



23 | COMMUNITY MITIGATION FUND

November 16, 2022

Dear Applicant:

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) is pleased to announce the application and guidelines for the 2023 Community Mitigation Fund grant program are now available on COMMBUYS (www.commbuys.com BD-23-1068C-1068L-81256).

The Massachusetts Legislature legalized casino gaming to produce broad-based economic development, including jobs and revenue. The Legislature also established an equally important mandate to mitigate impacts associated with the arrival of casino gaming. To that end, the law created the Community Mitigation Fund (CMF) to support communities and governmental entities in offsetting costs related to the construction and operation of gaming facilities. Since 2016, the Community Mitigation Fund has awarded millions of dollars to communities across the Commonwealth to mitigate impacts of the casinos.

We want to extend our gratitude to all those who have participated and those who will participate in the CMF's highly collaborative mitigation planning and innovative programming. The gaming law established an annual deadline of January 31 for applications from municipalities seeking mitigation funds.

Highlights of the Guidelines for the 2023 Community Mitigation Fund

This year, applicants should apply by sending the application directly to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission at: **MGCCMF@Massgaming.gov**

We are excited to announce new and expanded funding opportunities to benefit projects in the Host and Surrounding Communities of the gaming establishments. Below is an outline of the grant categories a community may apply under for this grant round.

Community Planning Grants

MGC will make funding available for certain planning and technical assistance activities through Community Planning Grants. These grants may be used to achieve further benefits from a gaming facility or to avoid or minimize adverse impacts. The maximum grant amount for 2023 is \$200,000.

Public Safety Grants

Public Safety Grants applications may be submitted for public safety operational costs, which also may include specific training related to gaming facility issues. To receive a Public Safety Grant an applicant must demonstrate three specific things: (1) that the grant addresses an impact caused by the casino, (2) the impact is not addressed in the host or surrounding community agreement and (3) the funding will supplement, and not supplant, historical operational funding. The maximum grant amount for 2023 is \$200,000.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

Transportation Planning Grants

The 2023 CMF authorizes communities to apply for Transportation Planning Grants. MGC has placed a per-grant maximum of \$250,000 (plus a potential regional incentive).

Transportation Construction Grants

In 2023, MGC will continue grant funding for transportation construction costs. MGC has established a maximum contribution from the CMF of 1/3 of the total construction costs up to a maximum grant amount of \$1,500,000.

Workforce Development Programs in Region A and Region B

MGC will make funding of \$500,000 per region available for workforce development programs in Regions A and B.

Specific Impact Grants

The 2023 Specific Impact Grant may be used only to mitigate operational related impacts that are being experienced or were experienced from the gaming facilities by the January 31, 2023 application date. MGC has placed a per community limit for the 2023 Specific Impact Grant of \$500,000.

Projects of Regional Significance - NEW

Projects of Regional Significance are designed to provide funds for large scale projects that will provide regional benefits while also addressing a casino related impact. The Commission will cover up to 15% of the total project cost capped at \$5 million in Region A and \$3 million in Region B. Due to the increased level of complexity in these types of projects, any project funded under this category must be under contract for construction by June 30, 2025.

Gambling Harm Reduction - NEW

The Commission seeks to study and mitigate gambling related harms through a new pilot program. The pilot program will provide funding for a limited number of community-engaged research projects. The objective of community-engaged research is to more deeply understand specific negative or unintended impacts of casino gambling at a community level. The funding for this grant is for two levels of assistance. Type 1 (\$20,000) is for the development or planning of a study or project and Type 2 (\$200,000) is for the implementation of a research project.

Incentive for Regional Cooperation NEW - Increase in incentives

MGC established incentive funding for applications involving more than one community. These joint applications for Transportation or Community Planning must specifically show the interrelationship of the communities in their endeavor.



Applicant
Page 3
November 16, 2022

Further detail on this year's program may be found in the 2023 Guidelines or by contacting the Senior Program Manager, Mary Thurlow at Mary.Thurlow@massgaming.gov. On behalf of the MGC, I look forward to continued work with the communities and other interested parties in a joint effort to achieve the goals of the Expanded Gaming Act.

Sincerely,



Cathy Judd-Stein, Chair
Massachusetts Gaming Commission

cc: Karen Wells, Executive Director
Joseph Delaney, Chief of Community Affairs
Mary Thurlow, Senior Program Manager
Lily Wallace, Program Assistant



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