

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask that you deny the land into trust application by the Mashpee Wampanoag for the land in Middleboro, Massachusetts.

The Middleboro/Mashpee IGA makes no provisions for increase costs due to population and the attendant school enrollments that will come when this large facility comes on line and grows over the years. The examples of Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun show that it will grow probably by an incredible amount.

Given the shortage of affordable housing in Middleboro, it is a statistical certainty that such housing will be created to meet demand. Since the town has a lot of available land, we can expect a sudden and rapid increase in population and more specifically in school enrollments. The IGA we have in place has no provision for these increases. Middleboro currently spends \$9,938 dollars per student for education. An increase of only 500 students would result in \$5M per year cost our school budget. Additionally, the rapid growth would give us no time to plan for new schools adding extra costs to the effect of the casino.

There has already been at least one landowner in town that is planning additional apartments solely because of the casino. At a recent selectman's meeting, the head of the building department told selectmen that the owner of the land behind Adam's circle was planning 80 more units because of the casino. The landowner had been sitting on this land for 25 years and had never done anything. There are sure to be more landowners that will build affordable housing to meet the demand created by the thousands of jobs at the Middleboro casino.

Mark Belanger
29 Moulton Street
Middleboro, MA

Attached are comments posted on a news article in a CT newspaper about recent expansions at Foxwoods. This shows a high degree of dissatisfaction (and cost) for a facility that is very like what the Middleboro casino will be or will become.

A simple solution would be for the tribes to pay a reasonable wage. They appear to have the money.

Mark

Ledyard

*I do not believe either are really interested in being good neighbors. As long as they have employee's willing to work for little or nothing they really don't care where they live. If they did there would not be **40 chinese workers living in a single family house***

Rick

Groton, CT

Your editorial is right on to the "selfishness" of the Pequots with all their "dreams", please explain why Southeastern towns must have the problems they create. They control enough land on the reservation to

develop numerous types of housing for all wage earners in the casino. Each tribe could do the building and finance their own housing developments if they can build such large new casinos needing so many new employees! How selfish !

Barbara

Niantic, CT

*Lets not forget that along with 3000 new employees comes 1000's of new children in our school systems. **Guess what...the taxpayer will have to foot the bill for new schools, multi-lingual teachers, social services, and on, and on. See ya CT.***

Rich

Groton, CT.

"Both tribes say they want to be good neighbors." But that is where the similarity ends. Apparently, the Mohegans put action behind their words. Too bad the Pequots don't do the same. But then again, they always have been about the "bottom line" haven't they? Whereas te Mohegans have shown by deed that they have been good neighbors throughout their history since the Europeans first settled on these shores. History tells us alot about a peoples.

david irons

waterford

*They will come from Ney York via China. They will live in four single family homes. The good news is some lucky town will recieve tax revenue from four home owners. The bad news, the same town will recieve 6000 new students, who will all require a translator and special services. Of course the big winners will be Foxwoods and The Sun who will both make millions more a month off the misery of others. I wish the Sun would expand enough to take over my neighborhood, **I'd sell my home to be bulldozed for a parking lot in a second and get the hell out of this rip off backward state. Yay Casinos!!!***

Pete

Uncasville, CT