

Developers tout benefits of \$677 million Brockton casino

Written by Administrator
Wednesday, 04 November 2015 10:56 -

Developers of a proposed casino for the Brockton fairgrounds say their \$677 million plan will draw 4 million visitors annually and generate more than \$2 billion in revenues through its first five years of operation.

Mass Gaming and Entertainment is set to present detailed plans for the resort to gambling regulators on Thursday. The company, a subsidiary of Chicago's Rush Street Gaming, recently submitted a more than 200-page application to the state Gaming Commission, some of which already has been made public by the state.

The company is the lone applicant for Massachusetts' third and final resort casino license, which is reserved for the southeastern region. But winning the license is no sure bet: Regulators have reserved the right not to issue the license at all because of concerns the region, which borders Rhode Island, might become oversaturated.

The proposed Brockton casino, which would be located near Brockton High School, may have to compete with a casino in nearby Taunton developed by the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe. Plainridge Park, a racino, also opened this summer in Plainville.

Here's a look at the Brockton proposal:

DESIGN: Renderings show a red brick casino complex that the company says will reflect "conservative New England architecture."

GAMBLING: Roughly 92,000 sq. ft. casino floor with 2,100 slot machines, 124 table games and a poker room.

HOTEL: 250 rooms and a spa.

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CASINO AMENITIES: 3,000 sq. ft. for restaurants and bars; 1,000 sq. ft. for retail; about 25,000 sq. ft. in multipurpose space for trade shows and small conventions and a 3,000-space parking garage.

CONSTRUCTION: Buildout is expected to take 30 months. Company has also committed to more than \$9 million in area roadway and sewer improvements.

JOB: More than 1,400 temporary jobs during construction and about 1,500 full-time jobs when it opens.

REVENUES: More than \$2 billion in gambling revenues during the first five years of operation. Non-gambling revenues, including food, beverage and hotel profits, are expected to average about \$60 million annually.

TAXES: More than \$500 million in state taxes during the first five years of operation. The company projects the casino will also generate more than \$100 million in taxes during construction.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Citing its location between Cape Cod and Boston, the casino hopes to draw over 4 million visits annually. That, the company says, will result in almost \$20 million each year for local businesses.

LOCAL PAYMENTS: The city of Brockton will receive the greater of either \$10 million or 2.25 percent of the casino's gross gambling revenues each year. But if a tribal casino opens nearby, the minimum payment would be reduced from \$10 million to \$6.75 million.

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