



For Immediate Release
June 21, 2019

Media Contact:
Elaine Driscoll (MGC) 617-571-2964
Press release: 19-052

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission Officially Approves Encore Boston Harbor for Grand Opening

Resort-Casino receives regulatory authorization for June 23 public opening

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) today issued regulatory approval for Encore Boston Harbor's public opening on June 23, 2019.

Under the close observation of MGC staff, Encore Boston Harbor successfully completed test play nights on June 17, June 19 and June 20. MGC staff monitored and evaluated the practice events for strict adherence and compliance with state law and MGC's internal control regulations. MGC's Investigations and Enforcement Bureau (IEB), the Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) and the Finance Division worked together to supervise gaming systems and procedures to ensure the integrity of the games, compliance with regulations and overall adherence to Massachusetts' strict gaming standards.

"As Encore Boston Harbor prepares to open its doors, the MGC remains focused on ensuring that our policies and procedures protect the integrity of the industry and safeguard fair play for patrons," said Commissioner Eileen O'Brien, who observed the test nights and was delegated by fellow commissioners to issue opening approval. "I want to commend the dedication of the IEB, ITSD, finance and all additional MGC staff for their commitment to the highest standards of regulatory compliance."

At a June 12 public meeting, the five-member Commission authorized the test nights and determined that Encore Boston Harbor demonstrated "material compliance" with the gaming law, commission regulations and the terms and conditions of its license. The MGC's extensive review of the overall project acknowledged that Encore Boston Harbor had met or exceeded requirements in areas including construction commitments, regional marketing and economic development, diversity, employee and vendor licensing, responsible gaming and numerous other license obligations. The MGC will continue to closely monitor licensee commitments post-opening.

"The gaming law and commission regulations set extraordinarily high standards to ensure that the Commonwealth would receive maximum benefits from the gaming industry, while also addressing any potential impacts. Extensive reviews conducted by the MGC for more than four years provide strong evidence that Encore Boston Harbor has not only met the



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

necessary requirements, but in many instances has exceeded its commitments and expectations. Encore Boston Harbor has delivered a property of superior quality, has provided numerous transportation options to access the site and has cleaned up a waterfront that has not been accessible to the public in more than 100 years. Encore has demonstrated a relentless commitment to diversity, the promotion of regional tourism, a commitment to local hiring and vendor utilization and has provided substantial mitigation funding to host and surrounding communities,” said Chair Cathy Judd-Stein. “I commend the MGC team, the many state and local agencies and community participants who have played a major role in the work leading to today’s approval.”

The Commission anticipates that it will issue Encore Boston Harbor’s final operations certificate during a public meeting in June on a date to be determined.

About Encore Boston Harbor

Encore Boston Harbor is a \$2.6 billion five-star global destination gaming resort featuring 671 hotel rooms with sweeping views of the Boston skyline and Boston Harbor, an ultra-premium spa, specialty retail, 15 dining and lounge venues and state-of-the-art ballroom and meeting spaces. It is the largest private, single-phase development in the history of the Commonwealth.

Situated on the waterfront along the Mystic River and connected to Boston Harbor, Encore Boston Harbor will open up the Everett shoreline to the public for the first time in more than a century. The resort has privately funded a cleanup of the former industrial site and is creating a six-acre park along the water which will feature pedestrian and bicycle paths that provide access to the waterfront, an events lawn and picnic and public viewing areas. Ornate floral displays, retail, and dining experiences will overlook the Encore Harborwalk.

Encore Boston Harbor will connect to points across the harbor via a robust water transportation system that the resort is introducing. Low-profile European-style boats will be used to sail back and forth without the need to raise area drawbridges. Encore Boston Harbor will open on June 23, 2019.

For additional information, please visit www.encorebostonharbor.com. Follow Encore Boston Harbor on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

About MassGaming

The mission of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is to create a fair, transparent, and participatory process for implementing the expanded gaming law passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in November 2011. In creating that process, the Commission will strive to ensure that its decision-making and regulatory systems engender the confidence of the public and participants, and that they provide the greatest possible economic development benefits and revenues to the people of the Commonwealth, reduce to the



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

maximum extent possible the potentially negative or unintended consequences of the new legislation, and allow an appropriate return on investment for gaming providers that assures the operation of casino-resorts of the highest quality. For more information on MGC, please visit MassGaming.com or connect and share on Twitter ([@MassGamingComm](https://twitter.com/MassGamingComm)) or Facebook www.facebook.com/MAGamingComm.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

101 Federal Street, 12th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 | TEL 617.979.8400 | FAX 617.725.0258 | www.massgaming.com