

St. Louis County Council

BARBARA WALL FRASER

Councilwoman, 5th District

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September 1, 2010

Mr. James L. Mathewson, Chairman
Missouri Gaming Commission
3417 Knipp Drive
P.O. Box 1847
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Chariman Mathewson,

It is my understanding that the Missouri Gaming Commission is in receipt of an application for a casino license in north St. Louis County by North County Developers LLC.

I have a couple of concerns with this proposal. First, I do not believe the St. Louis market can support another casino. Recent published reports indicate that the increase in revenues at the newly opened River City Casino have come at the expense of the six other existing casinos in the region. This River City Casino increase is not providing a significant net increase in gaming revenue for the state.

Second, although I have been supportive of casinos in general, the location of new casinos should cause no harm. As a member of the St. Louis County Council I voted against the change of zoning to allow a casino to be developed just south of the Columbia Bottoms Conservation area. The proposed casino in North County is a massive development located in the heart of the Great Rivers Confluence, a place of international significance historically, environmentally and culturally. It is a national treasure that we should preserve for future generations. \$150 million have been invested in the past ten years by our state and federal agencies to create 11,000 acres of new public open space including more than 100 miles of trails and the construction of various interpretive centers and museums along the shores of the Mississippi and Missouri.

I urge you to strongly consider the other proposed alternatives, which may prove to be of greater benefit to the state. The Isle of Capri's proposal in Cape Girardeau and the proposed Sugar Creek Casino in Kansas City both appear to maximize new state revenue without causing harm to the environment.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Fraser".

Barbara Fraser
Chair and 5th District Councilwoman

A handwritten note in cursive script that reads "Jim - Thanks for your attention to this matter - Barbara".