



FY 2026 Municipal Community Mitigation Fund Grant Application

Application Instructions:

- I. All applications must be received by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission by January 31st, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. to be considered for funding for the FY 2026 grant round.
- II. Each municipality may only submit **ONE** application as a Word Document.
- III. Each project must have its own form within the appropriate category. Forms can be found below as Parts A-E. If there is more than one project in a category, please copy the form. All attachments should directly follow the relevant project form.
- IV. Be sure to fill in all the information requested on the application. Applications that are left incomplete will not be accepted.
- V. All applications must submit a detailed scope of work and timeline for implementation for all projects identified in the application.
- VI. All applications must contain appropriate backup materials that support the application.
- VII. The Municipal Grant Manager will be the person responsible for compiling the information for the quarterly reports. The application must be signed by the municipal administrator or an individual with signatory authority. Submit this completed form as well as any relevant attachments to MGCCMF@Massgaming.gov or as a response to the COMMBUYS BID BD25-1068- 1068C-1068L-109685

For more detailed instructions as well as the full FY 2026 Application Guidelines visit

<https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/>

Municipal Grant Manager Information:	
Applicant:	City of Cambridge
Vendor Code:	VC6000192080
Name:	Taha Jennings
Title:	Budget Director
Email Address:	tjennings@cambridgema.gov
Telephone:	617-349-4268
Address:	City Hall. 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge MA, 02139

Grant Budget Summary

Your community's FY 2026 proposed allocation can be found at <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/>. Use the space below to total all requests by category. Please clarify how many discreet projects your community plans to undertake per category.

Total FY 2026 Allocation:		
Application Totals by Category	# of Projects	Requested Amount
A. Community Planning	3	\$377,300
B. Public Safety	7	\$434,000
C. Transportation	2	\$300,000
D. Gambling Harm Reduction	1	\$235,000
E. Specific Impact		
TOTAL	13	\$1,346,300

- I. Are you requesting a waiver for any program requirement?
Yes ☒
No ☐
- II. If yes, you must fill out a CMF Municipal Waiver Form. The waiver form can be found as Appendix E to the RFR on COMMBUYS or online at <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/forms/>. Applications without a completed waiver form will not be considered for a waiver.

Budget Category Summary

Use the space below to provide an overview of all projects to be covered by this funding. You may add as many items as is pertinent to your application (you can add rows by right clicking on the row and selecting "add row"). Please provide a category, name, brief description, and amount for each item. **PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE NOT IN ORDER OF PRIORITY (Please see waiver form)**

Category	Project Name	Description	Amount
A. Community Planning	Special Events Support for Commercial Districts	Economic Development. Since The effects of the casino and the pandemic continue to show decrease in visitors to Cambridge. We would use these funds to support current annual events and create new cultural events on weekends and evenings in Cambridge commercial districts	\$25,000
A. Community Planning	Wayfinding Plan for Commercial Districts and Corridors.	Hire a consultant to create a wayfinding plan and draft design concepts	\$250,000

A. Community Planning	Training program for safe biking to the casino	Establish a program to teach adults how to ride a bicycle safely and be more comfortable riding on urban streets, and particularly between Cambridge and the casino in Everett.	\$102,300
B. Public Safety	Elect Vehicle fire blankets	Purchase 12 electric vehicle fire blankets to outfit each of our front-line ladder trucks and engine companies with the innovative ability to extinguish these types of vehicle fires.	\$48,000
B. Public Safety	tactical training - Fire	Training for tactical paramedics that respond to incidents throughout Cambridge and Metro Boston as needed.	\$32,000
B. Public Safety	safety training - Fire	Provide additional awareness and training of Narcan administration, Defibrillator and CPR Certification for City of Cambridge employees and residents, or visitors to the city at public events, particularly in the East Cambridge and North Point areas which are on the direct route to the Everett.	\$18,000
B. Public Safety	Traffic enforcement	High visibility traffic enforcement and education during peak operational hours of Encore. Addresses congestion and increased risk taking by users of the roadways	\$83,000
B. Public Safety	de-escalation training	De-escalation training	\$62,400
B. Public Safety	response-management software - Fire	Installation and training of Power DMS. A software that manages wellness, professional standards, documentation, and training of all first responders.	\$15,000
B. Public Safety	multi-jurisdictional training	ALERRT training - active shooter (2 days) coordination for multi-jurisdictional response to a large-scale event	\$216,000
C. Transportation	Bicycle safety	Safety improvements @ Broadway	\$150,000
C. Transportation	Bicycle safety	Safety improvements @ Cambridge Street	\$150,000
D. Gambling Harm Reduction	Outreach education Art	Harm reduction videos, social media clips, brochures, pamphlets to humanizing the experiences and impacts of gambling through real-world stories of individuals and families / care providers AND a series of artist led workshops for storytelling, story sharing and creative expression.	\$235,100
E. Specific Impact			

Applicant Certification

On behalf of the aforementioned applicant, I hereby certify that the funds that are requested in this application will be used solely for the purposes articulated in this application.

Signature:

Date:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Part A-Community Planning - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, requests for proposals, detailed scopes of work, drawings etc.

Project Name: Event/Marketing Support	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Pardis Saffari	Name: Sarah Jane Huber
Title: Director of Economic Opportunity and Development	Title: Assistant Economic Development Specialist
Department: Community Development	Department: Community Development
Email Address: psaffari@cambridgema.gov	Email Address: shuber@cambridgema.gov
Telephone: 617-349-4654	Telephone: 617-349-4624
Address: 344 Broadway, 3 rd Floor, Cambridge MA 02139	Address: 344 Broadway, 3 rd Floor, Cambridge MA 02139
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>The marketing capabilities of the gaming establishments, like Encore, may put other competing local businesses and business associations at a disadvantage. Gaming establishments also attract a large group of patrons and employees to their establishments that would not otherwise be present in the area. This provides opportunities for local communities and business groups to attract casino patrons and employees to their communities to promote local events and entertainment opportunities, and help communities compete with gaming establishments for business.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
<p>In late 2024 the City of Cambridge began a Post Pandemic Commercial District Study that identified that in recent years Cambridge has lost the number of unique visitors to our major business corridors and squares. Some of the tentative recommendations by the consultant include marketing Cambridge as a fun destination with nightlife and events, and supporting commercial districts with placemaking activities. The City of Cambridge sees the Encore casino as an opportunity for Cambridge where several cross-marketing and promotions can be tapped into to increase visibility of local Cambridge events. In 2025-2026, Cambridge will support events such as the Taste of Cambridge, East Cambridge Rib Fest, and other arts and culture events through marketing assistance required to increase visitors.</p>	
Proposed MGC Grant Budget	
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.	

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Event/Marketing Support	Fall 2025-Summer 2026	1	\$25,000
	TOTAL:		\$25,000

Project Name: Commercial District Wayfinding Plan	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Daniel Messplay	Name: Suzannah Bigolin
Title: Director of Community Planning & Design	Title: Urban Designer
Department: Community Development	Department: Community Development
Email Address: dmessplay@cambridgema.gov	Email Address: sbigolin@cambridgema.gov
Telephone: 617-349-4652	Telephone: 617-349-4646
Address: 344 Broadway, 3 rd Floor, Cambridge MA 02139	Address: 344 Broadway, 3 rd Floor, Cambridge MA 02139
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <p>The City of Cambridge seeks funding to develop a plan and schematic design for wayfinding signage for its commercial corridors and districts. Developing wayfinding signage for the City's major mixed-use areas has been a long-time planning goal for the City, and has been included in several City plans as a key recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Envision Cambridge (2019) – "Moving within and through Cambridge should be easy and enjoyable for all, with street designs and wayfinding that help people choose the most safe, effective, and pleasant route." (p. 160) East Cambridge Planning Study (2001) – "Use streetscape elements such as trees, benches, signage, and lighting to support active pedestrian uses and to reinforce the character and identity of each district." (p. 63) Kendall Square K2 Study (2013) – "Develop [a] wayfinding strategy to help orient people to the Square and its surroundings." (p. 62) Central Square C2 Study (2013) – "The Committee affirms the City recommendations designed to amplify Central Square's public realm by...augmenting signage and making use of real-time transit information to improve convenience." (p. 12) Our Cambridge Street (2022) – "Encourage access to the new Green Line Station from Cambridge. While Webster Ave has had recent enhancements, consider enhancing additional routes to the station through measures such as crosswalk striping, street trees, and wayfinding signage." (p. 57) <p>The existence of the gaming facility creates both positive and negative impacts which could be appropriately mitigated by the creation of a cohesive wayfinding plan for the City's key commercial districts:</p>	

Positive Impacts

- 1) Business attraction – the gaming facility brings a high volume of visitors and consumers who may otherwise not visit the area. Finding opportunities to combine a visit to the gaming facility with broader economic activity within neighboring municipalities, such as Cambridge's commercial districts, could help support local businesses and create a symbiotic spending effect.

Negative Impacts

- 1) Economic competition – the presence of the gaming facility hurts consumer service and hospitality uses within Cambridge's commercial districts by reallocating time and spending from visitors to the area. The City's post-pandemic retail study shows that these effects have been compounded by lower day-time population and retail spending within the City. Wayfinding signage helps to establish local district brand identity and improves navigability and convenience for visitors to the area.

II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.

The Community Planning Grant award from MGC will allow the City to implement its planning recommendations and appropriately mitigate the impacts from the gaming facility. Developing commercial district wayfinding signage will help to position the City as an attractive and convenient side trip to visitors to Greater Boston and the gaming facility, and in doing so help to support local consumer service, retail and hospitality uses which otherwise have to compete with the gaming facility for visitor dollars. Marketing Cambridge's commercial districts in this way could also help to create a symbiotic effect where mutual benefits accrue to both the gaming facility and the City through the establishment of longer-duration trips to the area and a greater overall spend-per-person.

In order to complete this project, the City would issue a Request for Proposals for professional services to assist the City in developing a plan and schematic design for its wayfinding signage. Alongside City staff, the consultants would engage with residents, the local business community, and other stakeholders to develop a plan that details the number of signs, tentative locations, sign type, sign content, and an overall design that reinforces the identity of Cambridge's commercial corridors and districts. The deliverable from this project would be the wayfinding plan and design details for which construction drawings could be developed and sent out to bid for production and installation.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Professional services to develop a city-wide wayfinding signage plan and conceptual design.	12 months	1	\$250,000
	TOTAL:		\$250,000

Project Name: Training program for safe biking to the casino

Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Maricela Escobar	Name: Tenzin Choephel
Title: Mobility Engagement Planner	Title: Active Transportation Coordinator
Department: Community Development	Department: Community Development
Email Address: maescobar@cambridgema.gov	Email Address: tchoephel@cambridgema.gov
Telephone: 617-349-4600	Telephone: 617-349-4600
Address: 344 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02139	Address: 344 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02139
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2025 Guidelines relevant to this category (Page 8-9). If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <p>Vehicular trips through the eastern part of the City of Cambridge are increased because of trips to and from the Casino. Per Gaming Commission and permitting information, we are aware that vehicles use the Prospect St/Washington St corridor, as well as the intersection of Land/O'Brien boulevards. Many trips also likely filter through other city streets in eastern Cambridge, particularly at peak times to avoid congestion on major corridors. Trips for workers and guests also likely originate in Cambridge and use city streets.</p> <p>The following impacts defined by the MGC FY 2026 guidelines are relevant to the proposed Learn-to-Bike and Beginner Urban Cycling Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased traffic associated with the gaming establishment may cause increased congestion on the major routes leading to/from the gaming establishment. • Increased traffic associated with the gaming establishment may result in increased vehicular accidents on major routes leading to/from the gaming establishment. • Increased traffic associated with the gaming establishment may result in increased vehicular/bicycle/pedestrian conflicts. • Increased traffic associated with the gaming establishment may cause localized increases in air pollution due to congestion. • Increased visitation to the gaming establishment area may place a strain on public transit services. 	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	

Cambridge is requesting funds to establish an education program to teach adults how to ride a bicycle safely and be more comfortable riding on urban streets, and particularly between Cambridge and the casino in Everett. In 2025, the Gaming Commission funded e-bikes for the Bluebikes system to enable guests and employees to ride between Cambridge and the Casino more easily. There are 42 Bluebikes public bikeshare stations east of Prospect Street and north of Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge. Everett also has a network of Bluebikes stations, including at and around the casino. In addition to privately owned bikes, the public bikeshare system provides a non-vehicular option for people to travel more easily to that location without adding congestion and localized air pollution to Cambridge. These new riders will need education to minimize conflicts between vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.

To further reduce congestion and vehicular trips in the Eastern Cambridge/North Point/Cambridge Crossing area—identified in previous funding applications to be impacted by the increased traffic to and from the casino—we are proposing to launch an adult Learn-to-Bike-Safely program to increase the number of people riding between Cambridge and the casino. The program will include on-bike trainings and workshops for beginners to become comfortable in riding in a city environment and will end with a group ride from Cambridge to the Encore Riverwalk, using a combination of purchased bicycles, Bluebikes, or private ones if participants prefer. In addition to reducing congestion, such a program, which has been requested in our prior outreach efforts, will give the opportunity for workers and visitors to the casino to bike when other transportation options are not available to them, or don't work with schedules. We also see this class as a way to reduce crashes and conflicts with people on bicycles, and those driving and walking.

The following budget would support ongoing education programming from May through September in 2026 and 2027.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Wages and salaries	2026-2027	2 part-time instructors	\$75,000.00
Bicycles	2026	10 bikes	\$12,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	2026-2027	Annual tune-ups for 10 bicycles	\$6,200.00
Rentals and Leases	2026-2027	1 storage pod rental	\$8,000.00
First Aid Kit	2026	2 kits	\$100.00
Travel/Training	2026	Licensed Cycling Instructor certification for 2 people	\$1,000.00
TOTAL:			\$102,300.00

Part B- Transportation The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, requests for proposals, detailed scopes of work, etc.

Project Name: Traffic Safety Improvements – Bike lanes			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant. If there are multiple people involved in the grants management, please add more lines to accommodate their information.			
Project Contact:		Additional Project Contact (if applicable)	
Name: Jeffrey R. Parenti, PE, PTOE, PTP, ENV		Name:	
Title: Assistant Commissioner/Traffic Director		Title:	
Department: Traffic, Parking, and Transportation		Department:	
Email Address: jparenti@cambridgema.gov		Email Address:	
Telephone: 617.349.4715		Telephone:	
Address: 344 Broadway, Cambridge		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility causes or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <p>Increased traffic associated with the gaming establishment may cause increased congestion on the major routes leading to/from the gaming establishment.</p> <p>Traffic to and from the resort is using Washington Street through Somerville, which becomes Prospect Street over the Cambridge City line and continues through Inman Square to Central Square.</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p> <p>Following Transportation improvements for the Prospect Street corridor granted in FY2025, this funding would allow the City to install separated bike lanes approaching the intersections with Broadway and Cambridge Street. These two locations are among the highest for vulnerable road users (bikes and pedestrians) in the City. Separates bike laned provide the greatest protection for cyclists and will leave us enough room to “protect” left turns in the signal cycle, a strategy which is proven to reduce the frequency and severity of crashes.</p>			
Proposed MGC Grant Budget			
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Separated bike lanes – at Broadway	9 months		\$150,000
Separated bike lanes – at Cambridge Street	9 months		\$150,000
	TOTAL:		\$300,000

Part C- Public Safety - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, catalog cuts of proposed equipment purchases, quotes, training course syllabus, etc.

Project Name: Electric Vehicle Fire Blankets			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact:		Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Name: Thomas F Cahill Jr		Name:	
Title: Fire Chief		Title:	
Department: Cambridge Fire		Department:	
Email Address: tcahill1@cambridgefire.org		Email Address:	
Telephone: 617-349-4975		Telephone:	
Address: 23 Bay State Rd Cambridge MA 02138		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>			
<p>1. Increases in traffic can cause increases in congestion, accidents, and vehicular/bicycle /pedestrian conflicts.</p> <p>2. The influx of visitors to a casino can result in an increase in calls for service and put pressure on local emergency services including emergency responders like fire departments and EMS. This could lead to increased needs for mutual aid.</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>			
<p>Purchase 12 electric vehicle fire blankets to outfit each of our front-line ladder trucks and engine companies with the innovative ability to extinguish these types of vehicle fires. The increase in traffic through Cambridge to the casino in conjunction with the influx of electric vehicles has created more opportunities for these types of fires, which take incredible volumes of water to extinguish. The fire blanket technology allows for rapid extinguishment with minimal water or extension to other vehicles or buildings.</p>			
<p align="center">Proposed MGC Grant Budget</p> <p>Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.</p>			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget

Bridgehill Pro X Fire Blanket		12	\$48,000
	TOTAL:		\$48,000

Project Name: Tactical Training			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact:		Additional Project Contact (if applicable)	
Name: Thomas F Cahill Jr		Name:	
Title: Fire Chief		Title:	
Department: Cambridge		Department:	
Email Address: tcahill1@cambridgefire.org		Email Address:	
Telephone: 617-349-4975		Telephone:	
Address: 23 Bay State Rd. Cambridge MA 02138		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <p>3. Increases in traffic can cause increases in congestion, accidents, and vehicular/bicycle /pedestrian conflicts.</p> <p>4. The influx of visitors to a casino can result in an increase in calls for service and put pressure on local emergency services including emergency responders like fire departments and EMS. This could lead to increased needs for mutual aid.</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>			
<p>Additional training for tactical paramedics that respond to incidents throughout Cambridge and Metro Boston as needed. The Cambridge Fire Tactical Medics are imbedded with the Cambridge Police Tactical Response Team and respond with them regularly for incidents within Cambridge and mutual aid. The training we will be able to provide will keep our medics at the same training level as the team they are imbedded with regularly. Everett is a community within UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative), and Cambridge Fire is on call to respond to this location for Tactical Medic support.</p>			
<p align="center">Proposed MGC Grant Budget</p> <p>Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.</p>			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Training			\$32,000
	TOTAL:		\$32,000

Project Name: High Visibility Traffic Enforcement and Education	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact:	Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>
Name: Manisha Tibrewal	Name: Philip McDavitt
Title: Director of Planning, Budget, and Personnel	Title: Traffic Enforcement Unit Lieutenant
Department: Cambridge Police Department	Department: Cambridge Police Department
Email Address: mtibrewal@cambridgepolice.org	Email Address: pmcdavit@cambridgepolice.org
Telephone: 617-349-9363	Telephone: 617-349-9392
Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142	Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of casinos has been demonstrated to cause an increase in cases of operating under the influence. • Increases in traffic can cause increases in congestion, accidents, and vehicular/bicycle/pedestrian conflicts. • The influx of visitors to a casino can result in an increase in calls for service and put pressure on local emergency services including emergency responders like fire departments and EMS. This could lead to increased needs for mutual aid. <p>The Cambridge Police Department would like to use these funds to address the increase in commuters resulting in increased congestion on the roads. This congestion leads to increased risk-taking behavior by commuters, resulting in collisions between motor vehicles/pedestrian/bicyclists.</p> <p>CMF FY25 Funds used in 2024 dedicated to addressing these public safety concerns resulted in over 400 documented stops and interactions with commuters violating traffic laws on the roads in Cambridge designated as Sector 1.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	

The overall goal of utilizing these grant funds is to reduce harm to those commuting within the City of Cambridge. These grant funds would be used for Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) officers and a TEU supervisor to perform high-visibility education and enforcement in the areas most traveled by commuters going to and from the Encore Casino.

This high-visibility education and enforcement would be conducted by the TEU, which was responsible for over 54% of the Department's documented interactions with commuters within Cambridge in 2024. TEU currently performs high-visibility education and enforcement of the traffic laws when not on other assignments such as school crossings, dignitary escorts, or addressing various other public safety issues in the City.

The roads used in Cambridge to commute to and from the Encore Casino are within an area designated by the Cambridge Police Department as Sector 1. This includes Cambridge Street, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street and all the intersecting streets which lead to either Route 28 or roads in Somerville which take people to Route 99. Cambridge Street, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street are all utilized by motorists and bicyclists, with each street having a designated bicycle lane. The intersecting streets, which also have steady commuter travel, are Third Street, Second Street, and First Street, as each road leads to Route 28.

Available traffic data for 2024 shows the most citations in the Department were issued within Sector 1, with 2,517 citations being issued to commuters. Additionally, post 2019, the number of collisions each year has increased city wide. In 2024, there were 1,689 collisions in Cambridge, versus in 2019, the year the Encore Casino opened, there were 1,455 collisions within Cambridge.

The City of Cambridge is committed to Vision Zero, which strives to reduce all traffic related fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. Currently the Department commits approximately twenty hours a week to motor vehicle, pedestrian, and bicyclist safety.

TEU officers would utilize these funds to conduct high-visibility traffic education and enforcement during the peak operational hours of the Encore Casino. This is to address congestion, contributed to by workers/patrons visiting the casino on the streets of Cambridge which can lead to increased risk-taking behavior by commuters, resulting in collisions between motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

The Department plans to use these funds on Thursday and Friday evenings, during the afternoons and evenings on Saturdays and Sundays, and when major events occur at the Encore Casino. We will have one to four officers conducting enforcement with a supervisor available to approve tows and approve criminal complaints.

Traffic enforcement on Thursdays and Fridays would be between 2:00PM and 6:00AM. For Saturdays and Sundays, traffic enforcement would be conducted between 12:00PM and 6:00AM. Officers/supervisors can work no less than two hours and no more than sixteen consecutive hours between the designated time frames.

The areas of enforcement would focus on the roads people commute on to access the Encore Casino, this would include Cambridge Street, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, and the roads which connect Cambridge Streets to Route 28, which would include First Street, Second Street, Third Street and Sciarappa Street.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
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High-Visibility Traffic Education and Enforcement OT	Monthly throughout the fiscal year until funds are exhausted	Approx. 830 hours	\$83,000
	TOTAL:		\$83,000

Project Name: Active Shooter Training	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Manisha Tibrewal	Name: Casey McGrath
Title: Director of Planning, Budget, and Personnel	Title: Training and Certification Unit Lieutenant
Department: Cambridge Police Department	Department: Cambridge Police Department
Email Address: mtibrewal@cambridgepolice.org	Email Address: cmcgrath@cambridgepolice.org
Telephone: 617-349-9363	Telephone: 617-349-9361
Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142	Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2025 Guidelines relevant to this category (Page 12-13). If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of casinos has been demonstrated to cause an increase visitors to the area and cause a target rich environment for potential active shooter threats. • Increases in visitors at Encore Boston result in an increase to the overall area of Greater Boston to include Cambridge, only 2.7 miles away. • The influx of visitors to a casino can result in an increase in calls for service and put pressure on local emergency services including emergency responders like fire departments and EMS. This could lead to increased needs for mutual aid. <p>The Cambridge Police Department would like to use these funds to provide active shooter training. The Cambridge Police have not trained at this level in active shooter training for a number of years and the new national standard, ALERTT training, can be trained to allow for an enhanced response in the event of any active shooter event that will draw a multi-jurisdictional response.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
<p>The City of Cambridge seeks funding to provide active shooter training to the police department that would benefit not only Cambridge but all regional partners. In the event of any large-scale public safety event</p>	

regional partners would be called on to assist in any way necessary. The Cambridge Police Department is one of the few Departments in the area that has its own special response team and is therefore uniquely positioned to provide mutual aid should there be an active threat at the Casino. A mutual aid agreement between the Cambridge Police Department and the Everett Police Department ensures assistance to the Casino in any way necessary. Furthermore, the Cambridge Police Department has worked with the Everett police Department on numerous other coordinated training courses before, to ensure an organized response to any event.

The Casino has become of the area's premier locations for visitors for not only gaming but also entertainment and dining. The attractions offered by Encore Boston bring over eight million visitors annually to the area and these same visitors make their way to Cambridge, only 2.7 miles away, for attractions such as Harvard University, MIT, and historic sites as well. The proximity of so many attractions throughout the area guarantees an increase of visitors throughout Greater Boston. As a result of the influx in visitors it is critical to provide public safety to ensure all visitors feel protected to enjoy themselves.

The most recognized and research based active shooter training in the nation is Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT), designated as the National standard by the FBI in active shooter response training. The Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee also recognizes ALERRT as the standard to be taught at all police academies throughout the state. ALERRT provides in-depth after-action lessons through partnerships between agencies to enhance the overall understanding and response to active shooter events and assists with improving best practices. This is a two-day training that includes classroom work where trained ALERRT instructors go over material pertinent to response protocols for an active shooter situation. Practical hands-on training also occurs to reinforce classroom material and ensure a proper foundation for responding to active shooter situations. Officers are trained in coordination between responding units for an immediate response to neutralize and stop the threat at the same time communicating with responding first responders to provide an adequate response to the aftermath of an event. The grant would fund all patrol officers (including the special response team) to be trained in ALERRT and allow for any future critical event at the Encore Casino to have a seamless multi-jurisdictional response. The Cambridge Police Department currently has 6 officers who are certified ALERRT instructors, and they would be instructing six, 2 day trainings to ensure all officers being certified. This would allow for class size to be restricted to 30 officers per course to allow for a 1 instructor to 5 officers ratio. At the end of the grant 180 Cambridge Police Officers will be ALERRT certified. The Department has chosen to focus its request on those officers who would typically be the first responding units called to assist in any event that may occur at the Encore Casino.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
6 2 day ALERRT trainings for 180 officers			\$216,000
	TOTAL:		\$216,000

Project Name: De-escalation Training	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Manisha Tibrewal	Name: Casey McGrath
Title: Director of Planning, Budget, and Personnel	Title: Training and Certification Unit Lieutenant
Department: Cambridge Police Department	Department: Cambridge Police Department
Email Address: mtibrewal@cambridgepolice.org	Email Address: cmcgrath@cambridgepolice.org
Telephone: 617-349-9363	Telephone: 617-349-9361
Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142	Address: 125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2025 Guidelines relevant to this category (Page 12-13). If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of casinos has been demonstrated to cause an increase in police interactions throughout their home community and neighboring communities as a result of increased in visitors to the area. • Increases in visitors to Encore Boston result in an increase to the overall area of Greater Boston to include Cambridge, only 2.7 miles away. • The influx of visitors to a casino can result in an increase in calls for service and put pressure on local emergency services including emergency responders like fire departments and EMS. This could lead to increased needs for mutual aid. <p>The Cambridge Police Department would like to use these funds to address de-escalation training. The ability for an officer to safely and successfully de-escalate a situation is beneficial to all parties involved. To assist with this goal, we would like to conduct de-escalation training through the use of simulation equipment. Officers engage the simulation, a 10-foot high 12-foot wide screen, and depending on their responses the simulation can adjust to be compliant or non-compliant. Officers are then de-briefed about how they performed and how they may be able to de-escalate a situation better in the future.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
The City of Cambridge seeks funding to provide de-escalation training to officers, a vital component of	

former President Obama's 20th century policing initiative. The Encore Casino attracts over 8 million visitors a year. These visitors will undoubtedly explore the area, to include Cambridge only 2.7 miles away, and visit a number of attractions including MIT, Harvard University, world-renowned museums, and the vast number of historical sights.

De-escalation training significantly reduces the risk of violence, protects both the safety of officers and civilians, builds community trust, and minimizes the need for excessive force by using proven tools to slow down and diffuse the situation through verbal communication and non-confrontational tactics. These tactics include providing officers with resources to offer to individuals as well as verbal persuasion, warnings, slowing down the pace of an incident, waiting out a person, creating distance between the officer and a threat, or requesting additional resources that may assist with the situation. Most calls for service are not related to crime but issues that require a multi-disciplinary approach. Officers should be able to direct individuals to resources and help them in any way they can. Officers are also trained in verbal cues that may increase hostility and are able to identify them and use their knowledge to diffuse the situation to bring a peaceful resolution when necessary.

This training will be delivered using a simulation program. The officers will interact with the program, 3 side by side 10 ft high by 12 ft wide screens, by talking to a simulation screen. They will be given basic information routinely provided by dispatchers while officers are in route to a call. They will then be presented with the call and an instructor will be able to control the simulation, either making the artificial individual compliant if the officer is using proper de-escalation techniques or non-compliant if the officer is struggling to diffuse the situation. The Cambridge Police Department has several officers trained in ICAT, Integrating Communications, assessment, and Tactics. This is a nationally recognized training platform that trains officers to de-escalate situations of crisis through critical decision-making model. Officers are instructed to change tactics in the event their current method isn't working and to go as far as calling other officers who may have a better understanding of the current situation if needed. Officers are trained to try different methods in the event they are not successful. The funding would allow 2 officers to be dedicated instructors for 8 hours a week. Each shift they work will allow for 8 to 10 officers to be trained. Each training session lasts for 1-2 hours with a debrief at the end to encourage officers to realize where they may be able to improve. Each session allows an officer to experience 3 scenarios and adjust as needed.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
16 hours a week for instructors (overtime)			\$62,400
	TOTAL:		\$62,400

Part D- Gambling Harm Reduction- The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include other relevant research, Requests for Proposals, etc.

Project Name: Cambridge Public Health & Arts Proposal	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Deborah Odunze	Name: Lillian Hsu
Title: Deputy Chief Public Health Officer	Title: Director of Public Art and Exhibitions
Department: Cambridge Public Health Department	Department: Cambridge Arts
Email Address: dodunze@challiance.org	Email Address: lhsu@cambridgema.gov
Telephone: 781-873-9555	Telephone: 617-349-4389
Address: 119 Windsor Street, 2nd Floor Cambridge, MA 02139	Address: 344 Broadway, 2 nd Floor Cambridge, MA 02139
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2025 Guidelines relevant to this category (Page 14-15). If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>According to the Casinos and Gambling in Massachusetts: African-American Perspectives report:</p> <p>“Shame and stigma deter individuals experiencing problem gambling from seeking help or accessing and utilizing services. This seems to be related to the fact that treatment for problem gambling is usually delivered by mental health service providers and seeking mental health services are highly stigmatized. Participants highlighted the need for mental health services in their communities.”</p> <p>Based on the Impacts of casino gambling on priority populations recommendations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support diverse ethnocultural communities and language speakers • Provide culturally adapted resources and interventions for non-U.S. born individuals—they may gamble less but exhibit a higher incidence of harm when they do. • Make resources available in multiple languages. This strategy is crucial for the inclusion of non-English-speaking community members and non-White people who may face language barriers compounded by other systemic challenges. 	

We have outlined an intervention which seeks to address each area of the above mentioned recommendations.

II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.

The Cambridge Public Health and Arts Department will provide a program to address addiction and harm reduction through harm reduction videos, social media clips, brochures, pamphlets, and artist-led workshops for storytelling, story sharing, and creative expression.

This collaboration aims to support gambling harm reduction efforts by humanizing the experiences and impacts of gambling through real-world stories of individuals and families/care providers. Informed by research that identified vulnerable populations, community perceptions, the social, economic, and environmental concerns of gambling, etc., we will produce four (n=4) person-centered video stories and four (n=4) 30-sec social media clips (e.g., one therapist and three community members from the racial and ethnic groups highlighted in the research, such as Black, Latinx, and Asian populations) filmed in Cambridge, MA. For accessibility, the videos will have closed captioning in English, Spanish, and an Asian language (TBD). Lastly, our project includes linguistically responsive brochures/pamphlets (in English, Spanish, and an Asian language - TBD).

Six two-hour workshops will take place in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. Open to all. We anticipate an audience from teens to adults. Each workshop would be self-sufficient so that a participant could drop in on one or several without needing to attend in sequence. If participants become engaged and attend multiple times, their experience will build and deepen over the course of however many workshops they attend.

Lead Artist and Workshop Design: Workshops will be led by artist Ben Cunningham, a Boston-based storyteller and educator. Ben has experience with audiences of all ages. He weaves his own storytelling with activities that draw participants into their own storytelling and story-sharing. He uses musical instruments and other props for sound effects and a multi-sensory experience. His workshops will be paired with artmaking, offering participants activities using art materials that are tactile and expressive. In addition, participants could choose to record their stories to be shared digitally or turn stories into written or graphic formats. The workshops will be designed to be open-ended, flexible, supportive, and inclusive while also providing inspirational prompts, guidance, and opportunities to connect with others.

The storytelling/art workshops are geared to the underlying psychological/emotional realm, or personal histories, that might make someone choose gambling, and to the benefit of telling personal stories when one is living with or vulnerable to an addictive pattern. The arts often provide a way of tapping internal issues (sometimes subconsciously) that do not reveal themselves through common means of communication. Expressive arts can bypass conventional ways of communicating which are often intimidating (e.g. being asked to fill out

a questionnaire or being asked if one needs help). As such, a participant can experience a path to harm reduction through an open-ended activity in a self-directed way.

There is a lot of material that addresses the benefit of participating in the arts to health and wellness in individuals and communities, and this proposal is grounded in that research. A very recent [example](#) from the UK studied consuming arts. Active participation has additional power to tap underlying causes of external behaviors.

Research shows the use of art specifically for gambling related issues. In research studies, art was used to help people identify cues that trigger gambling behaviors. A pilot study suggests that art therapies can help women with gambling problems. The COVID-19 exacerbated the need for arts in treating addiction. Here's a few articles.

- [Case Study: Using art therapy for a client with gambling addiction](#)
- Derevensky, J. L. (2020). The prevention and treatment of gambling disorders: Some art, some science. In S. Sussman (Ed.), *The Cambridge handbook of substance and behavioral addictions* (pp. 241–253). Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108632591.024>
- Gambling Research Exchange Ontario (GREO). (2020). Effective Treatment and Support for Problem Gambling. Report prepared for the Gambling Commission, Birmingham, UK. <https://doi.org/10.33684/2020.005>
- Menchon, J. M., Mestre-Bach, G., Steward, T., Fernández-Aranda, F., & Jiménez-Murcia, S. (2018). An overview of gambling disorder: from treatment approaches to risk factors. *F1000Research*, 7, 434. <https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.12784.1>
- Situmorang D. D. B. (2021). Expressive art therapies for treating online games addiction in COVID-19 outbreak: Why are they important?. *Ethics, medicine, and public health*, 18, 100691. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jemep.2021.100691>

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Six two-hour workshops are to take place in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. Costs will include the artist's fee, co-facilitator, audio/visual documentation, art supplies, transportation, rentals, food, and contingency.	FY26 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)	1	\$30,000
Full-service Video Storytelling (n=4 ~2.5-min vignettes and n=4 30-sec clips) and Professional Photography for Digital and	FY26 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)	1	\$200,000

Print			
Graphic Design (creation of tri-fold brochure in matte or gloss finish, including print management. Excludes custom illustrations)	FY26 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)	1	\$3,000
Printing of Materials (assuming n=1,000 each for n=3 languages, using an online printing platform)	FY26 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)	1	\$2,100
	TOTAL:		\$235,100

Part E- Specific Impact If you are applying for a SI grant you should reach out in advance to MGC Staff to ensure project eligibility. A community may also use this Specific Impact Grant to break out administrative and staffing costs associated with the grant as a whole.

Project Name:			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact:		Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Name:		Name:	
Title:		Title:	
Department:		Department:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	
Telephone:		Telephone:	
Address:		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. This category is for projects that do not fit in any other category but may use any impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines that are relevant. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>			
<p align="center">Proposed MGC Grant Budget</p> <p>Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.</p>			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
	TOTAL:		