



August 15, 2016

Dear Neighbor:

We are writing to introduce you to Save Tiverton and our efforts to protect the community. Specifically, this group was formed by a coalition of the Interfaith Clergy, residents and local businesses dedicated to opposing the casino proposed by Twin River.

Though we all have different reasons for opposing this project, we are united in our belief that it is a bad deal for our community. Despite Twin River's claims of jobs and tax revenue, we know from experience that this type of "convenience casino," as it is described by the applicant, will be a net loss for Tiverton in many ways.

As part of our efforts to educate the community about these adverse effects, we are hosting two events with Robert Steele, a former Republican U.S. congressman from Connecticut and the author of "The Curse: Big-Time Gambling's Seduction of a Small New England Town." Mr. Steele is a widely recognized expert on this subject and we are confident that he will make you think differently about the proposed casino.

The first event is Wednesday, September 7, 2016 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm at the Tiverton Public Library located at 34 Roosevelt Avenue. The second event is later that day from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the Sandywoods Center for the Arts located at 43 Muse Way.

We urge you to attend one of these events and educate yourself about the real impacts of casinos on individuals and communities. To that end, attached is a fact sheet which sheds light on some of the myths surrounding this project.

To show your support and keep informed about our activities, please visit our website at [www.SaveTiverton.com](http://www.SaveTiverton.com) and like our Facebook page at [www.Facebook.com/SaveTiverton](http://www.Facebook.com/SaveTiverton). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Save Tiverton



## The Facts about the Proposed Twin River Casino in Tiverton

**Myth:** Tiverton will mostly benefit from these jobs.

**Fact:** Twin River claims it will produce 600 well-paying casino jobs. However, we haven't seen any evidence that these jobs are well-paying. In addition, many of these jobs will be assumed by existing Newport Grand employees as the company is simply moving that facility to Tiverton. Moreover, up to a third of these jobs could be part-time positions.

(Sources: "Twin River announces plan to move to Newport Grand to Tiverton," WPRI-TV Channel 12, April 15, 2015; "Promise of jobs kicks off campaign for Tiverton casino," Providence Journal, June 21, 2016.)

**Myth:** The casino would provide much needed tax relief.

**Fact:** Despite the tax revenue estimates provided by Twin River, the Town of Lincoln has seen no tax relief since their referendum for a new Twin River facility passed in 2012. In fact, Lincoln's residential tax rate was \$21.65 per \$1,000 in 2012. Today, their tax rate is \$21.60. Tiverton's current tax rate is \$19.14. Further, this revenue is not guaranteed. Twin River's own projections show a shortfall of at least \$1 million below what they've promised the town in its first year of operation.

(Sources: Websites of the State of Rhode Island Division of Municipal Finance, Town of Lincoln Tax Assessor and Town of Tiverton Tax Collector; "R.I. lawmakers told a Tiverton casino would be viable," Providence Journal, February 9, 2016.)

**Myth:** The market can easily support another casino in the region.

**Fact:** The market is already saturated as Massachusetts already approved three destination resort casinos that are currently under construction and one slots parlor. Moreover, last December state officials cut the amount of tax revenue they expected to receive from the Plainville Slots Parlor by nearly 40 percent. Additionally, the claim that Tiverton should permit a casino or risk losing one to Fall River or New Bedford is unfounded. In fact, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission recently denied another casino in Brockton due to the Mashpee Wampanoag's casino in Taunton which is under construction.

(Sources: "State cuts tax projections for Plainridge Park casino," The Boston Globe, December 14, 2015; "Brockton casino shot down by Gaming Commission," The Boston Globe, April 28, 2016.)

For more information, please visit [www.SaveTiverton.com](http://www.SaveTiverton.com)  
and [www.Facebook.com/SaveTiverton](https://www.facebook.com/SaveTiverton).