

To whom it may concern.

In an effort to gauge local sentiment about the prospect of a Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal casino, a petition was provided on <http://casinofacts.org>. Without any advertising or signing drive, the petition includes 400 names. There are many many more people in Middleboro that are opposed to the land into trust application but were lacking access to the petition.

This shows a high degree of opposition to this facility. For this reason I ask that you refuse the land into trust application for the Middleboro property. The Mashpee have no tangible connection to the Middleboro land **it is simply a case of reservation shopping**. IGRA intended to provide gaming as a means of economic development. The Mashpee Wampanoag should be allowed to pursue gaming on their **real** tribal land **in Mashpee**. Middleboro is merely a conveniently location and nothing to do with their Tribal history.

The Mashpee have tribal lands **in Mashpee**.

On a local radio show(*CoffeeShopTalk with Adam Bond 2/28/2008*), Tribal Chairman Shawn Hendricks was asked why the tribe didn't go to New Bedford. He replied that there was not enough land to do what they wanted for their resort. When asked why the tribe chose Middleboro, he replied in the same way that it was the amount of land and location. It had nothing to do with ancestral ties. It was all about location, location, location.

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