



## **Request for Applications to Develop and Operate a Gaming Facility in New York State**

### **PROTOCOL AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT EVENTS**

September 17, 2014

The Gaming Facility Location Board is convening one public comment event in each Region eligible to host a gaming facility. Members of the public are invited to comment on Applicant proposals potentially affecting their Region and community. These public comment events are free, open to the public and do not require advance registration to attend.

Each speaker addressing the Board will be given an individual five-minute speaking slot.

Pursuant to section IV.E of the Request for Applications, Applicants or their representatives are required to attend their respective region's public comment event. Applicants cannot address the Board or make public comments; individuals attending the public comment event cannot pose comments or questions directly to the Applicants or their representatives.

#### **Logistics**

Dates and Times. Public comment events will be conducted in three region-specific locations on September 22, 23 and 24. Doors will open at each location at 7:30 a.m. The Board will receive comments between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. There will be two breaks each day: lunch from 12:25 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and dinner from 5:25 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Locations. The Board selected large, accessible venues with ample parking located in counties and municipalities where no casino applicants have proposals. The events will be conducted at:

September 22

Capital Region:  
Holiday Inn Turf  
Stonehenge Room A & D

205 Wolf Road  
Albany

September 23      Catskills/Hudson Valley Region:  
The Grandview  
Banquet Room  
176 Rinaldi Boulevard  
Poughkeepsie

September 24      Eastern Southern Tier Region:  
The Hotel Ithaca Ballroom  
222 South Cayuga Street  
Ithaca

Seating. Excepting limited reserved seating for members of the Board and staff, seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Remote access. Each presentation will be streamed live and archived on the Gaming Commission's Web site ([www.gaming.ny.gov](http://www.gaming.ny.gov)). Members of the public not wishing to comment are encouraged to watch the live stream remotely in order to preserve limited seating for those wishing to comment.

## **Registration**

Pre-Registered Reserved Speaker Check-In. As previously announced publicly, the first five (5) speaking time reservation slots per hour were held at each regional event for individuals to pre-register. All reserved times have been filled.

Pre-registered speakers must check-in at the event table clearly marked "Pre-Registration Reserved Check-In" at least 15 minutes prior to their reserved speaking time. Slots for pre-registrants who do not timely check-in prior to the start of their speaking time will be released to same day on-site registrants.

On-Site Registration. Attendees without previously registered speaking slots may sign up at the event table clearly marked "Walk-In Registration." Speaking slots will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

Each hour, the Board will first call pre-registered speakers, and then same-day registrants in the order of registration. The Board anticipates more people will register to speak than time will allow, thus it is imperative those who sign up to speak on the day of the event remain in the venue so they do not miss their opportunity to speak.

To allow diverse participation, the Board respectfully requests interested grassroots groups or formally constituted organizations designate a single representative to address the Board.

## **Presentation**

Length. Each speaker's comments will be limited to five (5) minutes. There will be a visual counter graphically illustrating time remaining. The Board will adhere to the clock to maximize the number of participants, and asks all speakers to keep remarks to the allotted time.

Visual aids. A speaker may utilize posters and other visual aids, however the assembly of materials will be counted as part of the five (5) minute allotment. All materials must be promptly removed or disassembled at the conclusion of remarks. Individuals making use of posters as part of their comment should submit a reduced-size copy of such if intended for inclusion in the formal written record.

## **Decorum**

Speakers and participants may not disrupt or otherwise attempt to interfere with any individual's opportunity to speak. Disorderly behavior will not be tolerated. Speakers engaging in personal attacks, using inflammatory language or failing to confine remarks to the identified subject or business at hand will be cautioned by the Chairman and given the opportunity to conclude remarks within the designated time limit.

Disruptions. Any person making offensive, insulting, threatening, intimidating or obscene remarks, or who becomes unruly during the Public Comment Event, will be requested to leave at the direction of any Board member. If necessary, the Board will request the assistance of law enforcement for the purpose of maintaining safety, order and decorum.

Signs, Placards, Banners. For public safety purposes, no signs or placards mounted on sticks, posts, poles or similar structures will be allowed. Non-mounted signs, placards, banners, are allowed, but shall not disrupt meetings or interfere with others' visual rights.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Directions

**Q. How do I get to the Albany Public Comment Event?**

A. Please visit the following webpage for directions:

<http://www.hialbanywolf.com/directions.asp>

**Q. How do I get to the Catskills/Hudson Valley Public Comment Event?**

A. Please visit the following webpage for directions:

<http://www.grandviewevents.com/directions.php#.VBZcMktF3Ro>

**Q. How do I get to the Eastern Southern Tier Public Comment Event?**

A. Please visit the following webpage for directions:

<http://www.thehotelithaca.com/contact.php>

**Q. Will Speakers be provided microphones, or a microphone at a podium?**

A. There will be a wireless microphone on a stand or podium facing the Board at each location.

### Materials Submission Requirements

**Q. I want to submit written comments. Can I do this? How do I do this?**

A. In addition to oral statements, the Board will accept written submissions at the event and up to seven (7) days following the event. Statements received beyond seven (7) days following the event will not be included in the formal record but will be included in the full RFA process record.

All submissions should clearly identify the submitter's name, and affiliation, if any, and be sent to:

Gail P. Thorpe, Supervisor of Contract Administration  
New York State Gaming Commission  
Contracts Office  
One Broadway Center  
Schenectady, New York 12301-7500

Written comments may also be submitted via email to [info@gaming.ny.gov](mailto:info@gaming.ny.gov) or to the applicable RSVP email for each public comment event:

[CapitalRegion@gaming.ny.gov](mailto:CapitalRegion@gaming.ny.gov)

[CatskillsHV@gaming.ny.gov](mailto:CatskillsHV@gaming.ny.gov)

[EasternST@gaming.ny.gov](mailto:EasternST@gaming.ny.gov)

### **Reserved Speaking Segments/Pre-Registration**

**Q. I requested a reserved speaking slot but was not given one. How can I guarantee that my comments will be heard?**

A. All reserved speaking slots (the first 25 minutes of each hour) have been filled. The remaining 35 minutes of each hour are available on the day of the event on a first-come, first-serve basis. As each event is expected to fill up, members of the public are advised to arrive early to sign up. Additionally, please note that the Board is accepting written submissions, as indicated above.

**Q. Can I give my reserved speaking slot to someone else?**

A. Yes, but only in the event the individual seeking to take your spot is affiliated with the same organization as yourself.

**Q. Can you provide a list of those members of the public who have reserved speaking slots?**

A. No.

**Q. Another member of the public and I both have reserved speaking slots at the same event and wish to switch times. Is this allowed?**

A. Yes, but only if both impacted members of the public are present at the “Pre-Registration Reserved Check-In” table at the same time and make the request together.

### **Public Comment Logistics**

**Q. What happens if someone doesn’t use their entire five minute segment?**

A. If someone uses less than their five minute segment, the Board will immediately call the next individual to speak. All speakers should arrive 15 minutes prior to

their scheduled time and not leave the premises until they have made their comment.

The Board will “reset” the start time for speakers at the top of each hour. This will allow the Board to hear as many comments as possible while adhering to the schedule of pre-registered speakers.

**Q. I am an applicant and/or work for an applicant. May I provide comment to the Board?**

A. No. Pursuant to section IV.E of the Request for Applications, Applicants or their representatives are required to attend their respective region’s public comment event. However, they should not expect to address the Board or make public comments.

**Q. During my segment, may I address or question any of the Applicants in attendance at the public comment event?**

A. No. Individuals attending the public comment event cannot pose comments or questions directly to the applicants in attendance.

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