands Casino proposal. The group believes that a casino will have an unequivocally negative impact on our community and irrevocably change the character of our county. The group believes that a casino will lead to an increase in crime, gambling addiction, bankruptcy and home foreclosure rates; exacerbate traffic problems; impact our natural environment including air and water quality; depress home values; and strain law enforcement. We invite everyone in Nassau County to join us and get

involved by signing our letter to the New York State Gaming Commission on our website, www.nocasinonassau.org, joining our Facebook group, and following us on Twitter and Instagram, @NoCasinoLI.