



# *Town of Bethel*

*Sullivan County, New York*

Rita J. Sheehan, CMC/RMC  
Town Clerk  
Records Management Officer  
(845) 583-4350 ext. 11

March 13, 2014



Mr. Mark Gearan, Commissioner  
c/o Mr. Brad Fischer  
NYS Gaming Commission  
P.O. Box 7500  
Schnectady, NY 12301

Re: Class III Gaming Casino Destination Resorts  
Resolution of Support


Dear Mr. Gearan:

Enclosed please find certified copy of a resolution adopted by the Town of Bethel Town Board in support of Class III Gaming Casino Destination Resort in Sullivan County.

Thank you for your consideration.

By Order of the Town Board.

Very truly yours,

  
Rita J. Sheehan, Town Clerk



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**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK SUPPORTING THE SITING OF THE FIRST TWO CLASS III GAMING CASINO DESTINATION RESORTS IN THE CATSKILL REGION STRICTLY IN THE COUNTY OF SULLIVAN**

**WHEREAS**, the exceptional efforts of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature brought about the enactment of the Upstate NY Gaming Economic Development Act, which included an amendment to the New York State Constitution to allow Class III Gaming in New York State,

**WHEREAS**, New York State will now develop up to four casinos in upstate New York; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 5, 2013, the voters of the State of New York voted for and supported the enactment of the constitutional amendment authorizing Class III Gaming in New York State,

**WHEREAS**, on November 5, 2013, the voters of Sullivan County provided the largest plurality of votes for such enactment of the constitutional amendment authorizing Class III Gaming in New York State,

**WHEREAS**, the passage of said constitutional amendment and the concurrent legislation authorized the establishment of four destination gaming resorts in three distinct regions (Regions 1, 2 and 5), in Upstate New York, with a maximum of two projects to be located in any one Region

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County is located in the Catskill/Hudson Valley Region 1, and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County has been recognized as the premiere vacation destination in New York State for generations and has historically served as host to some of the world's most famous destination resorts; and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County was home to multiple destination resorts which contained thousands of hotel rooms and accompanying amenities such as retail, entertainment, and sports attractions.

**WHEREAS**, the local infrastructure of Sullivan County was always sufficiently able to handle all economic, social and environmental direct and indirect impacts of the many destination resorts; visiting tourists, and the employees who worked in these facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County's tourist economy was one of the cornerstones of vibrant, middle class that comprised many of its towns, villages, and hamlets;

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County, has experienced a significant downturn in its tourist economy over the last half century and stands now as one of the most economically challenged areas in New York State; the working class and small businesses, as well as tax ratables, have significantly suffered from this downturn;

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County ranked last in New York State in year 2013 job creation and was the only area in the Hudson Valley that experienced a year-over-year decrease in private-sector employment, according to Johnny Nelson, labor market analyst for the state, and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County, through its local and state officials and local business community has historically sought the legalization of Class III Casino Gaming for more than four decades, and

**WHEREAS**, gaming, as a single component within a destination resort, will provide the much needed catalyst to stimulate further economic growth in Sullivan County; and

**WHEREAS**, the current proposals in Sullivan County are for sustainable resort destinations that will comply with New York State's environmental regulations to mitigate all environmental impacts, and

**WHEREAS**, the development of destination gaming resorts and the siting of TWO Casino Gaming Destination Resorts would bring thousands of much needed quality jobs and economic growth to Sullivan County that now already exists in neighboring counties that are in the Catskill Region I; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of destination resorts in Sullivan County will provide financial support for education and desperately needed property tax relief for Sullivan County taxpayers and communities statewide;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of destination resorts in Sullivan County will stop the flow of revenues for tourism and gaming crossing our borders into neighboring states and keep those dollars in Sullivan County and New York State; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Bethel Town Board enthusiastically supports the siting of TWO Class III Gaming Destination Resorts in Sullivan County to meet the intent and language of the constitutional amendment authorizing Class III Gaming in New York State, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town of Bethel Town Clerk is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to NYS Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, NYS Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther, NYS Senator John J. Bonacic, and Mark D. Gearan, Chairman, NYS Gaming Commission, and the NYS Resort Gaming Facility Location Board.

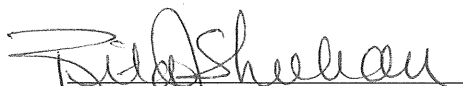
Moved by Bernard Cohen, seconded by Victoria Simpson, put to a vote and adopted 4 ayes and 1 nays on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014 upon a roll call vote as follows:

Dawn Ryder		nay
Bernard Cohen	aye	
Daniel Sturm	aye	
Vicky Simpson	aye	
Lillian Hendrickson	aye	

State of New York  
County of Sullivan County  
Office of the Clerk of the  
Town of Bethel

This is to certify that I, Rita J. Sheehan, Town Clerk of the Town of Bethel in the said County of Sullivan, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution to supporting class III gaming casino destination resorts in Sullivan County adopted by the Town of Bethel Town Board on March 12, 2014 with the original now on file in this office, and that the same is a correct and true transcript of such original and the whole thereof.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.



Rita J. Sheehan  
Town Clerk of the Town of Bethel  
Sullivan County, New York