



City of Everett
Office of the Mayor
Carlo DeMaria, Jr.
484 Broadway
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149

PRESS RELEASE

Monday, July 3, 2017

MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION AWARDS EVERETT \$150,000 GRANT FOR PRELIMINARY DESIGN FOR BUS-ONLY LANE

On Thursday, June 29th Mayor Carlo DeMaria announced that the Massachusetts Gaming Commission approved the award of \$150,000 in a Community Mitigation grant to the City of Everett. The grant will provide funding for the preliminary design and engineering of a bus-only lane on the west side of Broadway/ Route 99 from the Everett city line to Route 16/ Sweetser Circle, a primary traffic corridor for expected casino related traffic.

In early December 2016, the City of Everett and MassDOT launched a bus-only lane pilot program on Broadway in Everett. The bus-only lane was a recommendation made by MassDOT as part of the Everett Transit Action Plan, which explored a number of ways to improve transit accessibility and reliability in the City.

Mayor DeMaria stated, “I have witnessed first hand the improved flow of traffic down Broadway, and have seen buses flying down the bus lane unimpeded. This grant will help us create a similar feature on the other side of the road. My administration wants to continue to use these time savings to allow buses to make additional trips that would reduce the frequent overcrowding that occurs on these routes. I would like to thank the Gaming Commission for this opportunity and for strongly endorsing this project.”

The Gaming Law created the Community Mitigation Fund to help entities offset costs related to the construction and operations of gaming establishments. The Gaming Law states that the Commission will issue funds to assist host and surrounding communities ... “including, but not limited to, communities and water and sewer districts in the vicinity of a gaming establishment, local and regional education, transportation, infrastructure, housing, environmental issues and public safety, including the office of the county district attorney, police, fire, and emergency services.” The Commission may also distribute funds to a governmental entity or district other than a single municipality in order to implement a mitigation measure that affects more than one community.

“The Community Mitigation Fund program underscores the Commonwealth’s commitment to not only maximizing the benefits associated with expanded gaming such as jobs and economic development, but also the Legislature’s strong mandate to mitigate any unintended consequences that potentially correlate with the arrival of casinos,” said

MGC Chairman Steve Crosby. “This is only the beginning of our ongoing efforts in assessing impacts and maximizing the benefits of gaming.”

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