



City of New Bedford
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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Date: November 21, 2014
For Immediate Release

P R E S S R E L E A S E

City of New Bedford Responds To KG Urban Casino Demand

*City objects to KG's demand to endorse waterfront casino concept
and enter host agreement prior to consultant review and impact analysis*

City says KG's tactics jeopardize further consideration of KG's casino concept

New Bedford, Massachusetts—The City of New Bedford responded today to statements made earlier in the week by Andrew M. Stern, managing director and principal of the New York-based KG Urban Enterprises.

In a November 16 Sunday Standard Times story Mr. Stern called for the City of New Bedford to “immediately come to the table and commence Host Community Agreement negotiations with KG Urban Enterprises.”

The City today objected to Mr. Stern’s demand, citing KG’s repeated refusal to fund the outside consultants that assist municipalities considering casino proposals under the Massachusetts Expanded Gaming Act. KG’s demand that the City first endorse its casino concept prior to the City’s location and impact analysis, as well as KG’s refusal to provide the necessary expert funding as required by law, are long-standing issues of contention between the parties.

KG has in the past said it would only permit a limited peer-review of its current facility concept, but has repeatedly refused funding requests for any City study of the Cannon Street location’s suitability or study of the multiple impacts on the City.

In conjunction with today’s announcement, the City’s gaming attorney, Jonathan Silverstein of the Boston-based firm Kopelman and Paige, P.C., sent a sharply worded letter (attached) rebuking the claims of KG Urban’s legal counsel.

Silverstein is one of the state’s leading gaming attorneys, having represented the City of Everett in its successful effort to host a Boston area casino, the Town of Plainville in its successful bid to host the state’s sole slot facility, and numerous other potential host and surrounding communities to proposed gaming establishments.

New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell retained Silverstein to assist the City in pursuing gaming opportunities for New Bedford that meet the specific criteria established by the City earlier this year.