



20

COMMUNITY MITIGATION FUND

APPENDIX C

Specific Impact Grant Application
BD-20-1068-1068C-1068L-46130

Please complete entire Application

Form with 10 numbered sections: 1. NAME OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENT ENTITY/DISTRICT, 2. PROJECT NAME (LIMIT 10 WORDS), 3. BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION (LIMIT 50 WORDS), 4. NAME AND TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 5. ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 6. PHONE # AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 7. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACT MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING OF FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 8. ADDRESS OF CONTRACT MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING OF FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 9. PHONE # AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF CONTRACT MANAGER ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, 10. NAME OF GAMING LICENSEE

1. IMPACT DESCRIPTION

Please describe in detail the impact that is attributed to the operation of a gaming facility. Please provide support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact.

Springfield, Massachusetts is the cultural and commercial center of the Pioneer Valley region. It is the third largest city in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and combined with the surrounding communities, constitutes the fourth largest metropolitan area in New England. Five of the Pioneer Valley region's twenty largest employers are located in Springfield, including the Baystate Health System, the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, Solutia, Inc. (Division of Monsanto Chemical Co.) and the Smith & Wesson Company. The city's strong partnership with the business community accounts for the revitalized Central Business District. Springfield now stands on the precipice of unprecedented economic growth in the form of the near one billion dollar *MGM Springfield* destination resort casino that on June 13, 2014 was officially awarded its license by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission and on August 24, 2018 *MGM Springfield* officially opened.

The MGM Springfield destination resort casino is a bold and auspicious one imbued with the vision and leadership of Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, Chief Development Officer Kevin Kennedy and other city officials. Unlike the two alternative casino projects formerly proposed for Springfield and most others including Connecticut tribal ones; the MGM Springfield site rejected an inward-focused, self-contained "own-world" design. Instead, the integrated resort casino has been designed to enhance the entire urban center of Springfield. The mixed-used development includes a two hundred and fifty-one room hotel; one hundred and twenty-five thousand square feet of gaming space; roughly ninety-six thousand square feet of retail and restaurant space; forty-six thousand square feet of convention space; and a multi-level parking garage. Additionally, the casino resort includes a public plaza, ice skating rink, cinema and bowling alley - all of which can be accessed without passing through the casino floor proper; a radical shift from classic "gaming design" and one that requires an equally innovative and comprehensive response by the Springfield Police Department.

Prior to the grand opening in August of 2018, we asserted the potential for the casino project to be a dynamic economic catalyst and MGM Springfield projected to bring three thousand permanent jobs; fifty-thousand daily visitors on weekends; twenty-five thousand daily visitors during the work week, and roughly five-hundred million a year in revenue. This type real and immense economic growth poses challenges to the Springfield Police Department to effectively police it.

Extra operational burdens at every juncture have been placed on the Springfield Police Department as it relates to maintaining public safety and facilitating traffic control in the communities surrounding the MGM Springfield Casino.

The city has grappled with a crime and disorder problem typical of urban cities nationwide. Springfield's crime rate, however, exceeds state and national per capita averages of same-sized cities. Crime analysis consistent with the tenants of the *National Institute of Justice Special Report publication "Mapping Crime: Understanding Hot Spots"* revealed that the worst of the problems are often concentrated in densely populated urban areas and around business districts with frontage on several major corridors

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that bisect the city.¹ The casino is bordered to the west by I-91 north/south and in close proximity to the connecting I-90 east/west. The Metro area has experienced some high profile violent crime events that admittedly contribute to a crime reputation. Utilizing the FY18 Community Mitigation Funds, the Springfield Police Department has trained six new recruits and one lieutenant for the purpose of remediating staffing deficits that occurred upon the reassignment of sworn personnel to the state Gaming Enforcement Unit. This type of funding support, along with new crime analysis has allowed for the Springfield Police Department to identify and address other mitigating factors that impact the surrounding communities.

While the City of Springfield continues to welcome visitors and new business to the host and surrounding communities of the MGM Springfield Casino, the Springfield Police Department has identified the need for equipment that will improve traffic, pedestrian, neighborhood, and street safety.

2. PROPOSED USE OF SPECIFIC IMPACT MITIGATION FUNDS. (Please attach additional sheets/supplemental materials if necessary.)

a) Please identify the amount of funding requested.

The City of Springfield/Springfield Police Department respectfully requests **\$124,325.00** in **2020 Community Mitigation Fund/Specific Impact Grant** funding from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

b) Please identify below the manner in which the funds are proposed to be used. Please provide detailed scope, budget and timetable for the use of funds.

The City of Springfield/Springfield Police Department proposes for this funding opportunity to fund specific equipment that will address public safety needs as it relates to the opening of the new casino. As the Springfield Police Department embarked on a vigorous due diligence campaign to learn as much as we could relative to establishing and sustaining new policing models in support of the new entertainment venue. SPD staff traveled to a number of established casino venues to meet with key law enforcement and civilian staff to identify and co-opt proven policing models.

With that in hand, we returned and made adjustments to those policing models to ensure a smooth roll out. A significant component to a successful strategy was in the area of equipment. Specifically for the purposes of this request, we've identified equipment essential for our department to continue to provide safety precautions to the ever-changing community surrounding the casino. As we adjust to the new businesses, new flow in traffic patterns, new demographic, new activity, and new community environment, we believe the equipment identified below will assist in the Springfield Police Department's efforts to mitigate some of the unforeseen impacts to our city as we continue to adjust to the arrival of the MGM Springfield Casino.

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c) Please provide documentation (e.g. - invoices, proposals, estimates, etc.) adequate for the Commission to ensure that the funds will be used for the cost of mitigating the impact from the operation of a proposed gaming establishment.

EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST	UNITS	TOTAL
Emergency Response Package (Lights, siren, PA, auxilliary lighting, graphics) for Polaris Ranger Crew XP 1000 EPS North Star	\$6,000.00	1	\$6,000.00
Interactive Flat Panel Displays (IFPD)	\$6,500.00	1	\$6,500.00
Ford F250 or equivalent pickup truck for logistical ground support for specialty events	\$53,000.00	1	\$53,000.00
Utility Trailer	\$3,200.00	1	\$3,200.00
Active Shooter Kits	\$1,000.00	25	\$25,000.00
Protective (Riot) Shields	\$300.00	50	\$15,000.00
Multi-Casualty Response Kits	\$500.00	15	\$7,500.00
APX NTN2571 Mission Critical Wireless Push-To-Talk Pod	\$325.00	25	\$8,125.00
TOTAL REQUESTED:			\$124,325.00

d) Please describe how the mitigation request will address the impact indicated.

Section D: Please refer to the **2020 Community Specific Impact Mitigation Funds – Springfield Police Department Budget Narrative (Attachment A)** documents for complete details.

3. CONNECTION TO GAMING FACILITY

Please provide specificity/evidence that the requested funds will be used to address issue or impacts directly related to the gaming facility.

In the year since MGM Springfield opened for business on August 24, 2018, the Springfield Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit has tracked and analyzed crime within and surrounding the casino. Our analysis revealed an uptick in calls for service, offenses, and arrests in the Metro area since the arrival of the casino.

Calls for Service:

	2018	2019	PERCENT CHANGE
CITIZEN INITIATED CALL	13,622	14,008	2.83%
OFFICER INITIATED CALL	23,418	18,326	-21.74%

Offenses:

	2018	2019	PERCENT CHANGE
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	100	96	-4.00%
LARCENY	372	335	-9.95%

Arrests:

	2018	2019	PERCENT CHANGE
WRESTLING	497	554	11.47%
RECIDIVITY	172	164	-4.65%

Funding support from the FY18 and FY19 Community Mitigation Grant has played an integral role in the Springfield Police Department's ability to establish dedicated personnel to the Gaming Enforcement Unit without sacrificing resources for the other units throughout the Springfield Police Department. In short, the data presented above is a glimpse into the department's ability to keep crime rates from sky rocketing with the heavy burden placed on the City of Springfield and specifically the Springfield Police Department by the arrival of MGM Springfield, however this data also reveals that the specific equipment outlined in our request will serve to address the impacts directly related to the gaming facility.

4. INTERNAL CONTROLS/ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS

Please provide detail regarding the controls that will be used to ensure that funds will only be used to address the impact. If non-governmental entities will receive any funds, please describe what reporting will be required and how the applicant will remedy any misuse of funds.

The City of Springfield / Springfield Police Department is the fiscal agent for this initiative. Fiscal and grant management responsibilities, including receipt and dispersal of funds, entering into and managing sub-recipient grant agreements, compliance with reporting requirements, and performance measurement tracking and reporting will be performed by the Springfield Police Department's Office of Business and Technology, Director of Finance. The Office of Business and Technology (OBT) manages a \$40 million dollar annual budget. OBT provides fiscal and sub recipient grant management for the City's \$1 million 2013 Byrne Innovation grant award, the Senator Charles E. Shannon, Jr. Community Safety Initiative and the Safe & Successful Youth Initiative with an annual budget of \$1.7 million dollars. In all, the OBT manages over 20 sub recipient agreements per year. OCD provides fiscal oversight for

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numerous other federal and state grants each year, including grants from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Justice Assistance Grants, and a number of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security grant funded programs.

The Springfield Police Department Grants and Planning Unit under the command of Captain Richard LaBelle provides for a second level of programmatic and fiscal oversight in conjunction with our Office of Business and Technology.

This project has been assigned to the Deputy Chief of Police, Rupert Daniel, as a senior project manager for the programmatic plan and the Director of Business and Technology for the fiscal support and oversight.

5. RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM HOST OR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

Please describe and include excerpts from any relevant sections of any Host or Surrounding Community Agreement. Please explain how this impact was either anticipated or not anticipated in that Agreement.

The Springfield Police Department's participation through reassignment of five (5) officers and one (1) lieutenant to the state Gaming Enforcement Unit was not anticipated or addressed in its Host Community Agreement. The Host Community Agreement did not provide and could not reasonably foresee providing for Gaming Enforcement Unit staffing because the department's participation in the unit was at the earliest stages was rejected by the former Police Commissioner. With the installation of Commissioner Barbieri; the department's gaming facility public safety plan purposefully evolved in the same fashion as MGM Springfield's site design did. Commissioner Barbieri recognized that the gaming facility represents unprecedented levels of direct and shared policing responsibilities with The Massachusetts State Police and the necessity of having a Springfield Police Department contingent on its Gaming Enforcement Unit.

CERTIFICATION BY MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY

On behalf of the aforementioned municipality/governmental entity I hereby certify that the funds that are requested in this application will be used solely for the purposes articulated in this Application.



11/30/2020

**Signature of Responsible Municipal
Official/Governmental Entity**

Date