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**From:** Andrew Shaffer <andrewshaffer148@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 6:09 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Community Opposes Proposed Casino at Nittany Mall

Dear College Township Council,

Earlier today a news article was published on PlayPennsylvania.com detailing the delays surrounding the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. This article is available at <https://www.playpennsylvania.com/state-college-casino-delays-licensing-traffic/>. I am also copying the full text of the article below this e-mail so that it can be included in the public record as part of the consent agenda for your next upcoming meeting.

I encourage you to review this article closely, as it provides a status update on the casino's licensing process, and also a pulse check on the attitudes of our community towards the proposed casino.

Please do everything in your power to prevent the proposed casino from being developed at the Nittany Mall. There are at least three significant things that you can still do that would make a meaningful difference with regards to this issue:

1. The Council has the authority to submit a letter to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) informing them of the overwhelming local opposition to the casino, or even asking them to deny the proposed casino's license.
2. The Council has the authority to conduct its own independent impact assessment for the casino and to share the findings of that impact assessment with the PGCB for comparison with the results of the initial impact report. I have already shown that the initial impact report likely underreports the level of crime that the proposed casino would generate by an order of magnitude, and the initial impact report also completely omits the revenue cannibalization that the casino would cause among other local businesses from its economic impact analysis. The proposed casino is projected to draw more revenue to itself each year (i.e. \$116 million) than Penn State's football program (i.e. ~\$100 million), and most of this revenue would be drawn from the local community instead of from tourists from across the country. The economic cannibalization caused by the casino in the surrounding community would therefore likely be extensive. When considering a decision of this magnitude, you have a responsibility to obtain an independent analysis of the proposed casino's impacts to the community instead of relying on the information from an impact report that was prepared specifically to facilitate the approval of the casino's license.
3. The Council has the authority to revoke its prior approval of the casino's land use plan, particularly if that approval was granted on the basis of incomplete or materially inaccurate information. This action by itself would be sufficient to stop the development of the proposed casino.

Additionally, I strongly encourage you to conduct a Town Hall meeting to discuss the community's concerns about the proposed casino well before the PGCB hears oral arguments regarding the proposed casino's license on October 19th. Such a meeting would give your constituents the opportunity to make their concerns heard, and it would also provide you with the opportunity to respond to those concerns directly. If the casino's development is approved, it will be here in our community for a very long time, and your constituents who are concerned about the harms that the casino would cause are not going to forget about it once a decision about the casino's license has been made. If you do not provide your constituents with an opportunity to engage with you

about the casino while there is still time for the Council to make a difference on this issue, they will have no recourse but to make their voices heard at the ballot box.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew Shaffer

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## State College Casino Dealing With Various Reasons For Delay

Written By [Erin Flynn Jay](#) on August 15, 2022

The delay on the **proposed State College mini-casino near Penn State** is primarily due to a **lawsuit** by Stadium Casino RE, LLC (owned by Cordish Companies) **against Ira Lubert** and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. This lawsuit alleges that Lubert's bid for a casino license should be **disqualified** because he partnered with other people and groups who were not eligible to participate in the casino license bidding process. Oral arguments in the lawsuit were heard in the Commonwealth Court on March 7. **The Court has yet to rule on this case.**

The PGCB tentatively plans to hear arguments regarding the licensing of the proposed **Nittany Mall mini-casino** at its meeting on **October 19, 2022**. State regulators will likely want some time to deliberate on the arguments that are presented at this meeting before voting on the proposed casino's license. It is most likely that they will vote on the license no earlier than their following meeting on **November 16, 2022**.

If the PGCB approves the casino's license, they will offend the majority of the State College community. If they deny the casino's license, they will offend **Ira Lubert** and his business associates.

### Organizers against the State College speak out

**Andrew Shaffer**, a State College resident, is an **organizer fighting to stop** the casino from getting approval.

“If the PGCB makes a decision and the court subsequently finds Ira Lubert's bid to be ineligible, then the PGCB would have upset somebody unnecessarily,” Shaffer told *PlayPennsylvania*.

“Conversely, if the PGCB delays making a decision about the license until after the court case has been decided and the court finds Ira Lubert's bid to be ineligible, then the PGCB would not have to upset anyone because they would no longer have to make any decision about the license at all.”

### Traffic study for State College casino ordered

The PGCB [ordered a comprehensive traffic study](#) to be conducted on the [three PA mini-casinos](#) that are already open to better evaluate the accuracy of the traffic study for the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. The time required to complete this study has **extended the timeline** for the review of the proposed casino's license.

During a [WPSU interview on December 17, 2021](#), PGCB representative **Doug Harbach** said the board was reviewing feedback that is sent in regarding the proposed casino to determine what is in the best interest of both the local community and also of the Commonwealth.

## Penn State comments on proposed casino

**Penn State University** issued this statement for *PlayPennsylvania*:

“Decisions on casino locations reside with local municipalities and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, which oversees this legal activity for the Commonwealth. As with other business endeavors, there are established mechanisms, practices and public input processes in place to weigh the benefits and the challenges of any such requests, and we believe these demonstrated processes are the appropriate course to take.”

Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller attorney Jason Levine who is representing **Stadium Casino RE, LLC** **did not return** a request for comment.

## Community feedback mostly opposes State College casino

The **community feedback** submitted to state regulators is documented on the PGCB’s website, the College Township website, and on [SayNoCasino.org](#).

Shaffer said messages opposing the casino outnumber messages in support by a ratio of nearly 50 to 1.

“This feedback clearly demonstrates that the community overwhelmingly opposes the development of the casino,” said Shaffer. “The extensive research and the 63 letters to the editor opposing the casino documented on the Saynocasino’s website categorically refute every argument that we have seen to support the casino’s development. They also provide additional reasons why the proposed casino would be very destructive to both Penn State and the State College community.”

Shaffer said the PGCB should be wise enough to recognize that they have already approved enough casinos throughout Pennsylvania to saturate the state’s gambling market. Opening another new casino in State College would primarily cannibalize the revenue of existing PA casinos without adding meaningfully to the state’s take of gambling taxes.

Shaffer said:

“Beyond increasing gambling addiction, crime, and poverty in Central Pennsylvania without providing any significant financial benefit to the state, adding another casino to an already saturated market would significantly reduce the individual profitability of each of Pennsylvania’s other casinos. This would make it more difficult for these other casinos to continue paying taxes while also covering their operating expenses.”

**Bally’s Corporation**, the casino operator proposing to develop the casino at the Nittany Mall, has **already sued the host municipalities** of its flagship casinos in Rhode Island. Bally’s [claimed that COVID-mandated shutdowns](#) severely limited business and they were over-assessed on taxes.

## Will local opposition stop State College casino?

Gambling expansion law in PA opened the door for mini-casinos in 2017.

Currently, there are three mini-casinos in PA:

- Live! Casino Pittsburgh
- Hollywood Casino York
- Hollywood Casino Morgantown

[Parx's mini-casino in Shippensburg](#) is scheduled to open in fall 2022.

Since then, there have been various causes for delays and cancellations for PA mini casinos. However, local opposition has **not prevented PA mini-casinos from opening.**

The three new mini-casinos contributed to a **record-breaking year for the gambling industry** in Pennsylvania. Revenue for all forms of gambling in Pennsylvania reached over **\$5 billion** for FY 2021/22. It marks the first time revenue eclipsed \$5 billion for gaming in PA and it far surpassed last year's record of \$3.8 billion.

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**From:** Polly Dunn <dunnpolly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino permission from Council

You don't often get email from dunnpolly@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council Members,

It is encouraging to hear that you are reconsidering the permission to build a casino in the township. I hope you will hear from your solicitor that you can represent the feelings of your constituents in opposing the casino.

A casino poses a challenge to all young, college-age students in our area, promoting irresponsible gambling to accompany already irresponsible drinking that pervades the community.

We also don't need to attract visitors from outside the area for the purpose of gambling. It detracts from the growth in our community and increases security risks to the participants as well as the neighbors.

Thank you for reconsidering your approval of the casino.

Polly Dunn  
212 E Irvin Avenue

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**From:** Clark, Paul <pclark@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:57 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I am writing to oppose the proposed casino at the SC Mall

You don't often get email from pclark@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to oppose the proposed casino at the SC Mall. I oppose the casinos for many reasons. But in general ,my opposition is because of the potential damage it will do to people who will gamble compulsively. Think about the potential problems with a casino in a town with 48,000 undergraduates. Many of them are 21 or older. Think of the bad decisions many of those students will make. The results might have a very negative impact on their future.

We have many wonderful things to offer in State College. Will gambling really add anything positive to our community or will it only make a small number of people more wealthy by preying on people's weaknesses?

Please take whatever steps are necessary to oppose the casino. For the community's sake.

Paul Clark

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**From:** Houtz, Cristina M <cmh98@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Oppose Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from cmh98@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please oppose any sort of casino at the Nittany Mall and in our immediate area. A casino in our area will be a detriment to Happy Valley, our way of life, our commitment to students and the values of Penn State University, and our sense of community. Many might find a casino “fun” but in our county it can only bring trouble.

Thank you,

Cristina M. Houtz (*she, her*)

Administrative Coordinator and Assistant to the Senior Director, Development and Alumni Relations

Smeal College of Business

209J Business Building

University Park, PA 16802

W: 814.863.4955 C: 949.291.0515 E: [cmh98@psu.edu](mailto:cmh98@psu.edu)

[www.smeal.psu.edu](http://www.smeal.psu.edu)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** pris shea <prishome@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 10:08 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** NO TO THE CASINO

You don't often get email from prishome@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I wish to add my voice to the growing list of local taxpayers/voters who do not support the application for a casino to be built in Centre County.

Sometimes it takes time for citizens to become alarmed about what has been going on with our government until the 'deal is practically done' but late to the party does not mean we are not sincere. It is a lack of awareness of exactly what the local elected officials have actually done to us. We voters trust you to have better values.

**NO TO THE CASINO.**

Pris Shea  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Evensen, Dorothy H <dhd2@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 11:24 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** no to casino near State College

You don't often get email from dhd2@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to insinuating a casino near State College.

As a founding member of Penn State's Collegiate Recovery Community and a person in long-term recovery, I am very aware of the danger of gambling as a primary or co-addiction. It is also well-documented that in rural areas, those least able to afford even the basics of living are seduced by gambling and more subject to it becoming an addiction.

The argument that a casino will bring jobs to an area is specious and has been refuted by numerous research studies.

Finally, I'm suspicious that one of the forces behind this effort is Tom Marino, who gave Centre County the "gift" of Fred Keller, an incompetent representative who consistently votes against the interests of our community.

As members of College Township Council you are stewards of our safety – there is nothing safe about a casino.

Dorothy Evensen  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Stuchul, Dana Lynn <dls268@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 12:15 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from dls268@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello. I am nearly a 25 yr. dweller of Centre County (both Bellefonte and State College Borough). I have numerous friends in College Township (ALL who oppose the Nittany Mall Casino). In truth, I know of NO ONE who supports the casino, and certainly, NO RATIONAL, COMMUNITY-CENTERED argument in favor of this casino. I believe that it will be a blight on this region, and if built, a monument to short-sighted, small-minded and (dare I say) delusional thought.

Please please do NOT allow the construction of this proposed monstrosity.

Gratefully,  
dana

Dana L. Stuchul  
Department of Curriculum & Instruction  
College of Education  
150A Chambers Building  
Penn State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-360-1165

Co-editor (w/ Madhu Suri Prakash),  
The International Journal of Illich Studies  
<http://journals.psu.edu/illichstudies>

The Pennsylvania State University campuses are located on the original homelands of the Erie, Haudenosaunee (Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Mohawk, and Tuscarora), Lenape (Delaware Nation, Delaware Tribe, Stockbridge-Munsee), Shawnee (Absentee, Eastern, and Oklahoma), Susquehannock, and Wahzhazhe (Osage) Nations. As a land grant institution, we acknowledge and honor the traditional caretakers of these lands and strive to understand and model their responsible stewardship. We also acknowledge the longer history of these lands and our place in that history.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** John o'donnell <johnodonnell45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 8:46 PM  
**To:** AndrewShaffer148@gmail.com; Louis.Glantz@gmail.com; CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Fwd: addiction

You don't often get email from johnodonnell45@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** John o'donnell <[johnodonnell45@gmail.com](mailto:johnodonnell45@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 4, 2021 at 12:13 PM  
**Subject:** addiction  
**To:** [boardclerk@pa.gov](mailto:boardclerk@pa.gov) <[boardclerk@pa.gov](mailto:boardclerk@pa.gov)>  
**CC:** John o'donnell <[johnodonnell45@gmail.com](mailto:johnodonnell45@gmail.com)>

When I was young there was Atlantic City or Las Vegas you could visit or you could hand your money to the neighborhood bookie. Now you have internet gambling on anything you can imagine and you can go to the Poconos or wherever to lose your money. So now we miss a payment or two, can't afford our children's dental work or dance class. Or maybe we just take funds from our retirement or education savings.

Or maybe we completely lose it. And screw up our lives. And our loved ones lives.

The very first notice on your site is a warning about addiction and ways to overcome addiction. Did you miss the example of the drug industry as the offered up more and more powerful and addictive drugs while more and more unsuspecting people became addicted and ended up with a screwed up life? It was obvious from the beginning of legalized gambling in Pennsylvania with it's deceptive advertising (remember view of every other house a winner) and cutesy groundhog that more and more and more innocent folks will be hooked. And you will make more money. And people will suffer and children will suffer. Are you going to keep track of the casualties? How do you define the individuals loss? How does that compare with the profit? Are you keeping fingers crossed that these added casualties don't include totally decimated and terminated lives.

College Township, Penn State, State College, Bellefonte, Clinton County (where I'm from) and the surrounding areas do not need a casino. We are already hooked. We do not need to be gaffed, landed and gutted

Very Sincerely, John O'Donnell

PS Yes, the horse has left the barn, but there' still a filly and a colt with a chance.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Nathan Tack <nathanjtack@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:03 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition To a Casino in College Township

You don't often get email from nathanjtack@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

My name is Nathan Tack. I have been a resident of the State College, PA area since 2007 and am a current Penn State student.

I am writing to indicate my strong opposition to the development of the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. Gambling among college students nationwide is on the rise and bringing a casino to State College would negatively impact the ambience of the town. Some studies (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17882602/>) indicate that 23% of college students already gamble online. Applying those statistics to the Penn State University Park student body (~40k students), the Nittany Mall Casino could produce 9,345 college gamblers in the town of State College. For that calculation, statistics from the Penn State academic year 2019-2020 were used. Scroll to the section titled "Penn State Student Body Statistics": <https://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/>.

Please understand that student gamblers do not make reputable college students. I speak for myself and the hundreds of students I have met on campus: college education is a time sink purposed to invest in the future. Gambling is also a time sink, but not a way to prepare for the future. A college student cannot sustain multiple, purposefully contradictory time sinks in the years they spend here.

My opposition to this proposed casino license represents myself, the State College community, and the University Park student community. I, as one of your constituents, urge you to oppose any development of a casino in State College and the college township.

Thank you for your service to the constituents of the college township.

Respectfully,  
Nathan Tack

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** barbara perkons <rbcurator@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:57 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please NO casino !

You don't often get email from rbcurator@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Respected Council members,  
Please don't allow the casino to be placed in our community!  
I was living in New Jersey when the first casinos in Atlantic City were being discussed and voted on. This Nittany Mall proposal is so reminiscent of that time.  
At that time Atlantic City was still a family vacation destination, although the old attractions - the Steel Pier and boardwalk were becoming worn.  
The promise of the casinos were a revitalized vacation spot and lots of jobs and reconstruction. We've driven through Atlantic City since the casinos took over, and the city has suffered. True, there's new construction and many more jobs, but the city and surrounding area have become dirty and sleazy, not the place to raise or take a family.  
I'm a grandmother; my children and grandchildren live and work and go to school here in State College.  
Please don't allow the lure of "easy money" cause you to gamble with our community and our futures.  
  
And it's not just our family's futures; our university students have enough distractions, without adding gambling addictions to the list.  
Please vote NO!

- Barbara Perkons

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**From:** Clark(she/her), Darlene <dac128@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** proposed casino

You don't often get email from dac128@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am so disappointed with your lack of creativity and unresponsiveness to constituents concerns regarding the proposed casino. Having just returned from a conference in Atlantic City, I can attest to what happens to a town/city that has a casino--homelessness and many folks in the casino who don't look like they have any money to spend. And folks using the casino as a place to rest/sleep. And smokers galore within the casino. It was a very disturbing sight. Please do everything in your power to stop the proposed casino from being developed.

*Darlene Clark*  
she/her

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**From:** Randy Hudson <grhudsonjr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 1:44 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino

You don't often get email from grhudsonjr@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members:

Early in her marriage, a cousin lost her beloved husband, Danny, to gambling addiction. His illness resulted in heartbreak, divorce, financial ruin and Danny's early death. One anecdote doesn't prove a rule. But we challenge anyone to find stories of people's lives saved, let alone uplifted, by gambling.

Centre Region values good-paying jobs. A few casino employees earn solid incomes, but most are service workers earning around minimum wage. The big money goes out of College Township, into the owner's pocket. Our region values wholesome recreation. Casino recreation comes at a cost to families and the host communities. And stories similar to ours are terribly common.

Since College Township's inexplicable decision to set this casino in motion, public sentiment has mirrored the value of a casino here. It's negative. Centre Region polling, letters and petition signatures are running over 9:1 against.

The Nittany Mall will find better tenants, as is happening at similar malls around the country. Business and community leaders are actively planning a better future for the Mall: a future with strong local roots. If PSU Trustee Ira Lubert needs a place to develop a casino, we suggest his own community.

Help us continue to be proud of our region. There may have been reasons to explore the development of this project. But surely, having educated yourselves about the negative impacts of casinos, and having heard from the Township's and the Region's residents, you're now ready to let this go, and find healthier ways to grow our community.

Thank you,

G. Randolph Hudson  
Cynthia Nixon-Hudson

427 S Nixon Road  
State College PA 16801

[hudsonarchdesign.com](http://hudsonarchdesign.com)

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**From:** Mardi Frye <mardifrye@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:35 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino

You don't often get email from mardifrye@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing this email to share my opposition to the proposed casino in College Township and to request that the casino's license be denied. Those who support this casino **say that it would bring the money that gamblers spend elsewhere back into our own community.** However, although a local casino would create some jobs and pay some taxes to the College Township government, most of the money that it would take would still leave our community in the form of state taxes and profit to the casino's owners.

I think you should rescind the prior approval for the casino's land use plan as well as the decision to allow a casino to be developed within College Township. If you need to get more public input, you may want to consider conducting an independent impact study about the casino and then share the findings of that study with the PGCB.

Thank you for reading this email and considering my request,

Mardi Frye

**From:** Christy LaForce <cl4s@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:52 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino

[You don't often get email from cl4s@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I do not want to have a casino so near to my home. Gambling addiction is a real problem and I have first hand experience with my brother in law who almost destroyed his family and lost his home to it. Only a cash in flow from his wife's father saved them. Please do not approve this casino

Thank you,

Christy LaForce

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Leann Diederich <leann.j.terry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino

You don't often get email from leann.j.terry@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Township Council,

I am writing to register my strong opposition to the development of a casino at Nittany Mall. It will have a detrimental influence on our community's well being, mental health, and contribute to addiction and impulse control problems in our vulnerable populations.

I live in Bellefonte, drive by Nittany Mall daily to go to work in Boalsburg, and take my daughter to daycare in State College. In addition to the mental health impact (I'm a psychologist and work with clients in the township) it would also have an impact on the traffic through a commuter area.

Please show your respect for the community's wishes and deny the casino's development.

Kind regards,  
Leann

Leann Terry Diederich, PhD

## Jennifer Snyder

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**From:** James Pflumm <jim.pflumm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 12:22 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please - No Casino In State College

You don't often get email from jim.pflumm@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please do all in your power to stop the Casino.

The State College area is a beautiful place to live. It just doesn't make sense to risk the damage it could cause.

- Gambling addiction
- Students spending time away from studies
- Crime to finance gambling addiction
- Atlantic City problems (poverty, street people, slums)
- Family financial problems

Thank you,  
James Pflumm  
3291 Shellers Bend  
Condo 741  
State College. 16801  
814-644-5128

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Bill Saxton <wjs9psu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; CTCouncil  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from wjs9psu@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

I wanted to write and hope to discourage the approval of the casino plan for College Township. We have lived here in Penn Hills, one mile from Nittany Mall, for 39 years and do not want that kind of business here, no matter how much revenue it brings in! The negative consequences for our community of having it here will outweigh any benefit. Consider the opportunities for organized criminal activity that have been a common result of casinos, and the increased need of, and costs for, police and social services for those who become addicted to the casino lifestyle and who then become increasingly strapped financially.

Thanks for listening!

Bill Saxton, 2429 Lexington Circle

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Peggy Myers <peggymp1950@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 9:13 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from peggymp1950@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members,

We are opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall for a variety of reasons. Penn State students who lack mature judgment may develop lifelong gambling addictions. Too often, folks who can least afford to gamble are those who do. This can result in destroyed families and lives. Every place at the mall should be family friendly, and that definitely excludes a casino.

Although we don't live in College Township, we have a vested interest in it as our daughter, son-in-law and young grandchildren live in College Township. Also, we shop at the mall and care what goes into it. How about ideas that would enhance the community like a roller skating rink or an indoor mini-golf site?

There are other ways for College township to earn taxes that are not destructive to people's lives.

Thank you for your consideration of our input.

Don and Peggy Myers  
Spring Mills

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Lidong Luo <luolidong1108@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:10 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Oppose the Casino in Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from luolidong1108@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern,

We live and work in State College. We feel shocked to learn that there is a possibility to open a casino in our area.

State College is a city that has a famous university - Pennsylvania State University. It has the responsibility to teach young students knowledge, and the cutting edge technology, not to teach them the way how to gamble.

If the casino is built, how to prevent the addiction that the university students might have and quit their study?

If the casino is built, will more police force be hired to protect the safety of the city? In these pandemic years, the safety problem is getting worse and worse.

In the winter season, State College needs plenty of space for indoor activities, such as indoor tennis court, badminton court, dancing rooms, swimming pools, etc. Why do we build a casino to let people face machines instead of playing with friends and family?

We moved to State College because Penn State is a famous university and we would like to study here, and we chose to stay in State College after graduation because it is on the top list of Safe and Happy towns.

When a casino is built, safety is threatened and we don't know how to keep our kids from the temptation. State College will no longer attract young parents to move in.

Please take our opinion into consideration. We really think it's a bad idea to open a casino in State College. Please let it remain a clear and beautiful college town.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Zhao's family

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**From:** Beth Dripps <drippse@dm.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:12 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from drippse@dm.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members,

At your August 4th meeting, you acknowledged the broad feedback from our community opposing a casino at the Nittany Mall. However, you took no action to uphold the community's feedback that we do not want a casino to come here! Please take concrete action to represent the concerns of our community by

1. Sending a letter to the PGCB requesting that the PGCB deny the proposed casino's license; and
2. Denying your prior approval of the casino's land use plans on the basis of new information that has come to light since that prior approval was granted.

Your action on these matters will demonstrate your responsiveness to community opposition to this project.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Sincerely,  
Beth Dripps  
830 Wintergreen Circle  
State College, PA 16801

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**From:** Elizabeth Donovan <pinkydonovan35@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 2:00 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from pinkydonovan35@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

State College does not need to introduce Gambling within its boundaries!

There are many other Choices for entertainment and too few cures for gambling addiction. Please vote against this plan for the good of Centre County.

Elizabeth Donovan, Bellefonte.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Beth <beth.eckert@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:41 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition - Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from beth.eckert@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Dear College Township Council,**

As a 30+ year resident of the Centre Region, I'm writing to the Council to express my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I feel strongly that this type of "entertainment" is not needed and wanted in this community. There are plenty of casinos within a 2-3 hour drive of the State College area that gaming enthusiasts can visit. (needless to mention all of the on-line gambling options) We truly do not need the extra stress on our community that a casino brings to our residents and families.

Please request that Solicitor Louis Glantz ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what the Township's options are at this point, and that he ask specifically whether College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction.

I feel like we are selling our Happy Valley soul out by allowing a casino into our community.

Thank you for your time and all that you do for College Township.

Respectfully,  
Beth A. Eckert  
Harris Township

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Laurie L. Mulvey <laurielmulvey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:55 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Against the Casino

You don't often get email from laurielmulvey@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm not going to make any arguments. You've probably heard all of them. I am just taking time at the busiest moment of my life to let you know how much I am AGAINST this. Please act to put a stop to downgrading this community.

-----  
**Laurie L. Mulvey, MSW, PhD**  
Associate Clinical Professor in Sociology  
Director, [World in Conversation](#)

[College of the Liberal Arts](#)

The Pennsylvania State University  
107 Pond Lab | University Park, PA 16802  
[laurielmulvey@psu.edu](mailto:laurielmulvey@psu.edu) | 814-865-5692

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Carol Hine <cah214@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 10:53 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** CASINO proposal

You don't often get email from cah214@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I write to voice strong opposition to this proposed casino.

Please NOTE: This email may well represent, at minimum, two dozen neighbors, friends and colleagues.....  
I've inquired among many acquaintances over many months, I've yet to find a single Centre County resident who is in favor of this casino.

I urge you to do all you can to prevent this casino from becoming a whopping huge negative force in our community.

Thank you,  
Carol Hine  
214 Hartswick Avenue  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Chase Childs <childsc01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:08 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** No to Proposed Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from childsc01@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council and Dear Mr. Louis Glantz,

I urge you to oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. This proposed casino would be a detriment to the immediate neighborhood and to the greater State College area as well.

Please also consider the significant community opposition to this proposed project and do not support this project going forward.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Chase Childs

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Peggy Terry <peggy.terry@frontier.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino opposition

You don't often get email from peggy.terry@frontier.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I live in Bellefonte and cannot state my opposition to this proposed casino strongly enough. It is not the sort of business that benefits anyone except the owners and brings a plethora of problems that public entities have to deal with and spend hard-earned taxpayer dollars on. Vote NO on this!  
Margaret Terry

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Karsten, Heather D <hdk3@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 9:13 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please oppose the proposed Casino

You don't often get email from hdk3@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello College Township Council,

I am a faculty member in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to develop a Casino at the Nittany Mall. Research has shown that many people in the community of casinos suffer very negative economic, personal and social consequences. I am very concerned that many Penn State students and people of all ages and socio-economic status in the larger community will suffer significant economic and therefore mental stress, and develop gambling addictions. Gambling addictions have multiple harmful impacts on individuals and their families, and will result in significant harm to the economic, crime and social health of the community.

It is also likely that the Casino will deter students and prospective faculty and staff from coming to Penn State as well as other employers in the region. These institutions are critical to the economic activity and social health in the region. Although some claim a casino will bring jobs and economic activity; the harmful consequences will be wide reaching and many will suffer many negative impacts that can last a lifetime and for generations to come.

Please do NOT approve the development of a Casino at the Nittany Mall.

Sincerely,  
Heather Karsten

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Victoria Trunnell <trunnell11@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from trunnell11@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

Good morning. As a registered voter living in Patton Township, I'd like to voice my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall casino. As stated in numerous local articles, once the "glamor" of the casino wears off, participation will dwindle down and likely not bring in the type of crowd we want in our area. Numerous online reviews of the new Hollywood Casino in York are showing people talking about how expensive it is, the smoke, and getting cut off when they were winning. None which relate to a great customer experience.

I've read that a gambling addiction doubles for people who live within 10 miles of a casino. While casinos can bring a level of economy benefits to the area, no one likes to discuss the negative effects. Historic data shows evidence of increased crime and family problems. It also supports that property prices is negative (who wants to live close a casino and all the traffic).

I don't believe bringing in a casino is the best use of the mall space, though I understand the need to fill empty spaces. Perhaps we could revisit other uses that are less destructive to the area.

Thank you for your time.

Vickie Trunnell  
246 Wooded Way  
State College, PA 16803

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**From:** MJ <mgreyghost@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:44 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Help stop a bad idea-a casino in our town

[You don't often get email from mgreyghost@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Council Members,

In light of more information on how casinos are a detriment to communities, PLEASE take back your previous permission to allow a casino in College Township.

It may help if you also let the PA Gaming board that there is strong community opposition and they should not license this venture.

While I am not a resident of College Township, my family feels that we are all in this together. We are one community who shop and work in the whole area. Please do not be a part of spoiling our safe, fairly wholesome area.

I, too, am sad that the Nittany Mall is not a successful shopping mall but that is true of malls all over. I am sure a much better solution can be found to use this area productively.

Mary Jane Stout  
603 Old Farm Lane  
State College, PA  
16803

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**From:** Leon, Georgina <gxl2@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 3:03 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Jeff Stover  
**Subject:** proposed casino

You don't often get email from gxl2@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Several weeks ago we wrote to four officials at Bally's Corp. to state our vehement opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. We realize that the only thing that will sway the powers that be is their return on investment -- no amount of public pleading about intangibles like quality of life will make a bit of difference. But you, at the local level, have the ability to prevail upon Solicitor [Jeff Stover](#) to ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what the Township's options are at this point. Specifically, can College Township rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction?

As 41-year residents of Centre County and retired staff and faculty members of Penn State, we are deeply involved in the life of this community -- both in our volunteer work and our many years of working at the University. We want only the best for this community and are adamant that a casino would devalue both the quality of life as well as the disappoint the (dubious) fiscal expectations of College township.

Sincerely,  
Gina & Don Leon  
527 Orlando Ave.  
State College, PA 16803

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Joyce Hanscom <hanscomjoyce@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:51 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the intended Casino in the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from hanscomjoyce@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi

As you know, many of us oppose the casino at the Nittany Mall because it will undermine our community, destroy lives through addiction, increase crime to pay off gambling debts, and destroy families. Casinos do not encourage a civic spirit either.

Please oppose the Cassino proposal.

Thank you,

Joyce Hanscom  
Julian, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Anne Bastian <ahbastian@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:52 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I Oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from ahbastian@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council and Township Solicitor,

As a former resident of College Township and a current resident of Ferguson Township, I strongly oppose the idea of a casino at the Nittany Mall or anywhere in Happy Valley. It makes no sense to me why you would consider a casino and the harm it would bring to the residents in this area.

Studies have shown that young people are much more susceptible to become addicted to gambling. Parents do not send their children to Penn State to have them become addicted to gambling at a local casino. I know gambling is available online but somehow I think the presence of a physical building would invite students and their friends to visit who may not necessarily think of gambling online.

A casino DOES NOT represent the interests of the majority of the people in this area and DOES NOT align with our family friendly and educationally focused town.

I beg of you to please do what you can to stop the proposed Casino.

Respectfully,  
Anne Bastian  
1767 Cambridge Drive  
State College, PA 16803

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Seth Gardner <smg1996@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 11:05 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from smg1996@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hey!

I am a "townie" of State College and this community matters a lot to me. Besides Penn State, State College has a lot to offer between local crafts people, the beautiful outdoors, and business but a casino is something I do NOT want to see added to that list. I know that a lot of people think this will be a great source of income but people who are visiting are not here to gamble they are here to see a football game or visit family! The people who will come to town to gamble will be unsavory characters. Now, this town has waited for decades to build the community a skatepark and after much hard work by community members it is happening, why don't we find something that would better suit our needs instead of trying to please outsiders?

Thank you,  
Seth Gardner

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Rose, Bill <bmr1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Andrew Shaffer; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Firmly opposed to Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from bmr1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

I want to join the growing numbers in Happy Valley to voice my opposition to the development of a casino in the Nittany Mall in State College, Pennsylvania. I can scarcely conceive of anything less appropriate, more detrimental, and entirely out of keeping with the qualities and values that have attracted so many to this area in the first place.

I am a lifelong resident of Pennsylvania and have been proud to call Pleasant Gap my home for the last 26 years. I have been employed as an Instructional Designer on the staff of The Pennsylvania State University for 28 years, and my two adult children are Penn State students. We wouldn't live anywhere else.

The Nittany Mall is a scant four miles from our home. I drive by it at least once and often multiple times per day.

Please do not bring a casino here. Whatever slight benefits obtained are **vastly** outweighed by the negatives:

- Should we enable and even actively foster gambling and gambling addiction, an enterprise that at its core preys upon the desperate (and foolish) by deceiving them and taking their money? NO.
- Should we attract a stream of strangers to our area, who care nothing for us or our quality of life, who may increase local crime, drug and alcohol abuse, etc.? NO.
- Do we want to move in any direction that begins to turn Happy Valley into Seedy Valley? NO.
- Are we really so desperate to revitalize the mall that we would unthinkingly welcome a casino instead of actively considering better options without all these downsides? I hope not.
- Would we be PROUD of a casino? I know I wouldn't.
- Not to mention the billboards, the advertising, the traffic impacts.

Our area is highly and uniquely beautiful, and the culture and values of the people here are the reason why so many (including many who never intended to stay or return) find the allure of Happy Valley irresistible. Why on earth would we welcome an eyesore, a blemish, and a predatory entity like a CASINO?! Of all places, what on earth would THAT be doing here?! No. Absolutely NO.

Thank you,

Bill Rose

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** paul harrison <nrh482@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 2:20 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from nrh482@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino because it will take money from many who need all their resources for daily living, and for some, money needed for education.

It would add an unsavory flavor to our community, which is committed to a healthy, wholesome lifestyle.

I have lived in State College since my husband and I came here in 1963.

I hope the vote is "No" regarding the Nittany Mall Casino.

Thank you,

Nancy Harrison

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Chris Paveglio <chris@paveglio.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 9:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Planned casino

[You don't often get email from chris@paveglio.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to the planned casino. Casinos have a poor track record of beneficial economic growth. They only benefit their owners, and though they create some jobs, they are not high paying tech jobs but simple service jobs. State College area will be ill equipped to deal with poverty or gambling addictions that may occur from it being in town. College students may get themselves into debt easily, or wealthy students spend money there but not really "bring new economic activity" to the region.

If you visit Atlantic City you will see just a 2 blocks away from the casino district is extreme poverty/slum housing. I don't want that to happen to our city.

Chris Paveglio  
chris@paveglio.com  


Concerned resident in SC Borough

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Alicia Hughes <alicat0767@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** No to the Nittany Mall casino

[You don't often get email from alicat0767@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

To Whom it May concern,

I am writing to let you know that my family, neighbors, and myself OPPOSE the plan for a casino at the Nittany Mall!!  
The casino goes against everything this community stands for: a family town with an emphasis on education and neighbors!

I have experience with living in an area where a casino was and it was financially and mentally devastating to my family!  
Please, please, please say NO to this casino!

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, Alicia Hughes

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** David <davidwernersc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:51 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from davidwernersc@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I would like to register my opinion against the casino. I think it is a very bad idea for the region in regard to any positive benefit economically and I also think it is very bad from the standpoint of creating a trap financially for the most vulnerable in our society

I was a township supervisor in Ferguson for two terms in the 1980s. I understand the complexities of some of the decisions that have to be made. I was very opposed to creating a mall on the area that eventually became the Tudek park. The park is a great benefit to the community and if the mall were there it would now be an empty eyesore.

I realize that you would like to create a profit center in the Nitney Mall. However in the long run this will be a disaster. Something that would be beneficial for the whole community is the object here and not something that benefits only a select few.

Thank you. David Werner M D  
Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Mary Carol Frier <marycarolfrier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino at Nittany Mall?

You don't often get email from marycarolfrier@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

No way! College Township Council Members should pursue any available options to stop the development of the proposed casino. Why? Here are the reasons:

1. This is a VICE industry that has no place in our community.
2. The casino fosters illegal activities, such as burglary, addiction, and battery. These negative behaviors would require increased police and social services, which we the taxpayers would have to underwrite. This scenario is patently unfair to those who oppose the casino! Make the casino pay for the social problems exacerbated by the casino!
3. The downside of the behaviors mentioned above could translate into parents not wanting their young adults to attend Penn State's main campus. It could also generally negatively impact the public's positive idea that State College is a desirable place to live and work.

**STOP the casino! Find a Community-Building activity for the Nittany Mall area!**

Mary Carol Frier

--

Mary Carol Frier, CCA, CA  
151 Neff Road, Centre Hall, PA 16828  
814 777 5828

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Beth Richards <bethkbb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:17 PM  
**To:** Louis Glantz  
**Cc:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** The Casino

You don't often get email from bethkbb@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Louis,  
I wanted to take a moment and send you an email expressing my strong opposition to the casino proposed in College Township.  
You are local and I bet you love this town like many of us do.  
Please act as aggressively as possible to help stop the casino development and keep Happy Valley happy.  
State College is a special place, we enjoy a calm, peaceful, pleasant and safe environment, it feels like we live in a bubble. Let's keep it that way.  
Thank you for your advocacy and your time Louis.  
B

BETH RICHARDS | c 814.360.4045 | [bethkbb@gmail.com](mailto:bethkbb@gmail.com)

beth richards | sandy stover group  
2300 s atherton street | state college | pa | 16801  
p 814.234.4000 x 3128  
w [beth richards | sandy stover group](#)

[Consumer Notice](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Amy Cooper <aims\_cooper@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:57 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposition to Casino

You don't often get email from aims\_cooper@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to register my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I cannot imagine any good coming from a casino in a college town.. Additionally, any economic benefit of the proposed casino will be offset by increases in crime, poverty, and addiction. Please do not allow our community to go down this road.

Thanks,  
Amy White

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kara D <karadee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I am against the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from karadee@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I want to express my opposition to the casino at the Nittany Mall. I have lived and owned a home in College Township approximately one mile from the Nittany Mall since 2010. I have lived in Centre County most of my life. I'm also Penn State alumni (1998). A casino will not bring the economic or cultural changes that we desire and need. It is more likely to be an economic drain on the area, a strain on emergency and police services, and will give the area an unbecoming feel. Please do whatever you can to prevent it from opening here.

Thank you,  
Kara Dixon

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** tadpoleroad <tadpoleroad@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:23 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Proposed casino

You don't often get email from tadpoleroad@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

My wife Ann and I are very much opposed to the casino. Some years ago we had a condo in Ocean City NJ. During the winter months we rented it to help cover the mortgage. Our renters were workers from the casinos in Atlantic City and they were terrible tenants. It's quite obvious that casinos attract a disturbing segment of society and also inevitably result in devastating gambling addiction. There are already enough casinos with these problems elsewhere so we certainly don't need any more and we sure don't want one here.

Bob and Ann Shepherd  
State College

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10e, an AT&T 5s and Evolution capable smartphone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Hanley, Elizabeth Ann <eah3@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 3:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** CASINO OBJECTIONS!

You don't often get email from eah3@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

As a College Township resident since 1977 (and State College resident from 1964-77), I am vehemently opposed to the addition of a Casino in our Township!

Why? There are many reasons:

1. Absolutely no need for gambling In this area. Let those interested enjoy Atlantic City, Las Vegas, and other venues!
2. Traffic, of course, would most probably increase, with out-of-towners who are excited the prospect of gambling in this area! And what about CRIME? 😞
3. Students would be fascinated with the idea of 'playing' slot machines, card games, etc. and this could lead to addiction, loss of personal/family money, and grave personal problems.
4. With the additional sale of alcohol at Beaver Stadium as a real possibility, this only adds to the potential for crime, more accidents, and more addictions in our area. When will that stop? Why add a casino to the list of more frequent crime, etc.?
5. Personally, I live only 5 minutes away from the Nittany Mall and would hate to travel near there if a casino is imminent and actually becomes part of the Mall!
6. Lastly, Money seems to drive everything today. It was not always like that. Even the University where I thoroughly loved my teaching there for 40 ½ years, has changed. Greed is the evil word today, and it seems that nothing stops Greed! I do sincerely hope that Greed is not a part of my College Township Council's plan.....

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Hanley

**"Be fruitful every day..." IOA President Nikolaos NisGsiotis, Ancient Olympia, Greece 1986**

Elizabeth A. Hanley  
Assoc. Prof. Emerita Kinesiology, Penn State University  
HOME: 114 Rainlo St., State College, PA 16801-7068 ([eah3@psu.edu](mailto:eah3@psu.edu))  
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kristen Boccumini <kristenboocc@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 12:27 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the proposed casino in Nittany Mall

Good Morning,

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed casino at Nittany Mall, or anywhere in College Township. I am a resident of College Township living with spouse, Theo Thwing, who also opposes the casino, and we are raising a family with four young children. I believe there are other healthier businesses and uses for the Nittany Mall than a casino. Casinos bring infinitely more bad than good, particularly by preying on vulnerable populations and promoting gambling addiction, which destroys families. I have strong concerns of increased crime in the area and the impact it will have on community safety. I absolutely do not want casino located so close to family neighborhoods and Penn State University. The casino would be less than 3 miles from my home, far less for many of my friends living closer to the mall, and that does not make me feel safe living here or raising children here. I would never feel comfortable even going to the mall or nearby businesses as a result and would move my business, and possibly my residence, elsewhere. I know others argue it would provide jobs, but so would ANY other business. I know others argue they want a night of gambling from time to time, and if I don't want to go, don't go. However, they can travel elsewhere from time to time, which is incomparable to a casino's consistent presence and influence less than 3 miles from my family's home, all the time. I cannot live in my home from time to time or avoid the negative side effects that would permeate into the community, such as robberies, etc. I want you to listen to those of us who live here and stop the the proposed casino from coming here. As residents we pay our taxes to live here and want your full representation of this loud oppositional voice against the casino. I do not want a casino at all, never, in this township, or anywhere in Centre County. We love the parks, Millbrook Marsh, schools, and we want more family friendly, healthy outdoor spaces and businesses, not a casino.

Thank you,

Kristen Boccumini  
College Township Resident

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Nancy Cord-Baran <ncb612@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:25 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from ncb612@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have been a resident of College Township since 1983 and am strongly opposed to a Casino here. There are too many downsides to it. Please say no.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Cord-Baran

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**From:** hgz <hgz@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:13 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Proposed Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from hgz@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members:

As a State College resident who would be directly impacted by the nearby presence of a gambling establishment in your township, I strongly urge you to listen to the large chorus of local voices speaking out in opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall mini-casino and act accordingly. Clearly, the majority of area residents do NOT wish to see this casino in our community--as demonstrated by the outpouring of communications to the state licensing board that run 50:1 against approval. Judging from the long and sad history of what has happened to other communities when such a business has opened in their midst, any purported immediate financial benefits a casino would bring are completely cancelled by the long-term harms that its presence would bring.

You have the power and responsibility to reflect to the commission the will of the people. I urge you to:

1. Send a letter to the PGCB reporting the strong community opposition to the casino and requesting that the casino's license be denied;
2. Conduct an independent impact study for the casino and then share the findings of that study with the PGCB;
3. Rescind your prior approval for the casino's land use plan;
4. Rescind your prior decision to allow a casino to be developed within College Township; and
5. Conduct a Town Hall meeting to discuss the community's concerns about the casino.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Hollis Zelinsky  
State College, PA

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**From:** Dorothy Delafield <readoooodles@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 4:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** In opposition to the proposed casino

You don't often get email from readoooodles@mac.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Greetings from a Harris Township resident,  
I would respectfully ask the College Township Council members to reconsider your decision to allow a casino to be developed within College Township. I'm not a resident of College Township, but certainly frequent College Township businesses and visit friends who live there.

I am opposed to a casino in my "backyard." Our community is noted for its commitment to education, the arts, sports and youth. None of these will be enhanced with the addition of gambling. Though gambling is prevalent in other geographic areas and on the internet, that doesn't mean we need to incorporate that influence in Happy Valley.

There certainly must be better uses for the empty space at Nittany Mall than feeding the gambling industry.

Stay Healthy, Hopeful and READOOOODLES,  
Dotty

DOTTY DELAFIELD, Retired Librarian & Reading Matchmaker  
Pronouns: she, her, hers

**Just Read and Enjoyed:**

*Queer Ducks (and other animals): the natural world of animal sexuality* by Eliot Schrefer

*The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict

**Currently Reading:**

*An Impartial Witness* by Charles Todd

"When you're growing up, there are two institutional places that affect you most powerfully: the church, which belongs to God, and the public library, which belongs to you."

---- Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones, who ran up thousands of dollars in overdue-book fees.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Bridget Donnelly <delas115@imsooverwhelmed.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino

You don't often get email from delas115@imsooverwhelmed.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please note that I fully oppose the Nittany Mall casino. The damage to our community will far outweigh any perceived benefits.

*Bridget Donnelly*

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Chris Homan <choman214@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:59 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** I oppose the Casino

You don't often get email from choman214@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

If the casino were to open in Centre County, it would be a detriment to our area. There will be an increase of crime drugs and poverty.

Please stop the casino.

Chris Homan

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Marian Freed <mtfreed133@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:06 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louisglantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** After a long life as daughter and wife of professors, I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino.

You don't often get email from mtfreed133@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir:

After a long life in academia as the daughter and wife of professors, in Hershey and State College, Pa., I have learned to sympathize with the underachieving student. Fortunately thanks to special care and understanding, many are able to graduate and lead exemplary lives. Others, however, would succumb to rumors of the revitalization "so near at hand" in the form of the Casino, with entertainment, easy money, social pleasures, and even good food! We have all read about the 5% income per capita areas with casinos. Alas, the increase of crime and addiction to gambling is frequent, along with unavoidable depression.

The entrepreneurs are no doubt eager to invest in the casino, with little thought for the welfare and future of the young people.

Please do all you can to oppose the Nittany Mall Casino, for the sake of all those who would sooner or later be harmed by its presence.

Sincerely yours,

Marian Trygve Freed  
133 E. Marylyn Avenue  
State College, Pa 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Ellen Coffman <ellencoffman@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Gambling

[You don't often get email from ellencoffman@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I would like to register my opposition to having a casino at the mall or anywhere else in Centre County. I think they spread gambling addiction and, if it comes, it will be interesting to see how many PSU students that it negatively impacts.

Thank you.

Ellen Coffman  
2465 Circleville Rd. Unit 121  
State College, PA 16803

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Dorothy Bellissimo <dorothybellissimo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 4:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil

You don't often get email from dorothybellissimo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I strongly object to a casino opening in Nittany Mall!

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Strauss, Susan G <sgs9@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 6:04 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** College Township, Please No Casino Here

Dear College Township Council and Mr. Glantz,

I am a single mother of 6 adopted children, all of whom were raised right here in State College over the past decade. State College has been a safe and family-oriented town for our entire family. My kids are now grown. We all work locally. We all pay our local taxes to College Township.

The idea of building a casino in the Nittany Mall in the space once occupied by Macy's appears attractive to the township largely on the basis of potential financial benefit to the Township and purported financial benefit to the local area. Individual supporters of this proposal indicate: added jobs, personal interest in gambling, enhanced entertainment, additional eateries, the proximity of the proposed venue reducing the need to travel to other casinos in the state....

Opponents of this proposal indicate:

1. The township and State College more generally can find far better uses for the space that would be more family-friendly yet still generate major income revenues;
2. evidence- and research-based consequences of a local casino including crime, addiction (gambling, alcohol), bankruptcy, mental health issues, child neglect, decreased property values, loss of business to existing surrounding local retailers/eateries/entertainment venues, reality-based perspectives re: potential for added jobs (menial, low pay, major labor shortage in the area to begin with), and so many more, including the existence of two retail establishments within that same shell of the Nittany Mall that sell guns
3. The proximity of a casino to the Penn State main campus, and now to the 651-bed student housing development on Squirrel Drive -- and the potentially tragic consequences that could ensue affecting the very students, faculty, staff who are and have been so central to our entire community.

Opposing viewpoints far, far outweigh those in favor.

Community opposition to this proposed enterprise has been strong and unrelenting. Residents of College Township and the surrounding municipalities are vehemently pleading with the Council to rescind your initial approval for this enterprise -- based on factual and research-based evidence.

My family and I are among the opposing group for all the reasons stated above.

No individual in our community will benefit from a casino being built in the Nittany Mall.

Surrounding municipalities have acted responsibly by explicitly opting out of allowing a category 4 casino prior to the deadline -- Managers of these municipalities cite many of the reasons stated above, but most importantly they cite the voices and well-being of their residents. College Township remained silent.

We are asking CTC to please now listen to the voices of your residents and those of surrounding areas.

We can all do a much better job. The Nittany Mall has so much community-based potential. It's been an empty space for years. It does not need to remain empty, nor should it house a category 4 casino (and all for problematic reasons).

State College is home to some of the most creative and brilliant minds in business, development, community engagement, health and wellness, financial management.

We should be tapping our local resources to brainstorm better uses for that space: **To help build our community and make it even more safe and more welcoming, not to transform it into an establishment that just does not fit our community as a whole.**

Please listen to these voices. Please consider the well-being of your residents and residents of surrounding areas.

Sincerely,  
Susan Strauss and family

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Annie Simmons <aesimmons11@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:27 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposing the Casino as a Mother of Young Children

You don't often get email from aesimmons11@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to express strong opposition to the proposed casino as a mother of young children. My husband and I are raising our five children in Centre County, and although we live in Ferguson Township, much of our daily life takes place in College Township and the surrounding area.

Over the next twenty years, as our children grow to adulthood, we sincerely wish to protect them from the dangers of the many effects a casino has upon the community. We do not wish them to see a casino as something "normal," nor do we wish to expose them to the more significant negative effects that a gambling culture has upon its customers and surrounding community.

Centre County and College Township both possess innumerable benefits for those of us raising families; please do not introduce what will turn out to be tremendously detrimental.

Respectfully,  
Annie Simmons

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**From:** Laurie Jeffreys <lauriejeffreys59@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:25 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** unintended consequences

You don't often get email from lauriejeffreys59@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: College Township Council Members  
From: Loretta Jeffreys  
Re: Approval to allow casino in College Township

We are now seeing the negative results of an action taken for a good purpose by the State College Borough Council a few years ago. The intent was to allow the Fraser Center to be built in town. The unintended consequence has been a proliferation of high-rise buildings, most close to roads which were not built to support such development. Our streets are darkened by the tall buildings and the character of the town has changed.

I understand the need for revenue in College Township, but any casino will take more money out of the township and surrounding areas than it will produce in taxes—a negative sum for the area. Casinos also attract organized crime elements and encourage a clientele that figures to get wealth without working for it—not a virtue we should be encouraging. And casinos will exert a pull on vulnerable young people—namely the students at Penn State. Gambling can become an addiction more easily when it is started at a young age. And any casino will change the character of the township.

And lastly I would like you to examine your own morals. When you say yes to a casino you are making a statement about yourself—that you think money (development of any kind) is more important than people.

Sincerely,  
Loretta Jeffreys (property owner in College Township from 1968-2012, resident from 1965-1976)

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**From:** Dorothy Blair <dorothyablair@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:41 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from dorothyablair@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Please request that Solicitor [Jeff Stover](#) ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what the Township's options are at this point, and that he ask specifically whether College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction.**

Many Centre Region residents, myself among them, have deplored the idea of a gambling casino in this area, using gambling-addicted persons and gamers to provide a new tax base, further undermining the character of the Centre Region. As a group, we have written many and repeated letters to the gaming board.

The negative financial impact on families of persons with gambling addictions is well known; the possibility of recruiting new gamblers to those ranks is a wild card. We do not need to prey on the afflicted to collect taxes. Also, the State use of gaming taxes for tax relief is uncertain.

I am asking Jeff Stover to find out from the PA Gaming Commission what College Township's options are at this point. Can it rescind its former decision, and NOT allow a casino to be built within its boundaries?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dorothy Blair  
632 West Main St.  
Boalsburg, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Janet Magner <janetmagner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 2:16 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No no and no

You don't often get email from janetmagner@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please do not allow this casino to happen!

Janet Magner  
814 238 4507  
520 W Fairmount Ave, State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jennifer Saenz <jsaenz@faarmembers.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 12:46 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from jsaenz@faarmembers.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding the recent CDT article "The wrong stuff for leadership; Stop the casino" it was suggested that the public sentiment towards the casino is negative. The article went so far as to suggest we email you to "head off this mistake".

I am writing to do the opposite. As a native of State College, one of the main reasons I moved out of the area was due to the lack of jobs. The other was it was damn near impossible to meet people in the area that aren't perpetually college age. My husband affectionately refers to Happy Valley as "the bubble". This "bubble" is where people don't age and everything revolves around Penn State. I get that Penn State is the major employer and contributor to the area, but they shouldn't be the be all, end all of the town. Believe it or not, not everyone that lives in the area bleeds blue and white and attends every sporting event. And yes, I went to Penn State. But once I graduated, it became painfully clear that there were very few opportunities for locals unless you worked for Penn State. What is so wrong with bringing in an additional source of revenue and draw to the area? Something that isn't putting all of the onus on one organization to fulfill employment and entertainment needs. Can they use the casino as a community partner and put some of the money into local government budgets? Can it be portrayed in a positive light as a means for the aging population to meet new people and have a place to go? It is not reality to assume that every person that visits State College be an alumnus or entitled season ticket holder to all the Penn State games. The reality is there are other sorts of people, entertainment, and values other than the ones portrayed in articles such as this. The nay sayer's believe it will bring crime to the area. But so does any home game.

I, for one, would love to see them put in a casino. I visit my family regularly. When I come home, the last thing I want to do is go downtown and co-mingle with a bunch of drunk 18-24 year-olds. I'm in my 50's, my mom is in her 70's. What is there to do for the retired and aging population in the State College area that doesn't revolve around the University? Not much.

It's time for the local government to do something for the local residents instead of catering to the students and Penn State. The last thing the town needs is another student apartment building. I say bring in an attraction not affiliated to Penn State. Something that draws in varying ages, jobs, and experiences. Gaming is big business, use it to your advantage.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Saenz

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** BEVERLY HAUSHALTER <rahnbrh@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 5:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from rahnbrh@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Don't we have enough problems with drunk students without adding gambling to the mix? I wonder if you have contacted parents about their children getting caught up in more problems. And what about families who have members with addictions, this will not help them. Please stop this before it gets out of hand.

Thank you,  
Beverly Haushalter

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Samuel Hoskins <sph223@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 2:22 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from sph223@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council members,

I would guess that you have heard many concerns about having a casino in the mall or anywhere in Happy Valley, and about the damage that gambling can do. I agree with those arguments. Considering the fact that there are public service announcements about problems caused by addiction to gambling, as a society we seem to agree that there is a significant downside to it.

In fact, I cannot understand why people view gambling as good. There are stories about people winning it big and being set for life; however, winning it big can be very detrimental to people and the community. Some might argue that a casino creates jobs that pay "good". Where does the money for those wages come from? Perhaps some of it comes from people who simply enjoy the sport of it and can afford to lose money. However, the cost of the license for \$10,000,000, would require 10,000 people to lose \$1,000 before there is money to renovate the building and the "good" wages are paid.

Gambling does not produce wealth, like farming, manufacturing, or other industries, where the labor adds value to a product which increases the price someone will pay for it. Gambling is at best a transfer of wealth, generally from people who cannot afford it to at least one person in this case who already has millions (the casino license owner).

What is the value to the community? I see none, but in fact the opposite. Whether or not someone or several people benefit from gambling (increased tax revenue, more jobs, a non-vacant mall, etc.), there is a net loss to our community or to other communities. Why bring that kind of influence to Happy Valley?

Sincerely,  
Sam Hoskins

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Mary MacDonald <mactuttut@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 4:54 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino opposition

You don't often get email from mactuttut@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I strongly disapprove of a casino opening at the Nittany Mall as I feel it would have a negative impact on our community. People are easily manipulated into losing their money by casinos, which can devastate families and communities. Many college students could lose their tuition money. We have a lovely community with a low crime rate and would like to keep it that way.

Thank you,  
Mary MacDonald  
Boalsburg, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Mary MacDonald <mactuttut@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 5:11 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** casino opposition

You don't often get email from mactuttut@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I strongly disapprove of a casino opening at the Nittany Mall as I feel it would have a negative impact on our community. People are easily manipulated into losing their money by casinos, which can devastate families and communities. Many college students could lose their tuition money. The loss of funds to gambling, can easily lead to crime. The casino would cause me to avoid businesses on that side of town as I would not feel safe.

Although I do not live in College Township, I consider it part of my community. Also, the negative effects of the casino would spread to my home area in neighboring Harris Township and the students I work with at PSU. I am concerned for my friends who live in College Township.

We have a lovely community with a low crime rate and would like to keep it that way.

Thank you,  
Mary MacDonald  
Boalsburg, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Barry Kroeker <bkroeker1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:05 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino concerns

CT Council members,

I understand that the Council is considering public comments in advance of its deliberation regarding the operation of Nittany Mall Casino (SC Gaming OpCo. LLC Cat 4 Casino).

As a community member who lives close by, and often passes the proposed site, I wish to express my strong opposition to the presence of such a destructive “business,” which will be a blight on our community and region..

Although local supporters may hope that the casino will revitalize our local shopping mall, the track record of casino operation historically has been the reverse. The Atlantic Monthly article provides helpful background:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/08/a-good-way-to-wreck-a-local-economy-build-casinos/375691/>

The close presence of a state University virtually ensures that many new “problem gamblers” will be created, increasing local crime and distracting many students from more positive activities.

It is my understanding that the field work of our local College Township municipal authorities has been limited to study of a single mall casino site that opened in 2020, which is not reflective of the long-term problems often posed by gambling operations, and I believe you are taking a sucker’s bet.

Please use your authority to prevent this casino from opening in our community.

Sincerely,

Barry Kroeker  
[Bkroeker1@comcast.net](mailto:Bkroeker1@comcast.net)



Barry Kroeker  
[Bkroeker1@comcast.net](mailto:Bkroeker1@comcast.net)



**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Pat Mortimore <ptm4@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from ptm4@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please reconsider opening a Casino here in State College our beautiful "Big little City", and we want to keep it this way. We see nothing positive in this move to have it in our town.

Thank you,

Pat

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**From:** Kristen Devlin <beebopfarm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 12:10 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino feedback from College Township resident

You don't often get email from beebopfarm@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members,

I am a resident of College Township. I would really love to see a planning and governance process that empowers community members to collectively shape our community's development. Instead, it often feels like we are hamstrung by a planning process that has no apparent mechanism for scrapping projects that the strong majority of residents oppose. (At least that is the impression I got sitting through hours of planning commission meetings regarding the Squirrel Drive student housing development).

**Today, I am writing about the proposed Nittany Mall casino. Like so many other residents of the entire Centre Region, I strongly oppose it.** In this case, not only does the proposed development have implications for our quality of life and the capacity of our public services (police, waste management, etc.), but as so many opposition voices have already stated, its presence in a college town is simply not appropriate due to the risk it poses to young adults. I think we can do much better things with the Nittany Mall space, and **urge you to do all that you can to prevent this casino from becoming a reality.**

Thank you for your consideration and service!

Respectfully,  
Kristen Devlin

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**From:** Helen Love <hblove1218@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:30 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from hblove1218@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I would like to add my opposition to any proposed casino within the township. I feel it would be a detriment and provide big temptations to Penn State students away from their schoolwork—the reason their parents have sent them here. Helen Love

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Nancy Gamble <gng522@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 10:59 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from gng522@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**To:** The College Township Council  
**From:** Nancy Gamble

As a twenty-nine year resident of College Township, I wish to express my opposition to the building of a casino at the Nittany Mall. I think this is a very bad idea. I cannot see any positive outcomes from a venture such as this and certainly there are many negatives. I hope the College Township Council will do everything in their power to oppose the building of a Casino in the Nittany Mall or any other location in this area!!

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Susan Haagen <suze358@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 12:53 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Proposed casino

[You don't often get email from suze358@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

My family and I are very much opposed to a casino coming into our area. We had a relative with a gambling problem and know the devastation it can have on individuals and families. Please consider alternative businesses for the Macy's site, that will enhance the area, not detract from it.

Thank you,

Haagen family

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** John <otherwhen@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 5:34 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Against the Nittany Mall casino...

You don't often get email from otherwhen@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Councilors,

I am against the Nittany Mall casino because I believe it will bring crime and debt into Centre County. I work at Penn State and feel that many of our students will be tempted to wage money they can not afford, then fall into debt.

In addition, those residents with gambling issues will be ill-served. Most of the profits will leave the community and the community will be poorly served.

Best regards,

John Carr

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** barb134@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 3:06 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Casino

You don't often get email from barb134@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I add my voice to those opposed to a casino in our area. There are no good reasons, and many bad reasons for supporting a casino in our area. Barbara McKeehen,, 134 Wellington Dr., State College, 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Anna Engels <annaengels@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 5:43 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Oppose Mt. Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from annaengels@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall location. I am a clinical psychologist, yoga teacher in the Kinesiology department at PSU, and part of our local business community as co-owner of Yoga Lab in downtown State College. I am very concerned about the impact this casino will have on the health and well-being of our State College community. Please do everything you can to stop the development of this casino.

Thank you,  
~Anna Engels

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Anna S. Engels, Ph.D., E-RYT 500, YACEP  
[www.annaengels.com](http://www.annaengels.com)  
Co-Founder of Yoga Lab  
[www.YogaLabStudio.com](http://www.YogaLabStudio.com)  
Creator of Sunny Get Up  
[www.sunnygetup.com](http://www.sunnygetup.com)  
Yoga Instructor, PSU Dept of Kinesiology  
email: [annaengels@gmail.com](mailto:annaengels@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** James McSweeney <jaamcsweeney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Strong Opposition to Casino for State College

You don't often get email from jaamcsweeney@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council,

I am writing to voice my own and my families very strong opposition to the development of a casino in our town. My wife and I have lived in State College for the past 17 years. We have 2 teenage children and we are furious that the council is contemplating allowing a casino to be developed in our town. This development will undoubtedly bring crime, drugs and sex workers to our town and will only provide an easy outlet to those with already struggling with gambling addictions.

Gambling addiction is something that can and has ruined many families and the fact that the council is willingly considering bringing this misfortune into our communities is deplorable. Casino's essentially glamorize what is an extremely damaging illness. Your constituents, including myself will make our opposition to this development known at election time should it proceed.

I sincerely hope that the council will turn down this development and listen to the voices and wishes of the people that have elected you to represent their needs and best interests.

Sincerely,  
James McSweeney  
State College

Phone:   
Email: [jaamcsweeney@gmail.com](mailto:jaamcsweeney@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Donna Symons <gotpotts@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:34 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Reject Casino

[You don't often get email from gotpotts@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

This casino is simply wrong for the township, the region, our university and the people who call this area home. We have resided in the area since 1970 and seen it grow in so many ways. Do not let this cancerous growth invade our region  
Many Thanks for all your hard work Frank & Donna Symons  
142 W Marylyn Ave, State College

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Mark Rothgeb <markerothgeb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:14 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino Plan

You don't often get email from markerothgeb@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: College Township Council

It is my understanding that plans continue for a casino to take the place of some vacated businesses at the Nittany Mall. I can think of no other reason for this to take place than a desire for more money into the township. However, the deleterious effects of such a move far outweigh any financial gain for the township. A study of other places where casino's have been built shows the negative effects to the community far outweighing the jobs provided. Addictions will abound as well as the opportunity to get college students addicted to gambling at an early age. While I would likely be against a casino anywhere because of their negative effects, I find it especially egregious in a college town where college students will be affected to a large degree. Since our state allows casino's, they should be in places that don't in particular attempt the young and not in College Township or the State College area in general. Therefore, I urge you to reject plans for the casino into our community.

Sincerely,

Mark Rothgeb

114 Willow Ave, State College, Pa 16801.

---

**From:** Dan Kiehl <danielskiehl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:43 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Stop the Planned Casino

You don't often get email from danielskiehl@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing to ask you to do everything within your power and authority to stop the plans to build a casino in your township. Whatever questionable financial benefit you may hope to receive from the presence of a casino in your township will be far outweighed by the massive negative impacts of such a tawdry business. I trust that you have done the research in order to know all of the proven detrimental effects of casinos - it is readily available with a simple Google search. Please do not allow this casino to be established in the area for which you are responsible and accountable.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Sincerely,

**Rev. Daniel Kiehl**  
**Oakwood Presbyterian Church**  
**1865 Waddle Road**  
**State College, PA 16803**  
**(814) 238-5442**  
[www.oakwoodpca.org](http://www.oakwoodpca.org)



**Oakwood**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** clara strausser <strausser67@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 2:58 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany mall casino

[You don't often get email from strausser67@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,  
I do not want the Nittany mall casino in my community no casinos in State College. Take your gambling elsewhere. Gambling will bring in people we don't need or one and will increase crime.  
Sincerely,  
Clara Strausser  
Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Howard Pillot <howardpillot@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 1:51 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to casino

[You don't often get email from howardpillot@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Executive:

As a tax paying resident of State College Borough since 1989, I want to state my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. Our town is about education and innovation. It is a great place for families to grow and have the best in technology and educational services. Casinos have the potential to degrade communities by inviting problems and issues that are anti family and education. Often they take advantage of young people like college students and they also take advantage of folks with little income and resources. Our community already has issues with alcohol and sexual assaults and I see a casino compounding that problem. Education and strong support for youth and young adults is what makes State College a strong and desirable town. Please say no to the casino as it leads our community in the wrong direction and lines the pockets of a few profiteers.

Sincerely,  
Howard Pillot, Retired Teacher

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Bob Hohn <bobhohn1956@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino opppsition

You don't often get email from bobhohn1956@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council,

The proposed casino in your township is a bad idea. It will add to gambling addiction and prey upon vulnerable college students, and seniors on fixed incomes

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Tony Guerrero <tonyguerrero505@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 3:29 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** NO CASINO IN STATE COLLEGE

You don't often get email from tonyguerrero505@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the College Township Council,

I welcome new innovative businesses that improve the quality of life in State College and Centre County for its families and for the entire community. However, opening a casino at the Nittany Mall would do exactly the opposite. Gaming = Gambling. Research shows that casino gambling overwhelmingly results in losing one's hard-earned money, and generally includes excessive drinking as well. Both often destroy families and communities, and offer absolutely nothing of real value to its members. Gambling would certainly not be time well spent for PSU students, either. A casino in State College would greatly lower the quality of life in this wonderful town and area.

-I am strongly opposed to the Nittany Mall Casino project going forward!!!  
-Let's not have the *Happy Valley* turn into the *Gambling Valley*!!!  
-It's an awful idea that should never come to fruition!!!!

Thank you for your attention. Sincerely,

**Jose A. Guerrero, M.S.**  
Retired Spanish Department Faculty Member, PSU  
505 Outer Drive  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Laura Waldhier <lwaldhier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 6:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Please don't bring a casino to our area.

You don't often get email from lwaldhier@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear council,

Please don't bring a casino to the Nittany Mall, or anywhere in our area. No one who truly cares about the safety and health of our residents and neighbors would support this endeavor. A casino would undermine all of the reasons this is a good place to live.

I'm a townie and have enjoyed living here for more than 50 years. Surely we have some say in what happens to our beloved town. Please listen.

Sincerely,  
Laura Waldhier

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jessica Marsh <jrosemarsh129@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:11 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino

You don't often get email from jrosemarsh129@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I implore you to do everything possible to stop the progress of the proposed casino. Anything positive that *could* result from a casino in our community is far overshadowed by the negatives that *will* result. Enabling even a single person in our community to become addicted to gambling by allowing this casino would be an utter failure on the backs of College Township Council.

Listen to the strong opposition against the casino. This is about much more than a leisure activity or potential revenue/jobs. Lives will be changed based on your willingness or negligence to act now.

Jessica Marsh  
Lifelong resident of State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Perini, Marsha <mlp11@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:40 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Respectfully request stop plans for development of Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from mlp11@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Twp. Council,

I live in Ferguson Twp, so I realize I am not one of your constituents. But the whole of Centre Region is a community, and all townships are impacted by some decisions and actions of one.

At this late time, ahead of your upcoming meeting, I will not elaborate on the data-driven reasons for my (and many others') opposition to bringing a casino into our community. Those data stand on their own, and candidly, you're probably more likely to digest a short message at this 11<sup>th</sup> hour than a long one.

I have lived in the Centre Region since 1980, when I came to PSU as a freshman. I was immediately enthralled with the community. Safe neighborhoods, with homes tended by residents who respected one another, and respected the town's history, while introducing new opportunities for the burgeoning population - opportunities to learn, grow, adventure, connect, cultivate, and contribute to the betterment of everyone else. When I finished my 4-yr degree, I did not want to leave, so I stayed on for graduate school. I then got a job, got married, bought a house (in the borough), had kids, bought a bigger house (in Ferguson), raised the kids, who were engaged in sports leagues and the arts, and then they chose to attend PSU...

It's been 42 years since my husband and I came to this community, and we love it. We pay taxes here, we buy local, we support locally-owned/operated restaurants (favored over the chains), we're engaged in community arts and sports, and we contribute to local charities to support those in our community who need a hand up.

Our observation of communities and neighborhoods that host casinos is that such activity is incompatible with the family- and community-centered vibe that the Centre Region has always fostered. We believe it would be a strong counter to the small-town values we collectively hold dear, and we request that you preserve our thriving community by refusing to invite/host the negative influences a casino could introduce. We certainly do not need the jobs -- our treasured local businesses desperately need help, and can't find it! And Big Corporate Casino interests are hardly focused on our community values.

Please say no.

Thank-you for hearing my (and many others') concerns.

v/r,  
Marcy Perini  
2293 Bristol Ave  
State College, PA

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**From:** barb saxton <saxton.barb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:55 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Please no casino 😊

You don't often get email from saxton.barb@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi, Having lived in College Township for 39 and a one mile drive or a 15 minute walk, we really do not want this in our close proximity. It has no redeeming purpose for our society as there are documented sad effects from gaming/ gambling. Please continue to think of your constituents first and not the revenue lost! Barb Saxton--  
Barb Saxton

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**From:** Tom and Jan <remtiW@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:28 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall casino

[You don't often get email from remtiw@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Council Members,

This is to let you now that I am deeply opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall, and request that you do not allow a casino to be established in this region. My family has lived in Pleasant Gap, Bellefonte and State College for several generations. I grew up in Pleasant Gap and Bellefonte and, after 35 years living elsewhere, my wife and I (both PSU graduates) moved back to this area permanently last year. One of the many great attributes of this area is that it is surrounded by beautiful country that is quickly accessible, while at the same time having cultural events, shopping, hospital access, and other amenities. It is a great place to live and raise a family.

A casino would be a destructive element to the health of this region. It would promote and capitalize on addictive behavior that would be ruinous to individuals and families. It would likely lead to increased crime. It would be a great temptation to college students who are away from their families, as well as to others who can ill afford to gamble away their limited savings. While the promise of easy money from gambling proceeds may be very attractive to a local government, it would come at a high cost - a cost that government and the citizens of this region cannot afford. The price would be broken lives, a strain on other government programs and a cultural blight in the heart of our region. Please do what is best in the long term for Centre County and the people you serve. Do not allow a casino to be built at the Nittany Mall.

Sincerely,  
Tom Witmer  
Bellefonte, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kay Shirk <kays816@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 3:30 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from kays816@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*To the members of College Township Council:*

As longtime residents of College Township (39+ years), we have seen many changes in our community. But the most distressing proposed change—adding the gambling casino to the Nittany Mall—would adversely affect our area far more than you might realize.

An article that appeared on the *front page* of the New York Times on Sunday, June 5, 2022, presented information that you should bear in mind in your decision about the casino.

I quote verbatim from the article:

“Evidence from other urban areas suggests that the tax revenue protections of casino companies often prove to be overstated, and that the economic benefits of casinos fade over time.”

“A 2004 study by University of Buffalo researchers found that people who lived within 10 miles of a casino were twice as likely to have a gambling problem as those who lived far away.”

“Economic research has shown that gambling attracts poorer populations.”

“Casino companies also rarely meet the revenue targets they present to state regulators when competing for licenses.”

Living in Penn Hills as we do, just off Rt. 26, we travel that road daily to get to work and run errands. With a casino in such short proximity, with the easy availability of alcohol as part of the “gambling package,” the running of red lights and through stop signs will only increase, and it is already a problem in our area.

Consider the daycare center on Gerald Street; many parents must use Rt. 26 when they travel to drop off and pick up their children. An increase in drunk driving from people leaving the casino is further cause for not allowing it to be placed at the mall in College Township.

In addition, various studies suggest that a casino can have a negative impact on home prices of **between -2 and -10 percent decline in value, with the most credible being a negative decline of 4.6 percent.**

By far, our biggest concern is having such a huge number of college students in the State College area, many of whom live in College Township. A casino so close to the University will create the potential for a dramatic increase in both gambling addiction and alcohol abuse, along with more illegal drug consumption among this population.

A gambling casino at the Nittany Mall is, quite simply, a bad idea for all of the above reasons (and for many other reasons as well).

Please be aware that how each one of you proceeds on this issue will also have much bearing on how we, as voters opposed to the casino, will react in future College Township elections.

**Do not allow the proposed casino to be added to the Nittany Mall.**

Vaughn and Kathryn Shirk  
 Penn Hills, State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** marjie.devlin@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 2:42 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from marjie.devlin@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello:

I am writing to let you know that I am very, very opposed to the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall. My son is a Penn State Student. We live in Bucks County, PA. I am very opposed to the amount of gambling going on in this state, and I believe it is unconscionable that you put a casino only 4 miles from Penn State's campus. Here are the facts:

- Mental health for students has declined rapidly since COVID started and is not improving. Penn State's Counseling and Psychological Services is so overwhelmed with calls that it is very hard to get an appointment with a mental health counselor there or anywhere in state college.
- Gambling addiction is a serious problem which is on the rise in the college age population due to these downward mental health trends.
- Parents do NOT want their children exposed to the temptation and increased crime of having a gambling site near the location which is supposed to be a safe "home away from home".
- The population of Center County is not that large. This project is clearly targeted at Penn State Students.

I can't imagine a worse idea than putting a casino near a group of mentally stressed young people who have not yet learned how to handle money or deal with temptation. The people behind this should be ashamed of themselves. My child is being put at risk for their financial gain. I implore you to rethink putting a casino near State College.

Regards,  
Marjorie Devlin

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Elizabeth Donovan <pinkydonovan35@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:24 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Mall Casino!

You don't often get email from pinkydonovan35@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

The ability to gamble is unfortunately now becoming common online. Why on earth does State College need a Casino!!!

Elizabeth Donovan

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Emily Filling <efilling76@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 4:35 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino

You don't often get email from efilling76@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

A casino encourages wasteful behavior and does not belong in a college town.

Emily Filling

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Betty Macdonald <bmacd13@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 10:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** I am opposed to having a casino at the Nittany Mall !

[You don't often get email from bmacd13@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Council Members

PLEASE do what you can to stop a casino from coming to the Nittany Mall.

I cannot imagine how awful it would be for our high school kids and especially for Penn State Students!!

Thank you ahead of time for doing all you can to stop the casino.

Sincerely

Betty Macdonald

1460 Blue Course Dr #25

State College, PA 16801

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Trish Hummer <trishhumm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:40 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@collegetownship.org; andrew.shaffer148@collegetownship.org  
**Subject:** Casino concerns

[You don't often get email from trishhumm@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

With the exception of a 9-year stint in the Washington DC area, I have spent 40 years of my life as a resident of College Township. It is a beautiful spot and the place we chose to raise our family. The quality of life here has always been unparalleled in terms of the balance between small town feel but with big time cultural events nearby with our proximity to the university. And the schools and parks in our township are exceptional.

But over the past few years, I feel like the tide has begun to turn and we risk losing so much of what has been so special here by catering to outside influences whose goal is to use the township to fatten their already butting wallets.

The casino is the latest of those actions but the first to make me join a fight. What benefit will a casino bring to our neighbors. Will it enhance our collective quality of life, or is it more likely to bring new challenges? Will it bring new jobs or simply draw on an already inadequate workforce in the service industry here, where many restaurants are till cutrailing their business hours because they don't have enough staff?

And what of the people who frequent the casino? My few trips to a casino were depressing. There was a mix of folks there—some having fun and not bothered by the cash they were losing as they expected that outcome, but many others were there due either to addiction or trying to gamble their way out of a dire situation. Are we comfortable with that balance and prepared to deal with the havoc it can cause to families?

Please reconsider your plans to allow this project to move forward. Let's do what we can to preserve the quality of life we have always enjoyed in college township.

Thank you,

Trish (Patricia A.)Hummer  
232 Hunter Avenue  
State College PA 16801  
Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Alli Erickson <allimerickson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:51 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino Concerns

[You don't often get email from allimerickson@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to strongly oppose the approval of a Casino in State College. As a member of this community and a mother that is raising small children here, there are many concerns that I have. This is a rural town that sees an influx of 50,000 students each fall that brings challenges to our small community already. This community would not even be considered if it was not for the university. Our community's role to the university and its students should be to support and encourage success. By allowing a casino, we are providing them with another distraction for their studies, which could lead to many different types of failure. The negative impacts of a casino should be strongly looked at. What could we be allowing into this community: increases in drug trafficking, sex trafficking, prostitution, increase in crime, others? I hope that you strongly take into account the voices of those opposed and see the importance of keeping our children, community, and university community safe.

Thank you for your time!

~Allison Erickson

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**From:** Marybeth Zlock <marybeth.zlock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from marybeth.zlock@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

We are residents of Stearns Crossing and would like to share with you our absolute objection to allowing such a negative establishment within 2 miles of our home. There is no good reason for gambling in a college town that will attract nothing but crime and hardship on our community. Please revoke your poor decision to allow a casino that a majority of our citizens oppose.

Marybeth Zlock

Milan Zlock

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Jennifer Moeny <cranberrycove@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino opposition

You don't often get email from cranberrycove@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed casino in College Township, and ask that you act to prevent any casinos from opening in our area.

Thank you.

Jennifer Moeny

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** ebrzycki@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 2:54 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to the Casino - Praying for your right decision

You don't often get email from ebrzycki@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I am praying to send you the strength to overcome the pressures and enticement of the casino's short-term financial gain.

Please reflect on what you want your lasting legacy to be for your community and for the lives of generations to come.

Have faith and look beyond the casino to envision creative solutions that build a vibrant, healthy, safe, and flourishing community.

Build a community in which your children and grandchildren will live and thrive.

Say no to the casino.

Thank you,  
Elaine

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Lori Kowalski <ljkowalski1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:25 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from ljkowalski1@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

We used to live in Connecticut and have been to their Indian casinos for concerts. Afterwards we went in to see the gaming area. Overrun with family's with young children and infants in buggys. After 11 pm Bad idea to put something like this in our neighborhood. Think of the college students who will become addicts. Very bad idea Lori Kowalski

Sent from my iPhone.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Peggy Bixler <pegbixler37@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 5:15 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** My opposition to the Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from pegbixler37@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern,

I shop nearly every week near the Nittany Mall and I really am concern about all the traffic that may be entering the casino. I feel that it would be a mistake to have people gambling away their hard earned money. I don't feel that is a wise use of the former Macy building. Please reconsider putting a casino there.

Sincerely,

Peggy Bixler

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Sandy Macdonald <smacd13@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 10:24 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino

[You don't often get email from smacd13@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I hereby wish to register my vehement opposition to the erecting of a gambling casino anywhere within the confines of Centre County.

My opposition is based on both my being longstanding resident of Centre County (54 years) and a Clinical Psychologist . Through my work with members of this community I have an intense commitment to the well being of individuals, couples and families. Frequently persons are vulnerable to a variety addictive behavior which is compounded by overly easy access to the problematic sources of their addiction. To have a site within this community to which persons are drawn who are desperate, needy, and vulnerable to the illusions of instantaneous solutions to their financial woes through gambling is unconscionable.

Sincerely, David A. (Sandy) Macdonald, Ph.D.

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Susan Streit <susankaystreit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:42 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** proposed casino

You don't often get email from susankaystreit@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Board Members,

I am writing again as a concerned resident of College Township since 1986. I am opposed to the plan to allow a casino in our area. It will bring increased crime and other social ills, increase the load on an already stressed police force and will encourage financial decisions that will be harmful to their families.

Please do all that you can to oppose this proposal.

Sincerely,

Susan Streit

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Catherine Cohan <cathycohan@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:54 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Request to reject Nittany Mall Casino application

You don't often get email from cathycohan@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the College Township Council,

I encourage you to reject the application to establish a casino at the Nittany Mall. Personally, I am concerned about it negatively affecting my property value (276 Dale Street, Lemont). More broadly, I am concerned that a casino would be detrimental to the low rate of crime that is a wonderful aspect of living here. I do not want a casino in my backyard.

Please vote No.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Cohan

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**From:** Yearick, Myrna <myrna.yearick@beasd.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 3:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** proposed Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from myrna.yearick@beasd.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

Although I am not a township resident, I would like to express my concern about the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. As a Centre County resident, I feel this would be detrimental to our community.

Please reconsider your decision to allow a casino to be located here. Conducting an independent impact study on the casino proposition would be helpful in determining community opinions. This could help the PGCB make the correct decision.

Thank you for taking the time to address this critical matter.

Sincerely,  
Myrna Yearick

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**From:** Marcus Englert <marcusenglert1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:51 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Support for purposed casino

You don't often get email from marcusenglert1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to voice my support for the proposed casino development at the Nittany Mall. I have heard that there are other community members that are strongly opposed to it, but I wanted to offer a counter to that opposition. I know that governments often only hear from the opposition, or those who scream the loudest.

I think a mini casino at the mall would be a great economic benefit to the area. While I don't live in College Township, I do live in nearby Pleasant Gap, and I frequently support the various businesses in the area of the Nittany Mall. As someone that has lived in other areas where casinos are present, I have found that many of these talking points voiced by the opposition such as crime, addiction, poverty, etc... are mostly unfounded. The state regulates these facilities very well. Other casinos that I have been to have a plethora of private security in addition to a State Police presence.

In summary, I think that much of the opposition to this based on unfounded fears and outdated opinions. I think that a mini casino would provide a great economic benefit to the area.

Thank you,  
Marcus Englert

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** R s <dhbgs@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 3:46 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Stop the casino!

You don't often get email from dhbgs@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

15 years ago I moved to Centre County. I have raised my children here, and my spouse and I contribute to the local economy. My husband's family lives all throughout Centre County and they have for generations. Please, please do not build the casino. Please pursue any available options to stop the development of the proposed casino. We do not want it in Centre County. Not for our family, our neighbors, or our community. More to the point, it would be a reason for us to leave. We do not want to raise our family and contribute to a Casino County.

Please stop the casino!  
Thank you

Rachel Narehood

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Missus Ciolkosz <forjkm19@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I am against the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from forjkm19@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the College Township Council,

My husband grew up in College Township and we now live in Ferguson Township and we are **against** the building of a Casino at the Nittany Mall.

Would you please do everything in your power to prevent the proposed casino from being built in your jurisdiction? Casinos are shown to have a negative impact on the surrounding communities and we would like to protect our community for our kids and grandkids and those who come after them.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Laurie Ciolkosz  
182 Long Lane, PA Furnace, PA 16865

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Cheryl Gigante <clgigante@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:34 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposed to casino

Dear Council,

I would like to indicate that our family is absolutely opposed to the casino planned for the mall. We live in college township and are raising our children here. The negative affects of gambling far outweigh the money spent in our area. The casino will absolutely take business away from all of the small downtown businesses as well.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Gigante  
118 Merry Hill Rd  
State College 16801

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Cheryl Gigante  
Weibel/ReeseWeyhe Team  
License RS/358882  
Kissinger Bigatel and Brower Realtors  
2300 S. Atherton St.  
State College, PA 16801  
Office- (814)234-4000  
Cheryl Gigante- (814)571-0016

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Judith Behr <lmnop@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 6:35 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from lmnop@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello, I would like to be on record in thoroughly opposing the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. Please do not let this ever be a part of our community, especially because so very many young adults would have easy access to the potentially deleterious effects of gambling.

Yours truly,  
Judith Wilson

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Richard McCoy <kkumccoy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 10:01 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino in College Township!

You don't often get email from kkumccoy@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear council members,

My wife and I are residents of Ferguson Township and respectfully request that you reconsider your decision to allow a casino anywhere in your township. There are many other ways that your township can prosper and attract positive retail and other business growth.

Casinos have a tendency to attract crime and other illegal activities. I have seen several casinos where the area around the casino has become depressed and businesses have actually closed. We lived in South Dakota when that state allowed casinos and the next year bankruptcies soared because of gambling debt. Casinos are not just places where people go to relax or be entertained. Most gamblers quickly become addicted to the thrill of possibly winning large sums of money and soon become unable to control their gambling habit. Please don't allow that to happen in Centre Region!

Thank you for considering our concerns and request you vote NO on the proposed casino in College Township.

Sincerely,

Richard and Susan McCoy  
1406 Harris St.  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** James Bennett <jmlgbennett@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:43 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Casino

You don't often get email from jmlgbennett@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern:

Hello, as a resident of State College and a parent of 2 PSU students, i am writing to voice my opinion about the proposed casino in the mall. I lived in Columbia MD and worked right next to Arundal Mills mall, which is the 2nd largest mall in america. The mall put in a large casino to attract customers, the mall parking lot is several acres in size and is almost always packed. It was in a strategic location to attract customers from both the Baltimore area and Washington DC. It was successful, but, in my opinion, at the cost of changing the landscape and quality of life of that area. The clientele that would frequent the area as a result of the casino brought with it crime and more traffic congestion. As a result, the locals would avoid going near the area, because it was just too crowded. The increase of crime alone in my mind was a side effect of the casino and was not worth the income it brought. Being a college town, do we really want to bring in a business that is going to promote gambling? Do we want Joe Student to take mom and dads money and run to the casino with the idea that he or she will be able to make more money by gambling? I don't think this is a good plan...

## Vision and Mission Statements (for reference) Adopted August 20, 2020

### Vision Statement

“College Township shall be a model of excellence in local government; a safe, well-planned community with equal opportunity for all.”

### Mission Statement

“The mission of College Township is to protect and enhance quality of life, while facilitating responsible growth and maintaining harmony between rural and urban areas, in an efficient and responsible manner for all its citizens.”

## CA-2.IIIIIII.

How shall we protect and enhance the quality of life in the State College area if we bring in businesses that are known to attract people that will not have this vision? How will bringing in the casino make this a safer place to live? Will bringing in the casino help maintain harmony between the rural and urban areas?

We have to ask ourselves these questions when deciding to bring in a new business, and in my opinion, we are deviating from both the vision and mission statements of the College Township if we proceed with the planned casino... If money is the bottom line and we are willing to ignore the principles of our Vision and Mission statements, then proceed, but if that is the way things are going, you will lose people who will not tolerate such actions...

Sincerely,  
James Bennett

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jet Schneider <jetschneider@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:01 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from jetschneider@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please stop going forward with the plans for a proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. A casino will attract and create gambling addicts, which in turn will cause a rise in crime, drugs, alcohol abuse, drunken drivers and the arrival of pawn shops and the like. The current stores in the Nittany Mall cater mostly to the people living in the rural (poor) areas around State College, and they should definitely not be tempted to make some quick extra money by seeing a casino with slot machines every time they shop there. Also having a casino (and all that comes with it) in close proximity to PSU doesn't seem advisable, with many vulnerable young people there living on their own for the first time in their lives. Do we want State College to turn into Atlantic City? The answer is emphatically "NO"!

Thank you for listening,

Dr. Donald and Henriette Schneider  
1345 Penrose Circle  
State College, PA 16803

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**From:** angela moore <rosiepauljenny@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 12:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino in Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from rosiepauljenny@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

As Citizen of Pennsylvania and I live in State College. I am opposed to the casino and do believe that it would be detrimental to our community. Please reconsider and deny this casino thank you. Angela Moore

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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**From:** Mcgraw, Elizabeth Ann <eam7@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:23 PM  
**To:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed casino

You don't often get email from eam7@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I would like to voice my extreme opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.

See below the text of a letter I sent previously to the developers. I live in College Township on Oak Ridge Avenue, and I work at Penn State. I run a large department responsible for educating up to 1000 Biology majors at any one time. My own expertise in research is in public health.

Best,  
Beth

Dear Louis and College Township Council,

I am writing about the proposed Casino at Nittany Mall in State College, Pennsylvania. I am a resident of College Township.

First, Penn State students already have a problem with addiction with respect to drinking. The consequences, among other things, have led to deaths and high rates of sexual assault. As I am sure you are aware, the brain of young people does not fully mature until their early to mid 20's. It makes it harder for them to effectively evaluate risk and more susceptible to addiction. Offering up a casino 10 minutes' drive from the Penn State campus is going to introduce another opportunity for addiction. With rising tuition rates, we already have a huge number of students who are food insecure and who live in their cars or couch surf. I would argue that MOST of our students cannot handle a gambling habit or addiction. If Penn State becomes the university of drinking and gambling, we will find ourselves falling even further in the big ten rankings, risking our reputation as an educational and research institution nationally and internationally.

Second, I lived in Australia for 16 years where gambling was more common/less controlled. I saw first-hand the impact of gambling on individuals and families. The people who could least afford to gamble were often the most frequent customers. I saw families break up and parents not be able to provide for their kids or pay child support. You want to locate this casino in central PA, a region hit heavily by opioid addiction and a range of diseases of despair. We know that the pandemic has only worsened these impacts. Adding easy access to gambling is going to further break these already battered communities surrounding State College. Development should not make social and economic problems worse – it should be used to improve communities. Preying on Appalachia right now is a bad look.

With unemployment rates low and plenty of work in the community, the argument that this will bring jobs does not make it worth it. I would also argue that the more affluent members of this community simply won't frequent your casino. State College is full of highly educated people, a large proportion of which have families. Even more so with the recession, but in general these people tend to spend their disposable income on other things. In summary, I can't think of a worse type of development for Centre County than a casino. Students

and people already at risk in their communities will suffer and you will be unlikely to attract the crowds you seek.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. McGraw  
Professor & Head, Biology Department  
Huck Scholar in Entomology  
The Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics (CIDDD)  
208 Mueller Lab  
The Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
[vectorbiologygroup.com](http://vectorbiologygroup.com)  
[@McGrawLab](https://twitter.com/McGrawLab)  
[eam7@psu.edu](mailto:eam7@psu.edu)  
+1-814-863-4530  
pronouns: she/her  


**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Barlett, Wanda J <wjb39@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 5:11 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposition to Casino

You don't often get email from wjb39@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Members,

As someone who works and lives in the State College area I am writing to express my opposition to establishment of a casino in our region. What may seem like “economic development” translates to filling the coffers of a few who hope to profit from casino operations while creating a host of socio-economic problems. Eventually it’s the taxpayers who end up paying, namely higher taxes for police protection related to increased criminal activity as well as gambling addictions which lead to wasted resources from those who, in far too many cases, can least afford it. Children ultimately suffer the consequences of poor adult behavior brought on by said addictions.

I hope you’ll carefully consider the long-term factors which would create a negative impact to our region. Thank you for your consideration.

Professionally yours,  
Wanda Barlett  
Boalsburg, PA

*Nicholas Kello  
914 Robin Road  
State College, PA 16801*

College Township Council  
1481 E. College Avenue  
State College, PA 16801

August 24, 2022

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing to implore you to withdraw College Township's support for and approval of the planned Nittany Mall casino proposed by SC Gaming OpCo, LLC and its partners.

There are numerous shortcomings in the approval and licensing processes. Considerably more scrutiny, disclosure and analysis are needed to understand the proposed casino's positive and negative implications for College Township and the adjacent communities.

Among other deficiencies, missing is a detailed analysis regarding the potentially negative financial and social costs associated with the proposed casino, who may bear them, and how they may impact the community over time. College Township tax revenue benefits are highlighted as a compelling driver by the applicant. No township budget allowances, it appears, are planned to address the social services support costs for the proposed casino's adversely affected customers and other real financial outlays likely necessary to deal with an operating casino's impact on the community at-large.

College Township knows well the funding challenges all local governments face in providing first responder services, which in Centre County are presently financially strained. It is well documented that those of lower socioeconomic means tend to spend proportionally more on gambling and are at greater risk of suffering increased adversity from gambling related problems. This adversity includes social costs like family stress, job loss, crime and mental health challenges. These in turn impose direct and indirect economic costs on the broader community in the form of social support costs (food, housing, etc.), treatment costs, law enforcement / criminal justice expense, and hospital / EMS expense, among other costs. Critically, these costs will not be shouldered exclusively by College Township . they will be significantly underwritten by the neighboring townships and boroughs.

College Township's approval of this casino will spray costs in the form of direct financial expenses and negative social externalities onto neighboring communities. Approval of this casino demands regional buy-in by all the communities and jurisdictions impacted by its presence. Accordingly, ethical governance practices demand College Township Council deny this application.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Kello

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** John Asbury <johnandbrea@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:35 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from johnandbrea@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern:

I am a State College resident and have been for 17 years. We have three children-- one a Penn State student and two high schoolers. My husband is a professor at Penn State and I am a substitute teacher in the public schools. We absolutely oppose the addition of a casino at the Nittany Mall and adjure you not to proceed with the plans for one. Thank you for taking into account the views and opinions of those of us who live here.

Brea and John Asbury

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Beth Williams <gbvm34@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 6:46 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** NO NO NO

You don't often get email from gbvm34@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

NO NO

Do NOT approve to have a casino put in the Nittany Mall. I think it will lower the standards in our community. Drawing in criminals, homeless, drug and alcohol abuse. Just say NO NO NO NO NO NO.

NO NO,  
Beth Williams

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Victoria Alexander <editoratlarge1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 12:29 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from editoratlarge1@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

There are no good reasons to have a casino in State College, PA but there are plenty of bad ones.

1. No one ever makes money except the Casino owners. Period. They purposely let one person win to set an example of how "nice" and generous they are, but it's all a lie.
2. Kids will be in the mall around gamblers and being educated in the wrong way. The mall will be closed off and it will be inconvenient to people who just want to shop.
3. Read what happened to other small areas that opened a casino. It's not good.
4. The only people who want a casino are the owners and Penn State. Hmm...
5. Interesting how alcohol is only sold in state- owned shops, marijuana sold at dispensaries goes to the state, cigarettes equal the same thing. Now casinos are open to anyone and everyone, why? So they can make money for the wrong reasons. Oh. 😊
6. The guy who has this great idea doesn't even live in Centre County, hence he doe not care what happens as a result of his business.

Hope this helps.

Victoria

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Katy Stager <kjstager@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:48 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino Opposition

[You don't often get email from kjstager@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I'm a local mom of 4 young kids writing to express my sincere discontent with the plans to move forward with building a casino in our small, family-oriented community. The effects of gambling, the additional traffic, and the particular crowd such an establish will draw are not what we signed up for when we decided to establish a family in State College.

As local citizens, we state for the record that under no circumstances do we or will we approve of the "casino plan" in our community.

Thank you for your time.

Katy Stager

[State College Borough Resident]

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Eli 'Bo' Byrne <byrneworks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Vote NO to Casino in College Township!

You don't often get email from byrneworks@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To The College Township Council:

Allowing a casino to operate in College Township has disaster written all over it!

- 1) Gambling addiction is a serious problem nationwide and worldwide. It is as much a hazard of the human condition as drug addiction. Just as many opioid addicts would never have become addicts if they had not been given the drug as a pain reliever for some injury, many gambling addicts will never gamble unless the opportunity presents itself. When so many area residents are facing financial hardships, the attraction of easy money at a local casino could further sink the bank accounts of residents and students. This is good for profits, but disastrous for communities!
- 2) It will not be profitable for College Township or the Centre Region. Most of the casino profits will go to the parent company and not be re-spent in the community. The taxes to the township and the wages to local employees will be a small fraction of all the money lost by locals to the casino that might otherwise have been spent in the community at local businesses. Moreover, there will be a dramatic increase in demand for local social services and other resources as people discover their addiction and ruin their lives and those of their families.
- 3) Cash rich businesses are prime operations for money laundering and inherently attract much more dangerous elements of organized crime, even if the original business owners want nothing to do with crime. When hard core criminals show up and tell you to play ball, nobody can be expected to withstand that kind of pressure. Once organized crime is involved, can drug dealing, prostitution and ultimately human trafficking be far behind?
- 4) Any business preying on people's weaknesses is morally corrupt. I'm not suggesting every bet is evil - it can be harmless fun, and it can fund charities

or social services like our PA Lottery. But gambling is not as easy to limit as alcohol, which can also be harmless in small doses but disastrous for addicts. Bartenders are required to stop serving drinks to customers who drink too much. But have you ever heard of a Casino barring customers from betting because they lost too much? And, of course, the customers could arguably demand a chance to win some back.

5) Once there is one casino, there will surely be competition! Lety's nip this in the bud!

As I opened, allowing a casino here has disaster written all over it. I dread the thought of how this lovely community will decline and I dread the thought of how many lives will be ruined, and many local young people will fall prey to the increased level of crime this will bring!

**DON'T GAMBLE THE FUTURE OF THIS COMMUNITY!**

Sincerely,  
Eli Byrne

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**From:** Rosemary Hagen <reh0325@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 12:31 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from reh0325@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good Afternoon, Council,

My guess is that you want to allow a casino because of its draw for more tourism dollars to the area. However, it seems to me to be a negative draw compared with all the reasons people come here now.

What concerns me individually is it's presence brings with it people with addictive personalities and gambling has been shown to lead to other addictions, loss of jobs, failed relationships and very serious debt. Why would we want to add another addiction to our growing drug and alcohol problems which already lead to failing college, codependencies, robberies, and even murders. Gambling problems are also heavily related to mental health problems, depression, anxiety and mood disorders.

Why would we do anything to enhance that scenario? Have you ever watched a loved one starve his family due to enormous debt to a casino? A wife or husband being battered when objecting to their spouses irresponsibly? A break in for valuables, credit cards, cash to continue this addiction?

Then, there is the fact of not enough treatment centers nor counselors for the walking wounded we already have in our community. Please do not go forward with your plans for a casino that would take away from us much more than it could ever benefit us.

Sincerely,  
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Hagen

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

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**From:** Elizabeth Crisfield <ecrisfield@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from ecrisfield@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

resending due to a bad e-mail address:

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 1:34 PM Elizabeth Crisfield <[ecrisfield@gmail.com](mailto:ecrisfield@gmail.com)> wrote:

College Township -

Please, do what is in your realm of influence to keep a casino out of our region.

Casinos drain communities and households of wealth. You can help protect our region from this dangerous, predatory commerce.

Thanks,

Elizabeth Crisfield

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814 777 3395

[The Strategic Stewardship Initiative](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Rhys John <johnr@dm.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 6:43 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Casino

You don't often get email from johnr@dm.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

I live in the state college borough but I wanted to voice my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall area. Please vote to decline this project.

Thank you,  
Rhys John

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** anthonypaula <anthonypaula@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louisglantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I Oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from anthonypaula@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I'm a resident of Summit at Shiloh, here in College Twp. When we moved here 11 years ago, I NEVER thought I would have to be voicing my opposition to a Casino. This is a college town and area where people come to enjoy college sports, concerts, etc. My husband and I retired here from western PA and many others retire here also to enjoy everything this beautiful town/area has to offer.

PLEASE do not approve this casino. It will add more traffic problems on Shiloh Road which is very difficult now entering from Trout Road. This is not a good idea and one I'm extremely concerned about.

Listen to your constituents. We have a lot to lose if this goes through.

Paula Gebicki  
100 Jefferson Avenue, Suite 115  
State College, PA 16801-8703

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Carolyn Wilhelm <clwilhelm1@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:38 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewschaffer148@gmail.com; Carolyn Wilhelm  
**Subject:** Negative response to proposed casino

[You don't often get email from clwilhelm1@me.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear College Township Council members,

I am opposed to the proposed casino in the mall. This is not a positive method to provide jobs nor to draw revenue into the area. On paper, I suspect the numbers look reasonable. My experience is that revenue estimates are usually optimistic and expense estimate are less than realistic. I also suspect that these estimates have not been revised for the increase in inflation, especially labor costs.

My primary opposition to a casino, however, is the core concept of "casino". Casino are for old people. This region, like all areas of the US, needs to move to high tech industries. Industries that required an education. Young people don't go to smoke-filled, crass, card-playing dens these days. That concept is dead. I saw the architects drawings of the façade proposed for the entrance. It was designed by a more-than-senior-citizen. It was so out-of-date and tacky that it was an embarrassment. As for being an "entertainment" center? Even Liberace and Wayne Newton are gone. That era was golden, but it is gone. Las Vegas succeeds only because it is a tourist attraction, not because people gamble. Young people use phones and computers and gamble on memo stocks, not cards and machines.

If the casino is built, it will, in my opinion, end up losing money after the first years of excitement. Then the prime movers of this bad idea will come whining to the council with their hands out for a bailout and financial support.

There is a world-class university in this town. Why don't you use that as a base to attraction high-paying, innovative enterprises? Put those casino drawings in a museum drawer with mothballs.

Best,

Carolyn Wilhelm

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Al Jones <speedydixiedoc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:08 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino

You don't often get email from speedydixiedoc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My husband and I are vehemently opposed to a casino in our community. It will markedly change the ambience of our college oriented community. We moved here 45 years ago because we felt the environment was wonderful for raising our children and pursuing our own interests in an educated and safe place. A casino will bring in negative elements, promote unhealthy habits, tempt gamblers who are trying to live a better life. There is no upside to this destructive force. Money acquisition should not be the criteria for destroying the beautiful town we have.

Dr. J Alfred and Avis G. Jones

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Stefani Bjorklund <sabjorklund@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 7:09 AM  
**To:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com; CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No casino in College Township

You don't often get email from sabjorklund@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council members:

As a 26 year resident of State College, I'm writing to you today to tell you I oppose the idea of a casino in College Township/Centre County.

Local casinos don't revive the local economy. People who gamble at local casinos generally come from within a limited geographic radius, don't shop or eat at nearby establishments, or stay in local hotels, etc.

Local casino gamblers are disproportionately lower income residents who really don't have the extra money to lose (and they will lose as casinos are profit driven businesses). Casinos like the one proposed therefore are intended to shift the economic burden from the local government to lower income residents, a wholly unjust proposition. Certainly we can figure out a more equitable way to pay for government needs.

For the sake of our local residents and the good of College Township, do not allow a casino in our town.

Stefani Bjorklund  
642 E Waring Ave  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** David Hatfield <drh5001@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:53 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from drh5001@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello members of the College Township Council and Township Solicitor Glantz. I am asking you all to do everything in your power to stop the building of the Nittany Mall casino. As a College Township resident (148 Jay Lane) and a parent I'm very concerned about the multiple negative effects the casino could have on our community. There are many options that could actually help the prosperity of our township and region that could be placed there, but doing nothing and having the space remain vacant would still be dramatically better than moving forward with the casino. I believe I represent the majority in our community and again I ask you; please do everything in your power to stop the building of the Nittany Mall Casino!

Respectfully,

David Hatfield

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Marsha Freije <olivebranch2013@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; Sharon Ambrose  
**Subject:** Casino opposition

[You don't often get email from olivebranch2013@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I am a resident of College township, in Houserville, living close to the mall. I am writing in opposition of adding a casino to our town, as it will detract from all the positive aspects of State College, and lower our property values. By bringing so many unwanted problems to our town with a casino, we are asking for trouble.

Kindly,  
Marsha Freije  
Stearns Crossing development  
Houserville, PA  
olivebranch2013@aol.com

---

**From:** Gernilee Carter <gernilee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from gernilee@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear decision makers,

If you really are committed to destroying the 'village' of State College, of finishing the job that borough council has started with high rises, defying the character, charm and desirability of this historic, isolated, peaceful community then go ahead and invite a gambling casino and the ambience and patrons that will accompany it.

You will rue the day; the residents of the borough will eventually move out of the borough leaving blocks of run down, eventually abandoned, rooming houses.

A casino will be a nail in the coffin of a once well loved, respected, valued community.

GerneyLee Carter  
State College

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**From:** Marc McCann <marc.mccann88@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:58 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Casino

You don't often get email from marc.mccann88@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council (Mr. Glantz cc'ed),

I wanted to express my opposition to any plans for bringing a casino into the Centre Region. I've lived in this region for 32 years, raised three sons, and been involved in human services for 25 of those years (and at Penn State the past six).

I believe strongly, which the literature bears out, that new casinos in a town our size tend to generate an initial economic bump, but that this economic surge declines, while other negative outcomes grow, from crime to alcohol abuse and gambling addiction.

As a children/youth/family advocate, I see no redeeming qualities of building a casino in State College, and urge you to use your power and influence to prevent this from happening.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marc McCann

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Shannon Frey <shannonsfrey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 7:13 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to proposed casino

[You don't often get email from shannonsfrey@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Council,

I would like to note my opposition to the casino, and I am still looking for ways to stop its creation in College Township. I would like to request that the solicitor ask the PA Gaming Control Board what College Township's options are and if they can possibly opt out of allowing a casino to be built in the township.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Shannon Frey, College Township resident

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jeff Davidson <jeffadavidson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:42 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition To College Township Casino - An Unhealthy Business For Our Region

You don't often get email from jeffadavidson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council Members,

I appreciate the work you do on behalf of the community. Thank you for your time and effort. We have lived and worked in this area for 35 years, and value the region.

I am strongly against creating a new and unhealthy casino business in our area. Adding a business designed to deplete the money of visitors and our citizens is a pretty striking change from the community we are and have been. Further this business is especially designed to prey upon the vulnerable and the addicted.

I think the community would regret pursuing this path. Our region is known for education and healthy tourism. Let's not disregard that for the sake of a short-term Nittany Mall tennet.

I hope you will join in the community of effort opposing the introduction of a casino to our region.

--

Jeff Davidson  
Boalsburg, PA 16827

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kris Danford <kldanford@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:57 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No casino!

[You don't often get email from kldanford@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I believe the State College community will Be negatively impacted by a casino! There are so many other services and amenities this family-oriented town needs. I strongly oppose the casino.

Kristin Danford

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Susan Kroeker <skroeker1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:25 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino !!

You don't often get email from skroeker1@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the College Township Council,

I work in College Township at First National Bank of Lemont, and also spend a significant of time in College Township patronizing many businesses, enjoying the beautiful paved trails and parks, and reliving many happy memories of the 25 years we lived and raised our 5 children in Houserville. ( I am now a resident of Bellefonte). Along with many others I would like to state that **I am strongly opposed to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino**. I can't even begin to envision such an establishment in College Township, or anywhere in Centre County, and I am appalled that it is being considered.

I recently read a great article in *The Atlantic* written by David Frum, and would like to share an excerpt from it that summarizes my sentiments exactly:

“The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is “unambiguously negative,” according to the economists at the National Association of Realtors. Casinos don't encourage non-gaming businesses to open nearby, because the people who most often visit casinos do not wander out to visit other shops and businesses. A casino is not like a movie theater or a sports stadium, offering a time-limited amusement. It is designed to be an all-absorbing environment that does not release its customers until they have exhausted their money.

The Institute for American Values has gathered the best evidence on the social consequences of casinos. That evidence should worry any responsible city government.

People who live close to a casino are twice as likely to become problem gamblers as people who live more than 10 miles away. As casinos have become more prevalent, so has problem gambling: in some states, the evidence suggests a tripling or even quadrupling of the number of problem gamblers.

While the gaming industry argues that the total number of problem gamblers remains small, that small minority is crucial to the industry's profits: One Canadian study found that the 75 percent of casino customers who gamble most casually provide only 4 percent of casino revenues. A range of studies reviewed by IAV estimated that between 40 to 60 percent of casino revenues are earned from problem gamblers. And as Amy Zietlow observed in an important study commissioned by IAV, those problem gamblers increasingly are drawn from the ranks of the vulnerable elderly. Half of casino visitors are over age 50, but casinos market themselves to the over 70 and even over 80 market, to whom gambling offers an escape from boredom and loneliness into a hypnotic zone of rapid-fire electronic stimuli.

As casino expansion reaches its limits, the towns and cities that turned to gambling to escape *their* problems may discover that they have accepted a sucker's bet: local economies that look worse than ever, local residents tempted into new forms of self-destructive behavior, and a dwindling flow of cash to show for it all."

It is so easy to see what a negative impact the proposed casino would have in the area on so many levels, and I urge you to do all in your power to keep this casino out of our community. Of course, I also worry about the effect it may have on my job since I work at a bank so close to the mall.

Thanks so much for taking the time to read this email, and to consider the point of view from so many others who are opposed.

Sincerely,

Susan Kroeker

[skroeker1@comcast.net](mailto:skroeker1@comcast.net)



**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Amber Miller <ambereemiller@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 7:47 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Oppose Nittany Casino

You don't often get email from ambereemiller@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

I am writing today to state as strongly as possible my disapproval of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. My husband and I are both Penn State alumni, we work on the University Park campus and we live in Ferguson Township. We have two daughters who are current Penn State students. We care deeply about the character and the community of State College and a casino is not the type of business that we want in our area. Penn State is a community built on bringing out the best in everyone through our wonderful education, sports, and arts influences. We do not need another establishment that makes the majority of its profits from other peoples' addictions. The benefit to the community is not worth the high price we would pay.

Thank you for considering the input of the residents of this community in your decisions. Please do not allow a casino in the area.

Best,  
Mrs. Amber R. Miller

Academic Adviser - Eberly College of Science  
124A S. Frear Building  
University Park, PA

Home address:  
117 Ramblewood Road  
PA Furnace, PA 16865

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Nancy Cone <nancycone56@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:54 AM  
**Subject:** Casino Concerns

You don't often get email from nancycone56@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir,

Centre Region will not benefit economically or socially from a casino. The statistics prove there are huge consequences to our local population.

We do not want these outcomes for our local Centre Region Community. There are far better ways to build our community. Our children need a healthy, safe environment to thrive in. This will only hurt our children, youth and families.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cone, Centre County Resident

Communities located within 10 miles of a casino exhibit **double the rate of problem gambling**. Unsurprisingly, such communities also suffer higher rates of home foreclosure and other forms of economic distress and domestic violence. Sept. 24, 2013 CNN

Economic impacts include employment and wages, tax revenues, benefits to consumers, and economic development. Social impacts usually consist of negative effects related to gambling disorder. These include bankruptcy, crime, personal health issues, and family problems. Apr 28, 2017 Evidence Centre

Many of these impacts result from the negative consequences associated with disordered gambling and may include **decreased productivity on the job, depression and physical illness due to stress, increased suicide attempts, unpaid debts and bankruptcies, and divorce**. Jun 29, 2016 The Citadel

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kay Shirk <kays816@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:11 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Strongly opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from kays816@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Having resided in Penn Hills for more than 39 years, I am all too familiar with businesses in our area that have come and gone over the years. But the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall is by far the worst possible establishment to put in that location--or any other place in College Township.

With the potential for far more traffic and resulting vehicular violations and accidents, to more alcohol and drug abuse, to encouraging gambling addictions among students, the elderly, and other vulnerable groups, WHY would you want to jeopardize this township with a casino?

Studies show that the financial benefits to a township or county are far outweighed by the problems that ensue with such an establishment – especially in an area that also has a high number of lower-income residents in nearby communities who are already struggling with low wages and dealing with inflated prices for basic necessities. The gambling casino would benefit *no one else* except its owners.

***Please keep the casino out of College Township.***

Kathryn Shirk  
Penn Hills, State College

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**From:** Marie Hamilton <gmfhamilton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from gmfhamilton@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Gentlemen. Please think of the negative things a Casino will bring to our area. I have dedicated my life to bringing wholesome Human Services to Centre County, including CentrePeace, The Centre for Alternatives in Community Justice and many more. In one swoop, you slant our efforts for wholesome opportunities into opportunities of gambling and all the negative things that go with it. I am ashamed that our Township would even consider stooping so low. Respectfully, Marie Hamilton

--  
Founder, CentrePeace 814 238-8735

**"Grace Goes to Prison"**

**TedX Talk: "Breaking Out of Prison Thinking"**

**Toward a More Restorative Justice System**

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**From:** SALLY MCANENY <sallymcan@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** No casino, please.

You don't often get email from sallymcan@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I am opposed to the establishment of a casino in the township for the following reasons:

1. The state has reneged on its promise to use casino proceeds to offset local taxes and there is no reason to believe that this will change with the addition of another casino. I don't think the area will profit one bit from the opening of a casino. The profits would most certainly not benefit College Township or the Centre region as a whole.
2. The location, in an area with retail businesses that attract families, is totally wrong. There is no good reason for this and I would hate to be a parent trying to explain the allure of flashing lights, bells, and whistles to a young child. Or an adolescent.
3. As a corollary to #2, I don't think a casino would contribute wholesome entertainment to the region. We certainly don't need another distraction.
4. I honestly think a casino would place undue demands on an already overtaxed police system.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Sincerely,

Sally McAneny

127 Plymouth Circle

Boalsburg, PA 16827

[sallymcan@comcast.net](mailto:sallymcan@comcast.net)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Rebecca Horwitt <rebeccawilf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 7:29 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino: no thanks!

You don't often get email from rebeccawilf@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

I would very much like to see Nittany Mall redeveloped, but a casino is not in line with our community's needs and would negatively affect residents both local and not. Please request that Solicitor Jeff Stover ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what the Township's options are, and that he ask specifically whether College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction.

Sincerely yours,

Rebecca Horwitt

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Debbie's Gmail <debra.m.harrison@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 4:21 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** State College Casino

[You don't often get email from debra.m.harrison@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I am writing to voice my concern regarding a casino being brought into the State College area. Though I am not a College Township resident I am a resident of Patton Township and have been since 1982. We have raised our family in this area and was attracted to this area because of its family atmosphere and pleasant small town feel. My husband is employed by Penn State and has been since the time we moved to this area. As discussing this issue of a casino in our area please consider how the long time residents feel about this and vote against bringing the casino to our area. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Debbie Harrison

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** SUSIE CARTER <susiecarter@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Vote NO on casino

You don't often get email from susiecarter@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please vote no on the application to open a casino in Centre County.

Communities located within 10 miles of a casino exhibit double the rate of problem gambling. Communities also suffer higher rates of home foreclosure and other forms of economic distress and domestic violence.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Sandra Foulkrod <sandrabfoulkrod@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 7:53 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposing the proposed casino

[You don't often get email from sandrabfoulkrod@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I am against the casino coming into the mall in State college. There is nothing Good that comes out of gambling.  
Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Eastridge, Marilyn <e8o@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 9:01 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Oppose casino

You don't often get email from e8o@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I think this proposal for a casino is definitely not appropriate for a college town....nor for one our size. I consider this only a money making idea for a few individuals, and of no benefit to the larger community. Among the many addictions distructive to a community, along with drugs and alcohol, is gambling.

If people here want to gamble they can go elsewhere, as well as online.

Marilyn Eastridge  
500 E. Marylyn Ave.  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Sue Jackson <sue\_jack@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:59 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose casino

[You don't often get email from sue\_jack@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I am writing to share my thoughts concerning the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in State College, Pennsylvania. I and my family have been residents in Ferguson and Patton Townships for thirty (30) years and our whole family is strongly opposed.

Our opposition has a lot of company, as I don't know a friend or acquaintance who is in favor of bringing a casino to our town. All are sad, disappointed, even angry about the harm that will come to many by living or working in proximity to this venture. What harm, you may ask?

First, it will hurt the poor. Those who are least able to gamble without doing harm to themselves or their households are the very ones who are tempted to give it a try. The people I have known or personally heard about who have gambled to their detriment were all folks who 'couldn't afford to lose' at gambling, including one mature woman who filed for bankruptcy several times. Who ends up paying for the losses of the poor when they gamble? The community they live in pays, taxpayers pay.

Second, with a large college campus in town who else will be hurt by gambling? It will be students who already are carrying debt they may never be able to repay, or more likely in many cases it will be their parents who pay. Is this the type of 'opportunity' in town that will help build them into honest, hard-working, self-supporting citizens? If a bar establishment will be connected to the casino is this not another negative drawing point for students?

Third, it hurts the entire community because they will pay for the broad negative consequences. Gambling is not a wholesome endeavor. But this is a free country, to each his own. Yes. Does that mean it belongs here? Does that mean those desiring to bring it here should hold sway?

Truly, I don't know of a person who wants a casino here.

I recently learned that The Lycoming Mall has been turned into a casino. A drive of one hour and twenty-three minutes will supply a gambling opportunity there for any who desire it and can - hopefully - afford to gamble. Further, in the Centre County Gazette where an article about the casino appears on the front page for May 26-June 1, it is interesting to also read an article that appears on page 5 entitled, "New bus route to connect State College and Atlantic City". In the article it specifies that "Service will end in Atlantic City at three casino locations...."

Could we not do better for our town than to try to make it another casino destination? How sad. With I-80 in close proximity what-or-whom will we be attracting? Look at the police blogs for activity on I-80 and note the drug traffic, immigrant/potential human trafficking, etc.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this matter. There are many who have not heard what is proposed, or how to comment, or when public meetings have taken place or will take place in the future. The decline of print news leaves many getting news in various ways, and news like this may only spread by word-of-mouth.

Not all investments in a community are good. Some put money in the pockets of the investors or developers to the harm of the people that end up having to live with it. I believe that is true in this case, and I hope you deny the proposal.

Sincerely,  
Sue Jackson (30-year resident of State College)  
1348 Deerfield Drive

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** marc warren <marc@customerfollowupinc.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:14 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino

You don't often get email from marc@customerfollowupinc.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

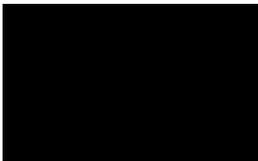
Life is already a gamble for our young college aged people. We do not need to make it easy for them to gamble away their limited funds by the allure of easy money at a casino. Don't gamble their future. It's not worth it - for them or our community.

Thank you,

Marc

--

Marc Warren | President



Start a conversation: [www.calendly.com/marc-153](http://www.calendly.com/marc-153)

[marc@customerfollowupinc.com](mailto:marc@customerfollowupinc.com)

[www.customerfollowupinc.com](http://www.customerfollowupinc.com)

*25 Years Helping Design and Build Stronger Client Relationships*

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/marc-warren/>

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**From:** andy1@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 1:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; jstover@nittanylawn.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Centre Region not the place for Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from andy1@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the respected members of the College Twp. Council,

My name is Andrew S. Yablonsky, and I've been a Centre County resident (State College, Centre Hall) for 21 yrs.

An insidious force, the Nittany Mall casino gaming license approval, is lurking on the edges of Happy Valley's borders. If approved by the Pa. Gaming Board this autumn, this totally unnecessary casino will swiftly add a permanent & indelible stain to our community.

As each of you, and your family members over the age of 12 y/o, must be fully aware by now, that we, Centre County residents, are bombarded daily, by print, TV, & social media, gambling advertisements, gambling marketing campaigns, & gambling promotions offering free \$\$\$ to place bets. Gambling opportunities are everywhere.

My point is, that opportunities abound, if one wishes to gamble. One needs only to push a button on their phone to "play" in gambling sites, the world over! The temptations are endless for online gaming opportunities.

The very LAST thing our Centre Region needs, is a brick and mortar casino gambling location, 3.1 miles from Penn State's flagship campus, comprised of 40,000, impressionable students.

Therefore, please request that Jeff Stover, Solicitor, ask the Pa. Gaming Control Board what the College Township's options are now, & what can be done to establish College Township's position, to deny a casino to be built, w/i its jurisdiction.

I respectfully request all members of the august College Twp. Council to exert their full power in doing everything possible, to influence, any and all attempts towards those, who wish to grant approval for the casino license.

I expect you all to do the right thing, & to be conscientious in beating back this sinister force, that is attempting to defile and debase this wonderful community, which all of you have an obligation to preserve and safeguard.

I thank-you for your service, and have high expectations that you will do all w/i your power, to insure a denial of the Nittany Mall casino license.

Sincerely,

Mr. Andrew S. Yablonsky  
Centre Hall, Pa.



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**From:** Scott Sheeder <sas371@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:04 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from sas371@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of Ferguson Township, and wish to express my opinion that the Centre Region does not need, and will not benefit from a casino in our area. I'm concerned that the negative impacts of gambling will significantly outweigh the benefits of the few resulting good jobs.

Let's search for a creative use of the Nittany Mall property, with fewer downsides than gambling would bring to our community.

Thanks for your consideration,

Scott

--

Scott Sheeder  
Cell: 814-777-7395  
Email: [sas371@gmail.com](mailto:sas371@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jonathan Eckert <eckertjonathan@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 11:28 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino Opposition

You don't often get email from eckertjonathan@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Greetings,

Just a quick note to state my opposition to the proposed Casino at the Nittany Mall. I could list all my reasons why but you have heard them all before. Just count my voice as another in opposition.

regards,

Jonathan Eckert

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Maggie Ellis <maggie.langelaan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 6:00 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to a Casino

[You don't often get email from maggie.langelaan@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I am in complete opposition to a casino opening up in State College.

I am a health care worker with Mount Nittany Physician Group.

We need a preventative approach to addiction. There is enough struggle with insufficient mental health resources to treat the problems we currently have.

Maggie Ellis  
606 Devonshire Drive  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Ellen Jankowski <ellenj56@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 8:17 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from ellenj56@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I have lived in State College Boro for 35 years, so I have lived near College Township and have visited the Nittany Mall countless times over those years. My strong belief is that a casino at the mall is not in the best interests of our community. There are already many casinos in Pennsylvania, plus there are many online casinos that people can access. Also, since it is known that people can become addicted to gambling, I believe that a casino at the mall would not benefit anyone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.  
Ellen Jankowski

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Donna Shaffer <donnashaffer908@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 8:40 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please oppose a casino in State College

You don't often get email from donnashaffer908@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom it may Concern:

We are writing to request that you do everything possible to prevent a casino from being built in the Nittany Mall.

My husband and I are alumni of Penn State and recently retired to State College where we reside in the Borough. We frequent College Township for business, medical appointments and recreational activities.

We have always considered State College to be a family-friendly, safe and wonderful place to raise children and obtain a higher education.

We have moved from a community that had a casino nearby and have seen firsthand many of the negative effects that studies show come along with a casino. Therefore we are urging you to rescind your approval.

Please give careful consideration to this request.

Respectfully,  
Donna and Paul Shaffer

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Dara Sanoubane <darasanoubane@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 9:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Development of the casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from darasanoubane@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I oppose the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall, and believe the space can be better purposed for the town/area for business, and the well-being of the community. I am from the Ferguson Township and a PSU alumni and a SCSD parent, and I am strongly against the development of this casino.

**Dara Sanoubane**

**State College, PA**

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Tapas Mal <tapas1269@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:04 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I strongly oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from tapas1269@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear City Councilor,

**I strongly oppose opening a Casino at the Nittany Mall!**

It may initially benefit the township financially in the short term, but the damage it will cause to our beloved 'Township' goes far beyond any benefits. It will bring social unrest, anarchy, and family problems and not to mention, headache for our law enforcement. The Township will lose its charm of a peaceful and tranquil place of living. It's a college town and no one wants to expose these kids to this addictive gambling! It's simply a bad idea to open a Casino in our Town!

Best regards,

Tapas Mal  
291 Florence Way  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Yuhui Zhou <yuhui.zhou@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from yuhui.zhou@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom this may concern,

As a resident in State College for over 18 years, I'm sending this email to express my strong opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I strongly agree with the following reasons for our opposition to the Proposed Nittany Mall Casino:

1. So much of the State College community is opposed to the development of the proposed casino that the casino will not have enough local customers to be profitable. The volunteers who collected signatures for the hard-copy petition opposing the casino found that people in our community generally oppose the proposed casino by a margin of 9 to 1. Also, most of the people who declined to sign the petition did not support the casino either (i.e. they did not care either way because they were not planning to go to the casino themselves). The community's overwhelming opposition to the proposed casino is documented on the <https://saynocasino.org/> website and by the Facebook group opposing the casino.
2. The gambling market in Pennsylvania is already oversaturated. People who want to gamble generally go to whichever casino is closest, so the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall would not attract a large number of tourists from out of town. This will limit the casino's revenue to whatever it can extract from the local State College community.
3. Discretionary spending in Central Pennsylvania has been severely reduced by the impacts of high inflation. People who are spending their entire budgets on food and fuel do not have money left over for gambling. Wage increases are not keeping pace with inflation, which means that available discretionary spending in the community is decreasing over time.
4. Casinos in Pennsylvania are already suffering such severe competition from pervasive skills games that they have been forced to undertake an expensive and risky lobbying effort to defend themselves. The competition from skills games throughout the entire Central Pennsylvania region will further pressure the profitability of a new casino in State College.
5. Casinos in Pennsylvania are also under severe pressure from online gaming and sports betting which will further reduce the profitability of a land-based casino in sparsely populated Central Pennsylvania. The sports betting offered at the proposed Nittany Mall Casino will attract only a limited number of in-person customers from the local community. Bally's online options for sports betting will have to compete with numerous other online sports betting firms that have already become well established while Bally's Corporation has been forced to wait for the resolution of the lawsuit against its partner Ira Lubert. Any attempt to break into the Pennsylvania online sports betting market at this late juncture would be very expensive and likely to fail.
6. The cost of entry-level labor in State College has increased significantly, with entry-level jobs for teenagers at convenience stores now often paying \$15 per hour or more (excluding sign-on bonuses). The casino will have to offer significantly more than this to attract older and/or more experienced employees. If it tries to attract employees from outside the local area, it will need to pay a significant wage premium to cover the fuel costs of non-local employees because gas costs

\$5 per gallon. The high wages required to attract enough employees to staff the casino will further reduce the casino's profitability.

7. The cost of electricity in State College recently increased dramatically. A casino is basically a warehouse full of computers (i.e. electronic slot machines) with lots of lighting and space

conditioning expenses, and the energy density of most casinos is high (i.e. usually between that of a hospital and a supercomputing center). Because the proposed Nittany Mall Casino would require so much electricity to operate, the recent increase in local electricity prices will significantly increase the costs of operating this casino, and therefore reduce its profitability.

8. Bally's stock is currently trading at approximately 2/3 of its book value. If the company used the money that it plans to spend on developing the Nittany Mall Casino on buying back stock instead, it would realize a significant and guaranteed increase in both its book value per share and its equity per share. A buyback now would also magnify the increase in the company's earnings per share and further drive up its share price once the company later regains profitability. A stock buyback now would be more beneficial for all of Bally's stockholders than the marginal increase in revenue that the proposed Nittany Mall Casino would generate.

9. Bally's is currently pursuing a \$1.7 billion destination casino in Chicago that will be much more profitable than the proposed casino in State College could ever be. The company is currently selling its land assets and forgoing the inflation-driven increase in property values that it could have easily accrued from them to fund this development. The company should focus its attention and resources on the lucrative Chicago market with its millions of customers instead of being distracted by a side-show \$120 million mini-casino in sparsely populated Central Pennsylvania.

10. Any other arguments that you find compelling might prick the conscience of at least one of Bally's senior leaders. Many such arguments are highlighted on the <https://saynocasino.org/> website and in the Facebook group opposing the proposed casino. Many other compelling arguments against the casino were also provided in the public feedback that was submitted to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, and these same arguments can be easily updated for submission to Bally's senior leaders.

Thank you for considering our opposition.

Sincerely,

Yuhui (Millie) Zhou

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**From:** Sandy Quick <sandyq15@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 2:03 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from sandyq15@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Please reconsider allowing a casino in our county. We fear that it will bring more crime, drug and alcohol abuse as well as possible sex trafficking. Please put the welfare of our community above the financial gain.

Jack and Sandy Quick

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Dorothy Bellissimo <dorothybellissimo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:17 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil

You don't often get email from dorothybellissimo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I DO NOT approve of a casino Nittany Mall!

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Edward Kaiser <edward\_kaiser@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 6:56 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to proposed casino

You don't often get email from edward\_kaiser@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear members of the College Township Council,

I wanted to inform you that I recently sent the following email to Mr. Glantz. Thank you!

Best regards,

~Edward Kaiser

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 9:08 PM Edward Kaiser <[edward\\_kaiser@yahoo.com](mailto:edward_kaiser@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Glantz,

I'm writing you about the proposed casino in the former Macy's Department Store location at the Nittany Mall.

My name is Edward Kaiser. My wife and I have been residents of College township for the past 17 years.

I think it would be very harmful for the community to have a casino. I attended the August 16, 2021 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board hearing. I was especially concerned by what Gaming Control Board member Sean Logan said that evening.

"He (Sean Logan) said there is an ongoing problem the developers would need to think about: people leaving children in cars at casinos. "By the grace of God, a kid hasn't died yet," he said. "Every day I think we're going to get a call to tell us something happened to a child." He said in the past week, about 12 children were left in cars." (from WPSU article)

This is very troubling. Having a casino in our community is just not worth this danger. Please find a way to withdraw from this project and help keep our community safe. Thank you!

Sincerely,

~Edward Kaiser

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Bolton, Lisa Elizabeth <leb14@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 7:09 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** Opposed to the Casino

You don't often get email from leb14@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall. I believe the net effect of the casino will be negative due to its harmful effects. These include gambling addiction, poverty, and crime, as well as their damaging consequences for families. I live and work in the community, as do my children, and I have seen firsthand the harmful effects of gambling (including addiction) on my own extended family. Please oppose the casino and protect our community.

Thank you.

Lisa E. Bolton  
224 S Patterson St  
State College PA  
16801  
814 880-3785

## Jennifer Snyder

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**From:** Zachary Simmons <zmsimmons@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 8:31 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposing Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from zmsimmons@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council members,

As a Centre County resident, I strongly oppose the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. Although it promises jobs and revenue to the area, the reality is that it would in fact bring increased addiction and crime to Centre County life, deepen poverty for the most vulnerable, take advantage of students, and siphon money out of the local economy, harming small businesses and families. Please do all that you can to reverse course and make sure this casino does not get built at the mall.

Sincerely,

Zach Simmons

(I live in the State College Area School District and my family and I visit and shop in College Township regularly.)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** SUSANNE GROENENDAAL <stargazerlilly1@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:09 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino

[You don't often get email from stargazerlilly1@verizon.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I do not want a casino here bringing crime and various miseries to our community.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Eric Jones <emj1979@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 12:29 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** We oppose the Nittany Mall Casino!!!

You don't often get email from emj1979@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the members of the College Township Council,

My wife and I live in the borough of State College. We have children and grandchildren within 10 miles of State College. Our concern is for the unintended consequences of having a gambling house in this town. Often such establishments bring other things to an area that are not conducive to wholesome family values.

Such undesired activities include increased financial hardship on families affected by a parent with a gambling addiction, increased alcoholism, prostitution, etc.

Please oppose this project!

Sincerely,  
Eric M. Jones and Linda J. Scott

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Grace Irwin <girwin2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** NO!!!!!! to a casino in the Nittany Mall in Centre County PA!!!

You don't often get email from girwin2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am strongly opposed to a casino going into our mall in State College. Many people have written, including myself, to tell you the numerous reasons why. So, I'll keep this short and not list all of the reasons why this is a very bad idea for our area...

Please do NOT build this here in our small college community.

Grace Irwin

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Amanda Byrd <ajb54@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:20 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall.

You don't often get email from ajb54@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I oppose the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall.

I live in College Township in State College, PA.

I am a PSU faculty member, spouse of another PSU faculty member, parent of a preschooler, and parent of a child in the SCASD school system.

I am part of the community that will be impacted by your decision regarding the proposed casino's license.

Thank you,  
Amanda J. Byrd, MS, CCC-SLP  
she/her



--  
Amanda J. Byrd, MS, CCC-SLP  
she/her

Assistant Teaching Professor  
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders  
The Pennsylvania State University  
404F Ford Building, University Park, PA 16802

ASHA-Certified Speech-Language Pathologist  
Penn State Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic  
110 Ford Building, University Park, PA 16802  
clinic: 814-865-5414  
*clinic fax: 814-863-3759*

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**From:** JoeSharon Guenot <guenotfamily89@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 2:04 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** No casino

You don't often get email from guenotfamily89@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Have you ever known someone with a gambling problem? Did you ever meet a mother who is trying to make ends meet while her husband gambles away the paycheck? The children cowering behind the couch as their mom tries to protect them from the angry father? Angry because she asked him where the money was to pay the mortgage, buy some groceries, fix the car...

Have you met the elderly parents of the middle aged child who gambles away his meager income and refuses to leave their home and get help? A gambling addiction that destroyed his family, his adult son in jail, his parents supporting him on their fixed income?

These are true stories of some people I have met. We've witnessed the hurt and pain. Bringing a casino to our area will just create more of the scenarios. Of course it will bring some jobs and maybe some tourism but at what cost? In the end, the county and municipalities will have to find more funding to combat the problems (drugs, trafficking, prostitution, alcoholism, etc.) that statistically follow these types of businesses.

I've lived in Centre County all my life. It's been a good place to grow up and raise a family. Please don't bring the casino to our area. Please think of the children and families who will be hurt by this decision.

Sincerely,

Sharon Guenot

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**From:** Carolyn Hatley <cahatley211@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:31 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Jeff Stover  
**Subject:** Casino Opposition

[You don't often get email from cahatley211@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Council Members,

As a long term resident of Centre County and one who enjoys the quality of life in our beautiful area, I am respectfully requesting you aggressively identify and pursue any options to stop the development of the proposed casino. This will have a very negative impact on our community. Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

Carolyn A Hatley

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Beth Betts <beth@bettsweb.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 8:40 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis Glantz  
**Subject:** Opposition to casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from beth@bettsweb.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council members:

I am a College Township resident who stands with my community in opposing the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall. As the parent of two PSU graduates, my concern over this development is its impact on our already debt-laden college students.

Thank you for providing a means for me to state my opposition to the casino at the Nittany Mall.

Elizabeth Betts

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Jun Luo <jluous@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 7:38 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** For the reputation of a wonderful College Town called Happy Valley

[You don't often get email from jluous@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear governor and officials,

I am here to express my strong opposition to any forms of casinos project in State College, PA. We trust that the government officials to re-evaluate the project based on the feedbacks from the local residents rather than abuse the power to manipulate people's wills on behalf of the big gambling industry!

Thanks,  
Jun Luo  
A State College resident who cares about our common future

Sent from my iPad

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** R Demorest <yoginiraylenei@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 8:52 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from yoginiraylenei@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

As a College Twp. resident, I am strongly opposed to the possibility of adding a casino to the township. The negatives of this option significantly outweigh the positives for this community. We can do better and I urge you to reject this proposal.

Thank you for your time and efforts for this community,

Raylene

Spring St. State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Nancy Chiswick <nanchiswick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:15 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** The proposed Casino

You don't often get email from nanchiswick@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Authorities:

I have lived and worked in our community for almost 50 years. I raised my family here, and I had a career as a psychologist and business owner. I'm writing to express my very strong concern about having a casino in our community. While not everyone who goes to a casino is addicted to gambling, a significant number of gamblers do develop an addiction to gambling, which is known to cause great harm to individuals, families, and communities. This is especially true during the adolescent years, when it is normal to try new things including things that are harmful.

While my psychology practice did not focus on addiction, several of my colleagues over the years treated addicted patients and taught courses about addiction. I learned and saw enough to know that having a facility like the one that is planned for the Nittany Mall is a very unwise decision for our community. It may generate financial gain, but the cost in individual, family, and community suffering will not be worth it. And ultimately, the cost of remediating the bad effects of having such a facility in a university town will far outweigh the immediate economic benefits.

Our community is known and held in high esteem because we take care of one another, and because we encourage and promote having a healthy and productive life. That will be seriously damaged and diminished if you go forward with this plan.

Nancy R. Chiswick, Ph. D.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Roy & Mary McKinney <mckinneyroymary@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 1:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Stop the casino

You don't often get email from mckinneyroymary@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

We are now in our early 80's and have some wisdom that could help.. Please ask those who are for this casino if there is any good thing they can think of that will come to Centre County if this casino is allowed to proceed. I am a retired R.N. and have some experience with working with addiction problems. Isn't it enough to have the addiction of alcohol, drugs, porn, and sexual addictions among us in this country without encouraging another addiction, gambling? Those who are already leaning toward the other addictions will add this one to their already-ruined lives!

Please don't allow this to come to this college town. Parents of PSU students will not want their kids to have that temptation among all the others inherent to college life! Parents' hard earned money saved for their kids' college should not be wasted on gambling as soon as kids are old enough to pass the requirements for entrance.

Concerned grandparents

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Lisa Richardson <lisarichardson111@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:21 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from lisarichardson111@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to a casino in the Nittany Mall. I have to ask, is this your vision for a thriving Township and for a family-friendly Happy Valley? I think the real problem is that you haven't conducted a visioning plan with a supporting strategic economic development plan for College Township. Without an overarching vision, anything that comes along can seem "acceptable" because you need the tax revenue. But the long term consequences of this kind of business are dire. This is an extractive business and it is particularly problematic and irresponsible on your part if you let this kind of business open during a time of high inflation. What kind of ordinances are on the books? Are strip clubs next?

People often think they can win a little money, maybe to help pay some bills. But the only people getting rich are the casino owners. Residents are left worse off. It will deter other kinds of businesses, as the entire area gets dragged down over time. This kind of business is not filling a need. It is not the kind of business that attracts new residents to Happy Valley or particularly to live in College Township. Families moving into the area that have a choice, won't choose to live in this part of College Township. I wouldn't. Would you?

Come on College Township Council members, we can do better than this! Let's have a visioning exercise and create a long-term, quality plan that fills a real need and that your residents will support. Let's get an economic development plan in place that is beneficial to everyone.

Lisa Richardson  
1285 Haymaker Rd.  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Hill, Jean Baker <jbh5@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:26 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** NO to CASINO

You don't often get email from jbh5@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Please represent the residents of College Township and the entire Centre Region.  
and oppose the Casino at the Nittany MALL or any location in central Pennsylvania.**

Income from tax on the Casino will be wiped out by extra cost in assistance to poor,  
addiction to gambling, extra police,  
drain on water resources, sewer, roads.

A casino is NOT wholesome entertainment, it can and will destroy lives and our community..

A casino will bring undesirable people to the community to commit crimes,  
leave children unattended in hotel rooms,etc.

IT will take money from many to contribute to non resident wealthy including  
the former PSU Trustee, who has no love or respect for PSU or the region.

Parents are concerned about sending their students to Penn State University in walking distance of campus.

Money will be taken from many families who already live on the margin and put  
greater demands on charities and we will not be as safe..

Jean Hill, Resident of College Township.

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**From:** Heather Ricker-Gilbert <heatherrg160@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Proposed casino

[You don't often get email from heatherrg160@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I have lived in Centre County much of my life and have seen many changes. One change we don't need is to become a center for gambling. It is my hope that the members of the College Township Council will be strong and resist and reject the proposed gambling casino.

Sincerely

Heather Dale Ricker-Gilbert

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Bonnie Dripps <drippsbk@dm.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:45 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from drippsbk@dm.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I am strongly opposed to the possibility of a casino becoming a part of our town. You are well aware, I'm sure, of the negative effects a casino can and may have on young and old alike in our town. Let's keep the opportunity for devastating addictions a difficult, not easy, thing to develop here. Your actions will have a big impact on the upcoming elections.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Dripps

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Bob Dornich <coachprez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 8:47 AM  
**To:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from coachprez@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello, I would like to register my strong opposition to the proposed Casino. WE have such a bucolic, wonderful, sanctuary in which we raise our family. Please don't diminish the quality of our beautiful town by bringing in this unwanted, unneeded Casino. It will, indubitably, reduce the unique essence of our community. Please reconsider; thank you

Best Regards,  
Bob Dornich, President  
Make It Happen Enterprises  
(814) 360-8157

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Dan Shields <fishbreath02@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 8:09 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from fishbreath02@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Daniel L. Shields, RN  
125 Oakwood Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
814-237-2878  
[fishbreath02@gmail.com](mailto:fishbreath02@gmail.com)

Dear Council Members:

I hope you will join me in opposing the proposed casino to be located in College Township. In my opinion, the gambling industry is not a productive industry. It doesn't create wealth, it transfers it.

The gambling industry tends to concentrate wealth into a relatively small number of people. This wealth is gathered from a much larger segment of the community. Many members of this larger segment are those who can ill afford to transfer money to someone else without having a tangible benefit to show for it.

There are numerous health care concerns that attend gambling. Gambling has been recognized as an addiction and the addiction as an illness. The illness has psychological and physical complications. Like other forms of addiction, negative aspects of the addiction are not limited to the addicted. Families bear the brunt of the consequences of addiction. Frequently, people outside of the addicted person's family also suffer the deleterious effects of the illness. Studies have shown that gambling addicts have a higher incidence of violent behavior than non-addicts.

Addiction problems end up in health care sooner or later. As a nurse who works locally, I can assure you that we do not need more reasons for hospitalization for psychiatric disorders and physical maladies. It would be irresponsible for local authorities to add to the health care burden we face.

I have included links to two health care references for gambling addiction. I urge you to read them before making any decision to invite a casino into our region. Please note that the first is from the Mayo Clinic, an internationally recognized medical institution. The second is an abstract for a meta-analysis of gambling violence. Interesting to note that this abstract alludes to frequent relationships between gambling addiction and other societal and psychiatric problems. If this is the case, why add to the problem by making gambling more readily available?

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/compulsive-gambling/symptoms-causes/syc-20355178>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25477014/>

I hope that you will do the right thing for our community by opposing the proposed casino. The people you help by doing so are likely some of the most vulnerable neighbors that we have.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Shields, RN

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** brittany glenn <britt.e.glenn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:04 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** I oppose the casino at the nittany mall

[You don't often get email from britt.e.glenn@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Brittany McGrory resident of spring township. I don't understand how we as a community have nothing for families or children to do in this area but we are considering putting a casino in the mall. It's absolute nonsense. Give us a childrens museum or soft play area please touch this space. No casino is needed in centre county!

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kurt Kroeker <kpk5008@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:21 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposed to Casino

You don't often get email from kpk5008@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello, College Township Council & Mr. Glantz,

I want to register my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall location. I think it will bring nothing but trouble to our Happy Valley community...encouraging destructive addictions and foolish financial decisions. The current White House is talking about bailing out student loan debt; why in the world would we encourage them to throw away their money at a casino? I am a lifelong State College resident and Penn State grad who paid my own way through college and I do NOT want to foster financial irresponsibility (ruin, even!) in the upcoming cohorts of students by the willful creation of a money pit. Do we really need that, especially right now?

Thank you for considering,

**Kurt Philip Kroeker**

Email: [kpk5008@gmail.com](mailto:kpk5008@gmail.com)  
[REDACTED]

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Valerie Burnett <yellow5132@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 2:23 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** For the love of humanity & life on earth, we CAN do better than a Casino!  
**Attachments:** Final\_Submission\_600 BPI Scan of Valeries Poster(1).jpg

You don't often get email from yellow5132@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Supervisors:

Please do not allow a casino to be built and operated in College Township. We need to give the children, families, and every person in this area a vision and ideas for a better future than this!

We could be laying the groundwork for a sustainable steady state economy, like the "[Doughnut Economics](#)" model presented by [Kate Raworth](#) in her [TED talk](#) and her [book](#), a best book of the year 2017 for *The Economist* and *The Financial Times*, which highlighted her work in this article "[Becoming a part of nature, once again.](#)"

As a resident of the Centre Region planning area, I frequent numerous businesses and medical facilities in College Township. One of my favorite stores is Nature's Pantry because I can purchase organic and bulk items with zero waste. Like everyone though, there are limits to how much I need to purchase. What I use almost daily in College Township are walking and bicycle paths and parks. I also regularly do volunteer work in College Township to improve our natural habitat in an attempt to offset the stunning amount of damage that we have done to our natural world, even in "Happy Valley," that is harming our life support system - Earth.

Through some of my volunteer activities I speak with many people from a variety of backgrounds. Over the course of 5+ years I have conversed with thousands of people out and about on sidewalks, trails and in parks. I also do "dumpster dialogues" where I talk with people at recycling bins (hey, everyone has hobbies :-)). Through these conversations not one person has ever said, "What we really need here is a casino." In fact, I have heard many people say that they do NOT want a casino in the area! Everyone that I have spoken with indicated that they would never have any interest in going to a casino, ever.

What people do say they want, but believe will never happen, is:

- Better walking, bicycling and mass transit throughout the region
- More fare-free bus passes
- A passenger train
- A zero waste store
- More local produce available year round
- More apartments for non-students - not everyone wants a house or townhouse!
- And more ....

Let's stop tying ourselves up into knots trying to make money off of people visiting the area and focus on creating a more sustainable region that would draw like-minded people and businesses to follow. Even the 2019 "[College Township Commercial & Industrial Zoning Districts Analysis: Economic and Real Estate Analysis for Sustainable Land Use Outcomes](#)" presented to College Township, stated that " The considerably

defunct, Nittany Mall, is situated in a prime location and its thoughtful redevelopment could encourage revitalization in the area."

In my estimation, "thoughtful redevelopment" is the crucial point where we are at now. In this era of climate change, land conversion, air pollution, chemical pollution, biodiversity loss, and all of the other planetary processes that threaten our lives, building a casino offers a quick, short term fix rather than a long term, sustainable solution. Thoughtful redevelopment could lead to revitalization for the region. We can do better than this!

We must find a way to be more proactive, rather than reactive, with empty retail space. What if we found a way to make the Nittany Mall an organic, indoor hub for produce? What if we found a way to make a food cooperative store permanent year round store that focused on local, organic (when possible), zero waste (when possible), products?

I hear people say all of the time that say, "We can't do that!" Some days I think we're the United States of America, united in what we believe that we CAN'T do. I'd rather be the United States of America, united in what we CAN do! I point to the Netherlands having managed to become the [second largest exporter of food in the world](#). Much of their produce farming is done indoors! I know that they were working on this concept in Indiana, PA to supply their [local food cooperative](#). There are solutions!

If you look at the "E Pluribus Unum" poster attached it offers an overview of what is needed to find solutions and take action. It requires caring about a brighter future through effective government, fair share taxes, and sustainable economics like Doughnut Economics. There are so many opportunities to do better than a casino! I urge you to explore those opportunities that offer more direct solutions to support humanity & life on earth. We really can do better!!!

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration! I'm wishing for a more hopeful future than us continuing to gamble with our lives both literally and figuratively!

All the best,

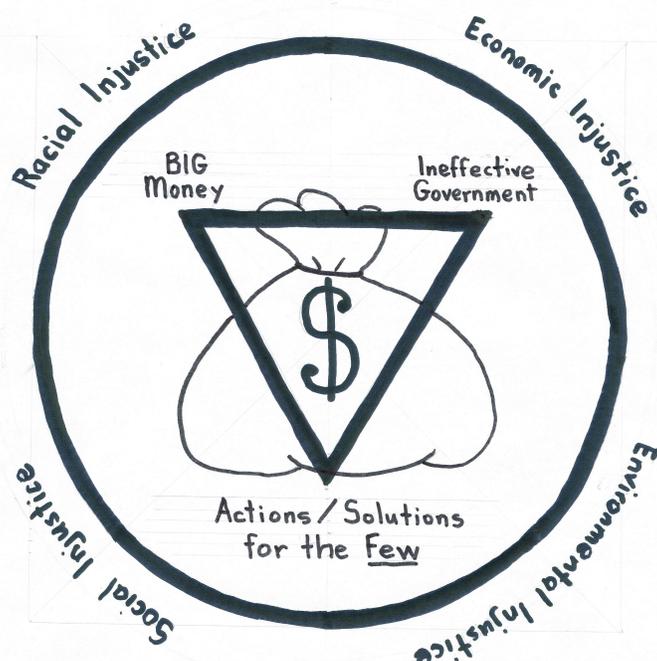
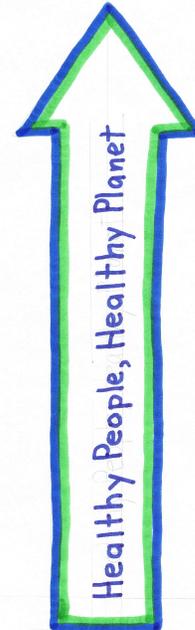
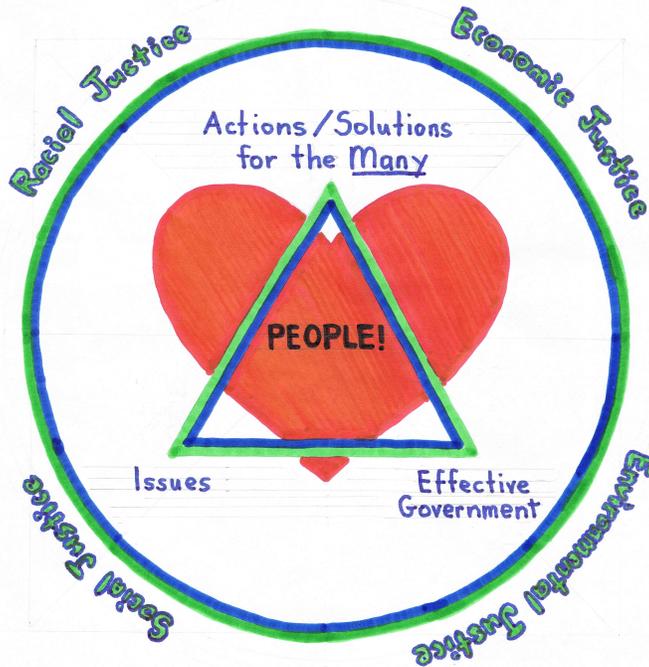
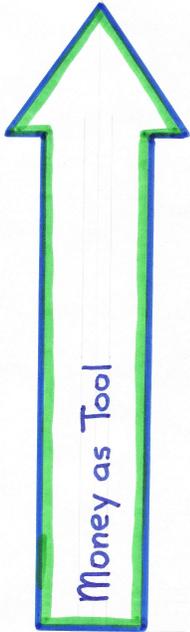
Valerie Burnett  
Patton Township



# E Pluribus Unum

## Out of Many, One

IMAGINE a brighter future. What does it look like? How do we get there?



We CAN do Better!

For the Love of Humanity & Life on Earth!

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Vicary, Judith R <jrv@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:26 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** BCC  
**Subject:** casino

You don't often get email from jrv@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Have you looked at the areas around Atlantic City casinos...please don't create another wasteland of people, drugs and crime!

This is our home – protect it!  
Judith Swisher

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Janice Shanafelt <aknaj50@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:27 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from aknaj50@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Gambling is addictive and takes money away from families. Having a casino so close to a college campus, tempts students away from their studies in hopes of easy money. Janice Shanafelt

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**From:** Melinda Ohlson <rehmmel@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Opposing the Casino

[You don't often get email from rehmmel@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello College Township Council -

Melinda Ohlson here, nearly lifelong State College resident and mother of 5 school-age children in Stearns Crossing.

I am still very concerned about the pending possibility of the casino coming to State College/ the mall. Besides the negative threat it poses to the local economy, I am really concerned for the negative impact it will have on the kind of traffic it will draw to the area.

Please reconsider any way that you can revoke, rescind or change the approval of the casino!!

Let the local money stay local. Let the PSU visitor money support our local economy. And let those who wish to responsibly gamble make their entirely drivable day trip to an established venue so our town can escape all the negativity that invariably comes when a casino comes to town.

Thank you for your careful and creative consideration on how to help STOP the casino proposals.

Your neighbor,  
Melinda

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**From:** Carol Winkler <winklercarol9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:51 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to Proposed Casino

You don't often get email from winklercarol9@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members:

I hope you **will not allow a casino to be established** into our community.

I am particularly concerned about locating a gambling operation in our college town .Students come to live and learn in what has been proudly portrayed as a wholesome environment. That said, I acknowledge that our college population already has a troublesome relationship with alcohol. We are dealing with alcohol and other substance abuse. That makes me even more convinced that it would be socially destructive to our community to establish another addictive element, gambling.

Our family lived in New Jersey, near enough to Atlantic City to witness what negative effects gambling brought. The social costs of promoting local tourism and entertainment with a gambling venue comes at a high price.

Please don't put our community in the position that we pay for it.

Respectfully,  
Carol Winkler

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** T. Kerchinski <nittany1316@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 9:57 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Mall Casino

You don't often get email from nittany1316@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

Please let this email serve as my strong Opposition for the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I live in College Township - in a wonderful neighborhood about a mile from the proposed mall site. From my observations of other casinos, it pains me to think of the effect such an establishment will have on our "Happy Valley" community. As you all know, casinos are in the business of making money - and to guarantee those profits, they have the legal ability to "game" the system and make the odds for their product IN THEIR FAVOR. This basically guarantees that the longer a patron makes bets, the statistical reality is they will eventually lose money in the long run.

So what does this "statistical edge" mean? It means it is in the profitable advantage for a Casino to encourage excessive (addictive) behavior with their patrons. (offer them free food, alcohol, and other perks to keep them gambling longer and longer). I remember once hearing a statistics professional explain it this way: "Casinos are basically a TAX on the mathematically challenged." Given that statement, one can assume that that "tax" is a regressive one that effects lower income, less statistically educated, patrons. Those that can least afford to pay the entertainment "tax" casinos inflict upon their patrons. In addition, I would imagine the DUI rate will probably increase in College Township - putting College Township residents in additional peril. For College Township resident's safety, I hope that increased costs of Police presence near the mall site is included in your assessment of risks.

With this email, I respectfully ask that you reconsider your approval of such a detrimental business in our community - especially given that we house over 40,000+ young college students that are still in the development of their lives - and can least afford such a losing life lesson in money management.

Thank you for listening,

Tim Kerchinski  
College Township Resident  
Retiree of Penn State University

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Joyce E Hall <jeh21@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 8:56 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to a Casino

You don't often get email from jeh21@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing today to state my opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I have great concern for our community. I have lived in Centre County for 32 years (24 of those years in College Township) and am greatly invested in the environment and health of our community. I currently live in Benner Township Independent, not too far from the Nittany Mall. I believe that a casino would bring greater problems to our area than it would bring benefits. I'm concerned about the addictive nature of gambling and the effect on our Penn State college students, as well as the negative behavior brought on by attenders which often accompanies casinos. I believe having a casino here would make our community less safe.

Please do not allow a casino to bring down our community!

Joyce Hall  
Bennett Township Independent  
480 Rock Road  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Collins, V Diane <dvc1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:20 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Casino

You don't often get email from dvc1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township,

Me and my husband **strongly oppose** the casino proposed at The Nittany Mall. This community DOES NOT NEED this type of entertainment. Space at The Nittany Mall should be used to bring healthy alternatives to our community. We just lost a roller skating rink and that would be an ideal location for young and old to enjoy a healthy activity.

Please do not allow a casino in our community to proceed!

Sincerely,  
V. Diane and Thomas J. Collins  
Patton Township

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Oliver, Christopher <cxo5@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 8:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Lion Mall Casino

You don't often get email from cxo5@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council members and Township Solicitor Louis Glantz,  
I welcome new innovative businesses that improve the quality of life in State College and Centre County for its families and for the entire community. However, opening a casino at the Nittany Mall would do exactly the opposite. Gaming = Gambling. Research shows that casino gambling overwhelmingly results in losing one's hard-earned money, and generally includes excessive drinking as well. Both often destroy families and communities, and offer absolutely nothing of real value to its members. Gambling would certainly not be time well spent for PSU students, either. A casino in State College would greatly lower the quality of life in this wonderful town and area.  
-I am strongly opposed to the Nittany Mall Casino project going forward!!!  
-Let's not have the Happy Valley turn into the Gambling Valley!!!  
-It's an awful idea that should never come to fruition!!!!  
Thank you for your attention. Sincerely,  
Chris Oliver

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Paul Shaffer <pgshaffer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 2:50 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed Casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from pgshaffer@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council Members:

For a few weeks this summer my wife and I gathered signatures of those opposed to the casino at the Nittany Mall. While it is not statistical, we estimate that we received 8 or 9 responses in opposition for every 1 in favor.

What is of particular note is that those who were most adamantly opposed were those who had previously lived in communities where there were casinos. They spoke of how it changed the character of those communities and had numerous horror stories of how the casinos preyed upon their patrons and destroyed lives and families.

The one I found most poignant was in speaking with a man who had worked for a casino in the midwest. He told of how following his military service, he went to work as security in a casino. One night there was a disturbance on the gaming floor and he was called upon to intervene. What he found was a man trying to get his wife to stop gambling and leave the casino. The man pleaded that his wife had emptied their bank account, and then their checking account, and was now maxing out their credit cards. The individual recounting this story, then said with considerable sadness in his voice, "and I had to remove the husband from the floor because she was a 'paying customer'."

Do you really want to be a party to the sacrifice of individuals and families for the 30 pieces of silver that it will bring into your township?

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Steve & Jaylene Smith <sjsnittany@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:27 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed casino at Nittany Mall, please reject

You don't often get email from sjsnittany@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the elected representatives of College Township,

As 20+year residents of Lemont and the township, we respectfully ask you to reconsider your approval of the proposed casino.

While economic growth is desired for the township, a casino and the attendant rise in crime that is sure to follow -- which follows that industry like stink on a skunk -- is not desirable. The industry appeals to the worst instincts of our population and preys upon people in order to make money. You know this, and you have been given plenty of examples of this. Why bring this scourge to College Township?

Put simply, this township has been managed well and has a high quality of life and safe living for many years. We have been raising our family here in the safe, family environment for which this township is currently known. You can continue that trend by rejecting this casino and all the problems sure to follow, or you can surrender to the almighty dollar and doom this area to higher crime and gambling addiction rates.

Please consider this as our family's opposition to the proposed Penn State casino at Nittany Mall,  
Steven & Jaylene Smith  
Matilda Avenue, Lemont

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** LYNNE HERITAGE <llheritage@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:38 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** OPPOSE casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from llheritage@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello

As a Spring Township resident, I'm writing to share my strong opposition to your approving a casino located in the Nittany Mall. There are many detriments a casino would bring to our community. It would not be progress.

Gambling is an activity that only benefits the casino owners, who in this case, don't live in our community.

Customers are frequently lower income who can least afford to lose money.

Any restaurant and bar in the casino would take business from local establishments.

Casinos likely bring other unwelcome activities like drugs and prostitution.

People become addicted to gambling which is the hardest addiction to overcome. Why open that door to ruin lives?

Like many others in the Centre Region, I and we do not want to see a casino allowed in our community. To do so would be a huge step backward.

Please rescind your previous approval of this project. Thank you for taking time to review citizen comments.

Lynne Heritage  
Spring Township

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**From:** Jed Neilson <jed.neilson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 7:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Casino opposition

You don't often get email from jed.neilson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

As a State College resident, I am writing to formally voice my opposition to the proposed casino at the old Nittany Mall and request that Solicitor Jeff Stover ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what the Township's options are at this point. Specifically, my request is that Mr. Stover ask whether College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction.

Casinos, lotteries, and other forms of gambling are essentially a tax on the poor and uneducated. They do not add value to communities, but instead lead to deterioration of communities. If a casino is built at the Nittany Mall, I will avoid that area of town because of all that the casino attracts. I know there are also people who live in the area who would be looking to move if the casino is built there. Please do not allow a casino anywhere in Centre County.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jed Neilson

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Marsha Haack <marshahaack@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:02 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino in State College

You don't often get email from marshahaack@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am very much opposed to a casino in State College. One this close to a university campus is a dangerous enticement to vulnerable students. I am also concerned about gambling addiction in the community. I believe casinos make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

Marsha Haack  
509 East Marylyn Ave, I-142  
State College, PA 16801

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Evan Mascitti <evanmascitti@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:06 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Please nix casino plans!

[You don't often get email from evanmascitti@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello Council members,

I'm a transplant to Centre County from Wisconsin. I now consider State College my home and plan to live here the rest of my life.

I do not support the addition of a casino to our area. Gambling is a damaging habit - while a casino may provide new jobs, most will probably be low-level service jobs with poor pay and benefits.

It is unreasonable to believe that the holistic well-being (economic and otherwise) of Centre County will be enhanced by an institution which subsists by preying on consumers' emotions and wallets. Casinos take particular advantage of vulnerable people with low levels of education or who struggle with addiction.

I realize the casino would generate significant tax revenue which presumably would benefit all residents, even those who do not patronize the casino themselves. However I feel this does not outweigh the potential negative and long-lasting influence this business would impose on our collective well-being. Instead, the mall property could surely support other profitable enterprises which could also generate sales and use tax.

Please consider blocking the development of the casino project for the sake of our community, present and future.

Sincerely,  
Evan C Mascitti

Evan C. Mascitti  
PhD Candidate- Soil Science  
Penn State University

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Meg Pedlow Smith <mpedlowsmith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 9:33 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino Opposition

You don't often get email from mpedlowsmith@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the College Township Council and Solicitor Louis Glantz,

As a longtime resident of College Township, I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall casino and request that you pursue all options to stop its development. Please contact the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to ask if College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction. The outpouring of opposition to the casino should make it clear that the community is strongly against it. As such, we ask you, our representatives, to take action on our behalf.

Sincerely,  
Meg Pedlow Smith

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Emily Wenda <emilywenda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 9:58 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from emilywenda@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope this email finds you well.

I just wanted to take a minute to let you know that our family deeply opposes the Nittany Mall Casino. Along with the community, we are asking you to stop this casino!!

We relocated here 15 years ago because Happy Valley is a wonderful place to raise a family. However, imagining a casino moving into the area would be so far from the family-friendly community we once knew and inspired us to move here in the first place.

Thank you. I pray you can strongly stand up for what is good and right for the next generation in this community.

Kind Regards,  
Emily Wenda

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Michelle Campos <michelle.u.campos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 8:21 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Michelle Campos  
**Subject:** Fwd: Concerning the proposed Nittany Mall casino

You don't often get email from michelle.u.campos@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Township Council,

I remain strongly opposed to permitting a casino to open in State College. As a professor, mother, and resident, I am convinced that this casino would be disastrous for our community, our students, and our families. The clear majority of the social science literature (some referenced below in my March letter to then-PSU president Barron) points to this. The most worrisome data concludes that:

- there is up to a 3:1 cost/benefit ratio when new casinos enter a community, and most of these costs are born by the community as a whole.
- crime rates grow around 9% in new casino locales, which includes both violent and nonviolent crime.
- college students and teens are experiencing an epidemic of gambling and gambling addiction.

While I am still shocked that the council approved the request last year with almost no public feedback, zero transparency about the process, and (most importantly) no consideration of the social impact on our community, it is not too late to reverse course. I strongly urge you to retract township approval of the permit request and keep Happy Valley safe, prosperous, and healthy.

Sincerely,  
 Michelle Campos

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Campos <[michelle.u.campos@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.u.campos@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Mar 19, 2022 at 8:36 AM  
**Subject:** Concerning the proposed Nittany Mall casino  
**To:** <[president@psu.edu](mailto:president@psu.edu)>  
**CC:** <[boardclerk@pa.gov](mailto:boardclerk@pa.gov)>

Dear President Barron,

I am writing in response to a recent open letter published on StateCollege.com urging you to speak out against the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I would like to add my voice as a new faculty member, educator, parent, and community member.

We moved to State College in summer 2020, lured by the university's commitment to research and education and because we saw Happy Valley as a quality community in which to raise our two school-age children. Last summer, my elderly mother joined us in order to have more support in this stage of her life, and she was likewise charmed by the pastoral setting, public safety, and community stability that we enjoy here.

In December, I was shocked to learn that the College Township board had approved an investor's proposal to take over part of the Nittany Mall to build a casino. As I noted at the time in my email to the PA Gaming

Commission opposing this move, the mall houses a county-sponsored senior activity center (which my mother attends regularly to play games and socialize), and it also serves as an informal exercise track for families and individuals during the cold winter months. Placing a casino there would ruin the community functions of the mall and directly endanger those populations that regularly use it.

More broadly, a casino anywhere in State College and the surrounding hamlets would pose a significant and irreversible threat to our community's public health and social welfare. As I read the minutes of the College Township meetings where this proposal was discussed and approved, I was puzzled to see that there was no *substantive* engagement with the very real social costs that this casino would impose on the city and its residents. Instead, the questions posed were entirely banal, including what kind of landscaping would be provided, the size of the parking lot, and how large the entry overhang would be.

Why did the township officials not raise pertinent, evidence-based questions about the impact of the casino on our community? Surely a town that houses the flagship state university could harness the power of scholarly research to better understand the risks and challenges of bringing a casino into the community. Since the township did not do so, I urge you as the university president, with a tremendous responsibility not only to the students, staff, and faculty of Penn State and their families, but also to the surrounding community, to respond to the evidence and oppose this casino.

Although this is far from my field of expertise (I am a historian of the Middle East), I spent a couple of hours on my Saturday morning reviewing the scholarly literature on casinos and their economic and social costs to the communities in which they are built. The literature is very uneven in time, scope, and method, but the overall assessment is clear and demands that we oppose this proposed casino for the short-, medium-, and long-term health of our community, our students, and our collective future.

The five main points are bolded, with relevant quotes and citations following.

## **1 – The Economic Benefits are Minimal to Nonexistent**

**While casinos are lucrative investments for the owners [due to the laws of probability, i.e., the house always wins], the wider economic benefits that are promised have not materialized in communities across the country. (There are possibly greater economic benefits in regions that allow multiple casinos to enter or in casino resorts due to scale and market size, but *not* in single-casino locations.)**

“During the campaigning stage of the legalization of gaming, tourism development and economic growth were used as the “hook” for residents’ affirmative votes. As indicated by Hsu (1998), the economic impact of a riverboat casino in southeastern Iowa was limited. Economic indexes showed that the economic conditions of those communities seemed to be a reflection of the overall state economy, not the presence of the riverboat casino.”

- Hsu, Cathy HC. "Residents' support for legalized gaming and perceived impacts of riverboat casinos: Changes in five years." *Journal of Travel Research* 38.4 (2000): 390-395.

## **2 – The Socioeconomic Costs Far Outweigh Any Benefits**

**There is a clear assessment that the social welfare, public health, and community-born costs of operating a casino are far higher than the minimal economic benefit they bring. Notably, these costs are *not* born by the casino investors nor by the casino customers, but by all of us.**

“Based on available numbers, costs [of allowing casinos] exceed benefits by a factor of more than 3:1.” This includes the social costs of crime, business and employment costs, suicide, illness, social service costs, direct regulatory costs, family costs, and abused dollars.

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

“The weight of the empirical evidence suggests that casinos do in fact impose negative social costs on surrounding communities, most notably, an increased prevalence of property and violent crime.”

- Kearney, Melissa Schettini. "The economic winners and losers of legalized gambling." *National Tax Journal* 58.2 (2005): 281-302.

“Upon careful review, the overwhelming body of research, indicates legalized gambling to impose more costs than any perceived benefit. In fact, tabulation of all external costs borne by society, proves the cost exceed the benefits of gambling by a ratio of two-to-one.”

- Barretta, Todd C. *The direct, induced, and external costs and benefits of legalized casino gambling*. Quinnipiac University, 2004.

### **3 – Specific Social Problems [Crime, Bankruptcy, Suicide, Compulsive/Pathological Gambling] Increase with Casinos**

**There is empirical correlation of statistically significant higher levels of a number of specific social problems in casino locales – most notably, crime, bankruptcy, suicide, and mental health gambling issues that contribute to additional ills such as domestic abuse. These are not community “fears” or “anecdotal evidence,” but widespread and documented problems.**

“The results suggest that the effect on crime is low shortly after a casino opens, and grows over time. Roughly 8% of crime in casino counties in 1996 was attributable to casinos, costing the average adult \$75 per year.”

- Earl L. Grinols, David B. Mustard; Casinos, Crime, and Community Costs. *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 2006; 88 (1): 28–45.

Crime includes FBI index 1 violent and nonviolent crimes [aggravated assault, murder, rape, robbery; larceny, burglary, auto theft], as well as non-Index I crimes [forgery, fraud,].

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Casino counties have 18-35% higher rates of bankruptcy than non-casino counties. Suicide rates of compulsive gamblers are 5-10x higher than the population at large.

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

“This study enumerates a prevalence rate of at-risk, problem, and pathological gamblers combined to be between 7.3% and 8.4% of the adult population.”

- Chhabra, Deepak. "Estimating benefits and costs of casino gambling in Iowa, United States." *Journal of Travel Research* 46.2 (2007): 173-182.

“These unintended negative consequences can include gambling disorders, a term used to encompass a spectrum of problems experienced along the continuum that incorporates the constructs of problem and pathological gambling; family dysfunction and domestic violence including spousal and child abuse; youth and underage gambling; alcohol and other drug problems; psychiatric conditions including major depression, bipolar disorder, antisocial personality, anxiety, and attention deficit disorder; suicide, suicidal ideation, and suicide attempts; significant financial troubles including bankruptcy, loss of employment, and poverty as a direct result of wagering; and criminal behavior ranging from prostitution and theft to drug trafficking and homicide.”

- Shaffer, Howard J., and David A. Korn. "Gambling and related mental disorders: A public health analysis." *Annual review of public health* 23.1 (2002): 171-212.

#### **4 – Seniors and Low-Income Households are at risk**

**The consensus of the scholarship is that gambling disproportionately attracts lower-income populations including seniors on fixed incomes. Likewise, gambling problems disproportionately affect these classes.**

“The most dramatic increase in lifetime gambling occurred in the 65+ age group, from 35% of older adults to 80% . lower-income households spend proportionately more of their money on gambling than higher-income households. Given that some gambling revenue goes to the government (e.g., lotteries), these data encourage the view that gambling expenditures represent a regressive tax. Poverty often is associated with increased financial risk-taking, perhaps because of the psychoeconomics of gambling.”

- Shaffer, Howard J., and David A. Korn. "Gambling and related mental disorders: A public health analysis." *Annual review of public health* 23.1 (2002): 171-212.

#### **5 – Teens and College Students are Particularly Vulnerable**

**It is no wonder that the investors would like to place their casino near Penn State University, as studies of gambling on other college campuses have found that the vast majority of students have gambled, with significant numbers of them gambling on a regular basis.**

**Moreover, there are a number of recent studies on teens and college students and the “epidemic” of gambling that outline the clear danger to individual students and to the student body as a whole. Habitual gambling among teens leads to a number of social problems, including alcohol and drug abuse, negative learning outcomes, eating disorders, and more.**

“Students from six colleges and universities in five states in the U.S. (New York, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, and Nevada) were surveyed concerning their gambling behavior and the rate of pathological gambling. Type of gambling varied by state, with students in the northeast and Nevada gambling more than students in Oklahoma and Texas. Over 90% of males and 82% of females had gambled. One third of the males and 15% of females gambled once a week or more.”

- Lesieur, Henry R., et al. "Gambling and pathological gambling among university students." *Addictive behaviors* 16.6 (1991): 517-527.

“College students from 2 Minnesota universities were surveyed about their gambling involvement. Gambling was reported to be a common experience, with 87% having participated at least once in the previous year.”

- Winters, K. C., Bengston, P., Door, D., & Stinchfield, R. (1998). Prevalence and risk factors of problem gambling among college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 12(2), 127–135.

“Long term trends, based on findings from twenty independent prevalence studies surveying middle and high school youth in North America, suggest that within the past year two out of three legally underage youth have gambled for money. In the United States and Canada as many as 15.3 million 12–17 year olds have been gambling with or without adult awareness or approval, and 2.2 million of these are experiencing serious gambling-related problems... Trends between 1984–1999 indicate a substantial increase in the proportion of juveniles who report gambling within the past year, and a parallel increase in the proportion of juveniles reporting serious gambling-related problems.”

- Jacobs, Durand F. "Juvenile gambling in North America: An analysis of long term trends and future prospects." *Journal of Gambling Studies* 16.2 (2000): 119-152.

“The odds of being identified as a probable pathological gambler was high for men, those indicating a positive parental history for gambling problems, regular (weekly plus) users of illicit drugs, and those with poor grades.”

- Winters, K. C., Bengston, P., Door, D., & Stinchfield, R. (1998). Prevalence and risk factors of problem gambling among college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 12(2), 127–135.

“Students identified as problem gamblers, compared with other students, were significantly more likely to be heavy drinkers, report negative consequences of alcohol consumption, and be regular tobacco and marijuana users. Problem gambling was related to binge eating and greater use of weight-control efforts. University athletes were also found to have significantly greater problem gambling rates than nonathletes.”

- Engwall, Douglas, Robert Hunter, and Marvin Steinberg. "Gambling and other risk behaviors on university campuses." *Journal of American College Health* 52.6 (2004): 245-256.
- Derevensky, Jeffrey L. *Teen gambling: Understanding a growing epidemic*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012.

For all of these reasons, President Barron, I urge you to speak out against this proposed casino that so clearly goes against the interests of Penn State students, staff, faculty, and families and community members in State College and the surrounding area.

Sincerely,

Michelle Campos

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Amber Houk <abchouk2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.gkantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I strongly oppose having a casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from abchouk2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the Council Members of College Township:

As a current resident of College Township, and a longtime resident of the Centre Region, I very strongly oppose the building of a casino/mini-casino In our Nittany Mall, and urge you to reconsider approving its planning in any way possible.

I believe, based on experiences and research of others in other municipalities with casinos, as well as based on the current status of our state government leaders having taken the state's monies earned from this gaming from the property tax relief fund, that there is no real positive outcome to having this mini-casino in our township or even anywhere in the Centre Region. The negatives, as stated in petitions and myriad letters to the editor in our local newspapers, by far outweigh any benefit to the residents of our community, including the thousands of young adults here attending PSU. Further, I am certain there are other, more beneficial opportunities for the use of the empty space in our Nittany Mall.

Please do everything you can to reverse any decisions to advance any plans to have this casino established here!

I thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter of great importance, and for your service to the people of our township!

Sincerely,

Amber Houk  
376 Greensboro Circle  
(College Township)  
A 16801-7413

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** S Sausser <slf152@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:34 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** No Nittany Mall Casino!

[You don't often get email from slf152@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Good morning,

I'm writing to ask that you please deny the license for the Nittany Mall Casino. This is a community built on family and a casino would severely jeopardize that. My family lives in the Penn Hills neighborhood very close to the mall. I have a 4 year old daughter- we chose this area for its safety, cleanliness, and strong community feel. A Casino has NEVER improved a community. Please do not let this happen.

Sandra Sausser  
College Township resident since 2008

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** JH <jvhouston@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:42 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com <louis.glantz@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** proposed casino

You don't often get email from jvhouston@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello College Township Council,

I want to let you know as a resident of College Township for the past 23 years, and who lives close to the Nittany Mall, I am opposed to the proposed casino and am urging you to reject this push to infiltrate our community with something that will cause harm to the residents and those who come to participate. This is going to have negative impact on our economy and our culture and society both locally and beyond as you can learn from the many studies that have been done. If this goes through, the consequences will be hard if not impossible to undo and "Happy Valley" will be a thing of the past. You will be liable by how you vote. There is clearly more opposition to this than those in favor. The only person this will benefit is the developer and those whose pockets he lines. What do you want your legacy to be?

Sincerely,

Jeanne Houston

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

---

**From:** Sandra Shirey <sshirey164@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 9:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from sshirey164@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear council members:

Please consider the negative effects of bringing a casino to College Township. Crime rates increase and people with the least amount of money to live on are the ones most likely to be enticed to waste money gambling that should go to food and clothing for the family. We would need increased police presence in the mall area and the cost of that would nullify any money made from taxes. The PA government has not provided property tax relief from casino game taxes in their latest budget.

Please have solicitor, Jeff Stover, see if there are options for the Township to opt out of allowing this casino to be built here. We need to protect our community.

Sincerely,

Sandra Shirey

--

God is the strength of your heart, no matter what life has thrown your way. Trust in His goodness.

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** D Cistaro <d\_c\_444@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:11 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed casino at Nittany Mall

[You don't often get email from d\_c\_444@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Board Members,

I sincerely hope you will reconsider your decision to approve the placement of a casino in our community.

When the decision was being made, I visited the township office to voice my objection. At the time, most Centre Region governments rejected the opportunity for hosting casino.

My opinion has not changed. The potential economic benefits are far exceeded by the social and environmental costs. A casino will no doubt, siphon business from local restaurants and shops that are still hurting from the pandemic.

Please reconsider before real harm comes to our community and its young population.

Sincerely,

Don Cistaro  
Patton Township

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Mom <greenfinch414@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:31 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Please No Casino

You don't often get email from greenfinch414@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

As a lifelong resident of State College, I urge you to rescind your agreement to Ira Lubert and his casino. I don't believe a casino will contribute positively to our community, but further a vice that destroys lives. In exchange for some low-paying service jobs and tax revenues for your township.

Linda Greenly-Finch

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Susan N. Hochreiter <susannovak@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 9:34 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino Proposal

You don't often get email from susannovak@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Susan N. Hochreiter

615 Berkshire Drive

State College, PA 16803

Sent via e-mail 8-24-2022: [ctcouncil@collegetownship.org](mailto:ctcouncil@collegetownship.org)

College Township Council

State College, PA

Dear Council:

I am a resident of Ferguson Township and am very concerned about the possibility of having a casino in the Nittany Mall.

You have already received letters of opposition to the proposed casino.. all that I have read support very good reasons why this use would not be a desirable business to have in this location. I will not repeat what you've already read.

My main question is how did this use get your approval? Do your zoning ordinances allow for such a use? Did this get the approval of your planning commission or zoning hearing board before it went for a vote from Council? If so, were conditions met for your approval? I admit that I have not researched your ordinances. I would hope that they are clear as to what uses can be allowed or denied.

Before moving to Ferguson Township, I had served on the Planning Commission in the Municipality of Penn Hills, PA. I do know that it can be difficult to outright deny approval of a publicly undesirable business....several legal issues here involving local and State laws. It all boils down as how well your zoning laws and subsequent ordinances are written.

For the record, I now advise denial as this business, for many reasons already pointed out by others, would not be beneficial to the Township or surrounding area... the moneys promised to the Township might not be worth the costs (and I don't necessarily mean money).

Sincerely,

Susan N. Hochreiter

cc: [Jstover@nittanylaw.com](mailto:Jstover@nittanylaw.com)

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Susan Person <slp341@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:12 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

[You don't often get email from slp341@outlook.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear College Township Council Members,

I am a former homeowner/resident of College Township and currently reside in a nearby township. I am writing to express my grave concerns about the proposed Nittany Mall casino and to ask you to rescind your prior approval for it. Our community does not want -- or need -- the heightened crime, negative financial impact, and many other adverse effects that will occur if a casino is built here.

Please, do your part to protect our community, our families, and our children -- do not allow a casino in our community. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Susan Person

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Chapman, Sabrina Coffey <scc1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 8:55 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** andrewshaffer@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Objection to Casino

You don't often get email from scc1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am mailing to express my opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. This will not be an asset to our community as it would bring more gambling into the region and risk adding more addictive behaviors and indulge those already in place here in abundance.

Sabrina Chapman  
500 East Marylyn Avenue, L-197,  
Foxdale Village,  
State College, PA 16801  
Proud Democrat  
Emerita Director,  
Penn State Center for Women Students, now named Center for Gender Equity

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Meira Minard <janaefinn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino opposition

You don't often get email from janaefinn@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello council members,

I have been a resident of State College for 48 years. I have seen a lot of changes and growth during that time. I am not opposed to either change or growth, however, I am opposed to the casino. We are a small town with a big school. Our residents value our small town feel and our sense of community. Our focus is on quality of living and we choose to live here ("the middle of nowhere") because we do not want the stresses of a city (traffic and crime). Our residents do not support this casino, so why is it being brought here? The obvious answer is profit to a very few. And why have a casino so near a university with a susceptible student body who should be focusing on their education and development and not "get rich quick" schemes?

Please, please, **please**, do not permit this casino to open here. **Please** let the residents, those of us who will have to live with this **every day**, decide.

Thank you,  
Meira Minard

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Meira Minard <janaefinn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:01 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Re: Casino opposition

You don't often get email from janaefinn@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thanks Jen--I also neglected to mention in my email that I am a College Township (Houserville) resident, as requested.

best,  
meira :)

On Monday, August 29, 2022 at 10:08:21 AM EDT, Jennifer Snyder <jsnyder@collegetownship.org> wrote:

Thank you for your email. It will be added as correspondence on the Consent Agenda at the upcoming CT Council Meeting on September 1, 2022.

**Best Regards,**

**JEN**

**Jennifer Snyder, CGA**

**Assistant Township Secretary**

College Township, Centre County

1481 E. College Avenue

State College PA 16801

814-231-3021

Follow us on social media

 College Township, Centre County, PA

 @CollegeTwpPA

 collegetwppa

Website:

Web: [www.collegetownship.org](http://www.collegetownship.org)

**From:** Meira Minard <janaefinn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil <ctcouncil@collegetownship.org>  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino opposition

You don't often get email from [janaefinn@yahoo.com](mailto:janaefinn@yahoo.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello council members,

I have been a resident of State College for 48 years. I have seen a lot of changes and growth during that time. I am not opposed to either change or growth, however, I am opposed to the casino. We are a small town with a big school. Our residents value our small town feel and our sense of community. Our focus is on quality of living and we choose to live here ("the middle of nowhere") because we do not want the stresses of a city (traffic and crime). Our residents do not support this casino, so why is it being brought here? The obvious answer is profit to a very few. And why have a casino so near a university with a susceptible student body who should be focusing on their education and development and not "get rich quick" schemes?

Please, please, **please**, do not permit this casino to open here. **Please** let the residents, those of us who will have to live with this **every day**, decide.

Thank you,

Meira Minard

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** susan natter <snatter124@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Objection to casino

You don't often get email from snatter124@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

We strongly object to having a gambling casino in College Township. It would be horrible for our community.  
Susan and Lu Natter

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Alan Popovich <apopovich@aparchitects.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:44 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** College Township Casino Opposition  
**Attachments:** PGCB - Submission Received

You don't often get email from apopovich@aparchitects.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Members of Council –

I am emailing to be sure my previous comments have been received and are again being considered (see attachment).

As a former resident of the township for nearly 30-years, a current business owner in the Lemont Historic District, a member of the LVA and one of the Board of Governors for the Centre County Historical Society, the idea of even considering a casino here in the township appears contrary to the social objectives established through planning efforts, not to mention the potential physical negative impact this type of use will have on our township's historic resources.

In my opinion, approval of a casino at the Nittany Mall is not only undesirable, it is a reprehensible mistake.

Thank you.

Alan R. Popovich, AIA  
Principal, LEED® AP, BD+C

APArchitects, LLC  
PO Box 99  
100 Boalsburg Road  
Lemont, PA 16851

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**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board <pgcb@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 12, 2022 3:11 PM  
**To:** Alan Popovich  
**Subject:** PGCB - Submission Received

Alan R Popovich,

Your submission has been received. Thank you. Your Registrant ID number is **5981**. If your choice is to speak in person or online at the upcoming hearing, and not resubmit earlier testimony, please make a note of your Registrant ID number and await further information on how to provide your testimony.

--Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

June 12, 2022, 3:10 pm x

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:46 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Corrected copy - Please ask if College Township can rescind the initial decision on the proposed casino  
**Attachments:** 8.8.2022.Materna II final response ltr (1) (1) (1).pdf

Dear members of the College Township Council and Mr. Glantz,

This corrected copy is provided since Mr. Glantz was not listed as College Township Solicitor on the township's website. Additionally, his corrected email address is provided above.

It is not a matter of asking the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) what your options are. I could do that -- in fact, I did.

At your August 18 College Township council meeting, rather than discussing the proposed casino after the Council Chair described the extensive casino-related correspondence listed in the Consent Agenda, you all chose to not pull and discuss any of that community input that was sent directly to each and every one of you. Please do **not** think your constituents were **not aware** that self-imposed silence was agreed upon in advance by members of Council prior to the meeting.

When **College Township Solicitor Louis Glantz** asks the PGCB about the way ahead on the casino, it is important to not just ask *"Regarding the proposed casino, please advise what options College Township government now has?"* I think anyone could accomplish that, but nobody has.

There is only **one acceptable question** the College Township Solicitor should ask the PGCB, and it is quoted below:

***"Please advise if College Township can rescind their initial decision to not opt-out from having a casino in the township's jurisdiction? If it is possible for the township to rescind that decision, please advise what actions must now be taken by the township to officially accomplish that."***

Expediency appears to be unheard of as you try to solve this. Perhaps you really do not want to solve this and are afraid to ask the PGCB the correct question because you are not prepared to hear their answer. At your most recent council meeting, when Mr. Brumbaugh mentioned Act 42 and the follow-on Category 4 casino-related details from 2019 it really demonstrated the township's determination to downplay every word of the hundreds of public comments already posted on the College Township website. It is tantamount to saying, *"This opportunity to have a casino is perfectly legal -- and here is where that is officially spelled out."* Why do all of you avoid mentioning the casino-related chaos the community has pointed out to you nonstop since last August?

I emailed each of you the attached **Right to Know Law request** and the PGCB's response to me on August 8. Ten days later at the August 18 Council meeting you chose to not mention or discuss the

PGCB's response to me that Council Chair Francke expressed interest in seeing earlier that same day. Nobody shares those actual requests and official responses publicly. I did so because I assured you that I would.

**I'm attaching those details again because you will need to review them more closely this time.** Otherwise, Township Solicitor Glantz will not get the answer to the above-listed question when he asks it. Please let us see that question as well as the PGCB's official response.

Thank you for not losing focus on this because it will not be going away. We do not want or need a casino in Happy Valley. Please remember to ask the PGCB the correct question, not a slightly fine-tuned version of it to avoid ruffling anyone's feathers.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA



PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
 303 Walnut Street  
 Commonwealth Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Harrisburg PA 17101  
[www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov](http://www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov)

*Deborah C. Joyce*  
*Open Records Officer*  
 Phone: (717)346-8300  
 Fax: (717)346-8350  
 Email: [pgcbtrklrequests@pa.gov](mailto:pgcbtrklrequests@pa.gov)

*Chairman*  
 DENISE J. SMYLER

*Commissioners*  
 FRANK DERMODY  
 SARA MANZANO-DIAZ  
 T. MARK MUSTIO  
 NEDIA RALSTON  
 FRANCES J. REGAN

August 8, 2022

*Ex-Officio Members*  
 STACY GARRITY  
 C. DANIEL HASSELL  
 RUSSELL C. REDDING

**Via email**

Daniel Materna  
 948 Two Mile Road  
 Howard, PA 16841  
 Email: [sailordan76@verizon.net](mailto:sailordan76@verizon.net)

Re: Right to Know Law Request 2022-17

Dear Mr. Materna:

On August 1, 2022, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (“PGCB” or “Board”) received your request for documents pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law (“RTKL”) 65 P.S. §67.101 *et seq.* A copy of your request is attached for reference.

Specifically, you requested: *“A copy of the section of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act ("Act") or any other applicable Pennsylvania regulation that specifically states that once a municipality has chosen to not opt-out of the siting of a Category 4 facility within that municipality, that decision is final and may not be later rescinded by the municipality.*

*Additionally, please provide an official reference showing that when a municipality properly chose to not opt-out of the siting of Category 4 facility and did so prior to the 12/31/2017 deadline, that they may not later rescind that decision for any reason prior to the PGCB voting to approve a Category 4 casino license application for a casino withing the municipality's jurisdiction.*

*Section 1305.1 (a.1) of the Act clearly states...Please advise if the municipality can later change their mind and reverse their earlier decision to not opt-out prior to approval of the Category 4 casino license application.”*

Your request is **Denied**, for the following reasons:

- Your request is asking the Board to conduct legal research and the Board is not required to conduct legal research for a Requestor. *See* Camburn v. Montgomery County House. Auth., OOR Dkt. AP 2016-0705 (holding that a request seeking rules, regulations, and guidelines for a housing program, impermissibly sought legal research). *See also* Nye v. Halifax Sch. Dist., OOR Dkt. AP 2016-0638 (seeking the law, rule, policy, procedure etc. specifically cited, and copied, that substantiates a superintendent’s statement at a referenced meeting.)
- Please review the links below to the Gaming Act and the Board’s Regulations, which provide all requirements of licensure in the Commonwealth, which should help you conduct your research:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/04/04.HTM>

[https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final\\_Regulations\\_Master.pdf](https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final_Regulations_Master.pdf)

- Also, the RTKL is a mechanism to seek records from a Commonwealth Agency. You have not identified or described any records which you are requesting, as required by Section 703 of the RTKL, rather, you are asking a question. The Office of Open Records (“OOR”), as well as, the Commonwealth Court have found that requests to answer questions are not proper for a RTKL request. *See* Gingrich v. Pennsylvania Game Commission, 1254 CD 2011(citing to Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission v. Murphy, 25 A.3d 1294 (Cmwlth. Ct. 2011) (finding questions do not trigger a response under the RTKL). *See also* Richard Frame v Menallen Township Sewage Authority, OOR Dkt. AP 2011-1678.

Please note that you have a right to appeal this decision in writing to Liz Wagenseller, Executive Director, Office of Open Records (OOR), 333 Market Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101. If you choose to file an appeal, you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of this response. In order to appeal, you must send to the OOR and simultaneously to me, in the same manner as the appeal is sent to the Office of Open Records (e-mail, fax, mail or hand delivery):

- 1) your request;
- 2) this response;
- 3) the appeal form that is available on the OOR website at:  
<https://www.openrecords.pa.gov/Appeals/AppealForm.cfm>

All of the above must be submitted for the appeal to be valid.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah C. Joyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

Deborah C. Joyce  
Agency Open Records Officer

Attachments

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Sarah Silver Schwartz <ssilver23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposed to State College Casino

You don't often get email from ssilver23@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

As a State College community member, parent, and former teacher, I want to voice my opinion about the proposed casino in State College. Based on clear research on this matter, I am against the development of a casino here. It is clearly not in the best interest of our residents, and I hope that we do not move forward with this.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sarah Schwartz

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Childs, Jane L <jlc3@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:19 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from jlc3@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the College Township Council:

Please consider carefully to full import of what a casino can/will do to this little town, to its college students, to its senior citizens, to those who are financially challenged. A casino is not the answer to a healthy, sustainable economy. It is not the answer to increased tourism. It is a curse that we will forever regret because of the helplessness and depression gambling brings. Don't do it...don't allow this one-sided scourge to come into your Township. You have the power to say NO. Say NO.

Sincerely,

Jane L. Childs, State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Spivey, Norman <fns2@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 7:50 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** NO to Casino at Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from fns2@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I am writing in opposition to the proposal for a casino in our area. My wife and I have lived in State College for over 30 years and have raised both of our children here. We have also had the opportunity to visit a number of places that do have casinos—and have seen the many ill effects they seem to have caused. We do not believe that a casino would be the right match for our community. In fact, quite the opposite.

Please say NO to the casino.

Sincerely,  
Norman Spivey

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** donirmisnowden@icloud.com  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:17 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from donirmisnowden@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Please stop the casino project!  
The negative effects are too numerous to list.  
This is only about making money and not for the betterment of the community.

Don and Irmi Snowden  
Foxdale Village

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** snj5hoskins@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 9:19 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** We oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from snj5hoskins@verizon.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council members,

My family and I have lived in College Township for over a decade, and my husband has received both of his degrees from Penn State, University Park. We appreciate a lot about this unique region of Pennsylvania and so completely oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. We believe it would be harmful in a multitude of ways to our community and to the students and visitors who come here. Consequently, we would be unlikely to frequent the businesses in the area of the mall nearly as much as we do if the casino is there -- and we certainly appreciate many of the new, affordable stores that have started up in that area. We have also encouraged our teens to consider working part-time at a few of the stores and restaurants along Benner Pike, and would instead discourage them from working in that area if the casino is put in.

Thank you for considering our opinion on this question and for your service.

Sincerely,  
Jenny Hoskins

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Arthur Person <artp60@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino is Bad for the State College Area

[You don't often get email from artp60@outlook.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Casino in the Nittany Mall. I consider gambling a far more destructive than constructive activity considering it invites people to town who are often addicted to it. Addiction to gambling, like other kinds of addiction, leads to destructive forces operating within our community. Our community battles many destructive activities over which we have no control. Here, we can make a decision to prevent another one from affecting our community. Do we really want to invite trouble into our community by allowing a Casino to operate at the Nittany Mall? In my opinion, this should not be allowed.

Thanks for considering my views as a State College area resident.

Art

--

Arthur Person  
281 Saddle Ridge Road, Port Matilda PA 16870  
[REDACTED]

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Uhl, Christopher <cfu1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:43 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** opposition to the casino... a second letter

You don't often get email from cfu1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

When it comes to creating a casino in the environs of State College, the most important question to weigh, in my view, is whether a casino will improve the quality of life of our community. As I ponder this question, I am hard pressed to identify any positive benefits of a casino in our midst. Indeed, rather than spending time and money gambling, wouldn't we all be much better off contributing to the common good?

Christopher Uhl  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Mark Jackson <mij5046@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:47 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the opening of any casino in Centre County

You don't often get email from mij5046@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I strongly oppose the opening of any casino in Centre County. I have lived in State College with my family for the past 30 years and am a proud Penn State grad, and I don't want to see my town damaged by the opening of a gambling center. Casinos prey on society's most vulnerable, and are damaging to young adults like the 40,000 undergrads at Penn State that we as a community have a duty to protect. Please do not approve the opening of a casino in the Nittany Mall, or anywhere in College township, State College, or Centre County.

Thank you,  
Mark Jackson

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**From:** Jamie English <english.jamie@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 9:08 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to casino unless...

You don't often get email from english.jamie@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Working at a casino is a job that does not require a college degree. Most of the people old enough to work there that live in State College are already working a skilled job that required training. We need "unskilled" labor for this job, and there isn't affordable housing here to accommodate those workers. Rent is ridiculous, so workers at the casino would need to drive in from surrounding areas, which brings more non-native people here clogging the already clogged city. This would put extra financial strain on the worker (car maintenance and gas) who is probably already financially strained.

This casino is a grab to make the rich richer and take advantage of cheap labor.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Marilyn Goldfarb <mrgoldfarb17@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:48 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to proposed casino

You don't often get email from mrgoldfarb17@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I certainly enjoy playing blackjack occasionally, and gambling is occasional entertainment for me. But as a retired mathematics teacher, I know well how gambling establishments make their profits. Others not as well informed can easily fall victim to addiction, as has been well documented. State College would be ill served if this proposed casino is approved. The jobs gained would not balance the cost to the community.

I say nay.

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Goldfarb

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Sheryl <robandssheryl@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:25 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** 'No' to the casino

You don't often get email from robandssheryl@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please stop this casino.

I lived in Tucson AZ and moved HERE because of the ridiculous amount of crime and nefarious action surrounding Casino Del Sol on West Valencia Rd, only 2 miles from me.

Yes, I've heard of ALL the revenue it will bring in, but goodness never came from badness and a casino is inherently bad-- both morally and for the community at large.

Sincerely,

***~Sheryl Groner***  
**814-505-6456**

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Amanda White <mandy3white@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 9:09 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from mandy3white@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello College Township Council

My family and I live in Penn Hills Neighborhood, only 1.2 miles from the Nittany Mall. We are in great opposition to the casino plans.

Right now, we really enjoy our neighborhood. Our children meet their friends at the nearby park and it is a great, safe environment for them. If a casino was in our area, I fear the traffic would increase as well as other dangers.

Our nation is still recovering from a worldwide pandemic. The number of people with mental health concerns is off the charts. Offering gambling to such a group is not wise. There are plenty of jobs in that area that need workers, so saying it would provide jobs is also not necessary.

Thank you for listening.  
Mandy White

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** He Lu <highclow@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:24 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I oppose the Nittany Mall Casino

[????????? highclow@hotmail.com ?????????? <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification?????????????????>]

Hi there,

I am the residency in State College in 16803. I am writing this email to strongly oppose to the casino in my neighborhood.

Thanks,  
Lu He

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** carl evensen <carlevensen1050@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 10:02 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from carlevensen1050@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

A casino near State College is a terrible idea.. There's a lot of data that points out results: more crime, suicides, transitory people, etc.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** horacio perezblanco <horneop@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 6:06 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to casino

You don't often get email from horneop@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Township Council,

As a property owner in the Township, I would like to register my opposition to developing the casino.

This stance is based on the observation that the casino hardly aligns with the academic and sporting interests of the community. Those bent on playing games of chance can easily do so via the Internet.

In addition, the benefits of the casino in terms of economic growth in the region are debatable at best.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my views.

Respectfully,

Horacio Perez-Blanco  
Professor Emeritus, PSU.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Barbara W. Fyffe <bwfyffe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 9:55 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to a Casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from bwfyffe@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I oppose a Casino for the following reasons:

**Human trafficking.** The coming and going of strangers is perfect for pimps and the human trafficking business. Statistics will prove an increase of human trafficking in casino areas.

**Drug trafficking.** A casino and the surrounding parking areas are perfect for drug sales and drug use.

**Gambling addiction.** Anyone with a weakness for quick money will easily become addicted to gambling - trying again and again to get rich. Lives are destroyed - jobs are lost - wives, husbands and children are affected..

**Loss of jobs to surrounding employers.** Local businesses are still suffering because of not enough workers/staff. A casino will need workers and may pay better than a local business in the area. All the surrounding businesses will suffer.

**Attraction of unsavory people to the area. Increase in crime.** I live in Spring Township, a 10-mile drive from the mall. I have no doubt that crime will increase in Spring Township as a result of a casino in College Township.

The former Macy's building is a perfect site for a good, wholesome **FAMILY** venue. Please develop it for something truly good and beneficial for College Township and the entire surrounding area. I appreciate your time.

Barbara Fyffe  
Spring Township

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Patti Reddington <pattireddington@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:51 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** We OPPOSE the Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from pattireddington@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Why College Township ever said okay initially is inexcusable! Why Penn State President and Board have not publicly voiced opposition is also inexcusable!

Please do everything in your power to stop the proposed casino from being located in our family focused community.

We have been long term residents in College Township for over 39 years. One would be able to walk to the casino from where we live. We are also a family of Penn State alumni.

In a recent Gateway publication, local council hailed College Township as the gateway to the Centre Region. Let's keep it as a great place to live, send our children to the local schools and daycare, worship, participate in the family friendly activities in the local parks, and shop at the local retail establishments. All of these wonderful places are right within walking distance from the proposed casino.

Let's not tarnish this wonderful community with the immeasurable social costs that will occur from the gambling addictions of local residents and nearby PSU students.

Most likely any profit from tax revenues will go to the Casino owners and State government needs. Not to College Township, Centre County, or local residents.

The overwhelming public opposition should tell you that the community wants you to say NO! The margin is wide - for every 1 in favor there are 42 against.

Please continue to support ways to repurpose the Nittany Mall location for establishments that highlight the region's values. Say NO to the casino!

Sincerely,

Patti Reddington and Mike Reddington

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**From:** Kathy McClintic <ktmclintic@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 9:32 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Kathy McClintic; jstover@nittanylaw.com  
**Subject:** Please Stop Casino in Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from ktmclintic@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the College Township Council,

Please do everything that you can to prevent a casino from being developed at the Nittany Mall. The numerous harms that a casino would cause in our community would significantly outweigh any tax revenue that the casino might generate for College Township, and any jobs and economic benefits that the casino might create would only come at an even greater cost to other area businesses because the casino would draw most of its revenue from the local community. The Township might not even get the tax benefits that it is hoping for if the casino is developed -- I recently learned that the Pennsylvania state government just redirected the tax revenues from casino table games that had been promised to offset property taxes into the state's general fund (<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/the-morning-call-sunday/20220724/281629604010157>).

Are you 100% certain that the state government won't redirect some or all of the casino tax revenues that are currently paid to each casino's host municipality into the state's general fund once it no longer needs to incentivize municipalities to approve the development of additional new casinos?

If you have any doubt that the proposed casino would cause more harm than good in our community, please read through the research listed at the bottom of the <https://saynocasino.org/> website. The evidence presented there overwhelmingly demonstrates that many of the benefits that are promised by the casino's developers will not materialize, and those that do will be outweighed by far greater harms that the casino's developers choose to ignore.

I am encouraged to hear that you have directed College Township Solicitor Jeff Stover to revisit the Township's options regarding the proposed casino. Please encourage Mr. Stover to be as aggressive as possible in seeking options that would allow the Township to rescind its prior approval of this development. Mr. Stover should ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board what options regarding the casino are available to the Township at this point, and he should also specifically ask whether College Township can rescind its initial decision to not opt out of allowing a casino to be built within its jurisdiction. Additionally, he should evaluate whether the Township has the authority to rescind its prior approval of the casino's land use plan. Contracts that are signed on the basis of materially inaccurate representations (such as the anticipated level of crime that the casino would generate) are often considered to be fraudulent, and they can frequently be invalidated.

All levels of government should uphold policies that encourage citizens to invest in themselves and to work to better their circumstances, and the government should never entice the poor to waste their limited resources on self-destructive activities like gambling. Local government especially should be focused on the welfare of the communities that it oversees, because those communities are the only constituents that a local government has. Please prioritize the good of your neighbors over the financial interests of a \$1+ billion casino operator that has no history in our community and no interest in promoting our long-term welfare.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy McClintic

--

**Kathy McClintic**

**[ktmcclintic@gmail.com](mailto:ktmcclintic@gmail.com)**

*"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around..." ~Leo Buscaglia*

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Donald Schneider <dssgastro@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:23 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** the proposed casino

You don't often get email from dssgastro@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

My family and I are opposed to the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall in Centre County. As a physician in the community, I am well aware of the negative effect casinos with their associated gambling have on both psychological and physical health. Casinos will increase the burden of smoking and alcohol related diseases in our community. The addictive nature of gambling will also add to the burden of psychological disease in the area. With so many young people in the community allowing a casino under the guise of development and financial gain would be reckless.

Donald Schneider, M.D.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Tony De Luca <tonyd134@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:38 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** Louis.Glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from tonyd134@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council,

I am relieved to hear that you are reconsidering your position of support for the proposed Nittany Mall Casino! I am in clear opposition to their being a casino in the State College community. Though a casino may bring some new jobs to the area this isn't the type of employment that should be getting attracted to our community. Though I have heard that it would be a good attraction for tourists, this is absolutely not the type of attraction we should be looking for! A casino does one thing and one thing only and that is to draw money out of people's pockets with the false hope of winning. There is a reason that casino's rake in millions in profits and that's because they are designed for people to lose - the odds ALWAYS favor the casino. What is worse is that too often those that can least afford to lose money are the ones chasing that false hope of riches through gambling.

Though I am a Patton Township resident, I am regularly in College Township as I am currently a volunteer for Interfaith Human Services that has a warehouse for donated furniture in the Nittany Mall that I assist with. I also regularly support the businesses in College Township.

Thanks for considering my opinion.

Anthony DeLuca

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Grigor, Catherine <cqg3@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2022 9:32 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to Nittany Mall Casino

You don't often get email from cqg3@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to approving a permit for the Nittany Mall Casino.

As a resident of Harris Township with family members and activities in College Township, I am positive that a gambling casino at the Nittany Mall will diminish the quality of life and safety that all residents enjoy.

I beg you to put a stop to a casino at the Nittany Mall. There are so many other possibilities for the mall that could bring good paying job into our area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Catherine Grigor

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Holly Ketz <hollyketz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2022 10:32 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Holly Ketz  
**Subject:** Regarding the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from hollyketz@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township council,

I am a longtime resident of State College, living in the Park Forest area. I am very much concerned about the possibility of having a casino in our area. I am 70 years old and in my lifetime I have seen what gambling does to any area that has a casino in it. I remember Atlantic City long before there was gambling there. It was a very nice upscale beach that was good for families as well as for retirees. After gambling took hold, my husband went there for a conference and he said he would never go back there. Long before we had street people throughout our country in cities, Atlantic City, New Jersey had them laying around in the lobbies of what had been nice clean upscale hotels along the boardwalk, all because of the Casinos. I could not believe what my husband told me he saw in Atlantic City years ago after gambling casinos were introduced. But my remembrance of Atlantic city when I was both a child and even in my college years before gambling was introduced was very nice. So, it had only been a few short years later when I was in my late 20's that he saw the devastation and corruption that the casinos caused. It is well known that people become addicted to gambling and that gambling only tends to bring a community crime and desperation. Don't we already have enough crime of late in our larger cities? Please do your part and keep our town from becoming an attraction to those who would take advantage of our young and old people. And, might I add, here is Penn State University, and what further temptations to do wrong do we want to expose them to? Are we not to continue to care for and model good living to our youth? Are they not our future? Please listen to those who have objected to a casino in our area, and find income for our community in a place that would uplift us and not bring us down. You can do it. Let God be your guide. He will be our judge. He knows all. Holly Ketz

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** E. Alan Cameron <eajabaka@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2022 12:10 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from eajabaka@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

College Township Council;

Although I live across the road (in the borough) from College Township, the proposed casino to be located in College Township will have direct and indirect adverse effects on the quality of my life since any fallout from this ill-advised decision on your part to permit its establishment will not be restricted to the township. Currently my wife and I frequently patronize a number of commercial establishments in College township, and we consider the township to be an important part of our local community.

In a Centre Region community with almost 50,000 young, impressionable, and often immature students subjected to distorted casino advertising that emphasizes only the financial benefits to 'winners,' addictive gambling behavior is encouraged. You have been referred to numerous studies that document extensive negative consequences for those who can least afford to gamble, as well as its addictive behavior, among low income populations. You have also been referred to various studies documenting the deterioration of communities following the introduction of local casino gambling. While numerous low-wage jobs could be created, the vast majority of total income, and the profits, are drained away from the community and into the pockets of non-resident owners. Numerous other adverse consequences on desirable community virtues are articulated.

I urge you, as a Council, to reverse your approval of the establishment of a casino in our area. Only in this way, will you responsibly execute your role of servant representatives to work for the greater good for the great majority of the citizens residing in College Township and in surrounding areas.

Thank you for considering my appeal. I look forward to appropriate action on your part at your September 1 meeting.

E. Alan Camerton

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**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Cassie Konkle <faeriechilde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 28, 2022 7:37 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** I'm am opposed to the Casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from faeriechilde@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am writing to say that I am opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I live in Bellefonte, but I spend a lot of time in State College and consider myself to be a part of the State College community. I do not think a casino would be good for our community. Instead of spending money supporting local businesses, people will be spending their money at a casino. Most gamblers do not make a profit at a casino, otherwise casinos would never operate. These people will be throwing away their money instead of spending it at local businesses. I do not see how this could possibly benefit the community. A casino would take money away from our community and increase the incidence of gambling addiction and all of the negative fallout that comes along with addiction. I believe a casino would be particularly bad for the college student community. College students already struggle with binge drinking. The temptation of a nearby gambling establishment would only add another unhealthy pass time for students to engage in. I hope you will consider the concerns of the people who live in the State College area and not bring a casino into our community.

Sincerely,

--Cassie Konkle

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** susan natter <snatter124@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 10:02 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louisglantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino

[You don't often get email from snatter124@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Please know that my family and I strongly object to the casino that is proposed for the township.

Susan Natter

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Joann mcp <jmcpdornich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:46 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Feedback on Casino

You don't often get email from jmcpdornich@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members and Leadership of College Township Council,  
Please note for the record that as taxpaying, property owning residents of this community, we are vehemently opposed to the building and operating of a casino at the current site of the Nittany Mall or anywhere in this community. We have sent letters, emails to the Pennsylvania Gaming Board, the Penn State President and Board of Trustees and now this body. This proposed project is not good for our community. The expected job creation, local business and tax revenues that are touted as benefits of the project pale in comparison to the negative impacts a casino brings to a community. Increased levels of addiction, crime, abuse and neglect, illegal enterprises- to name a few of the known impacts- burden local resources such as social services, law enforcement, schools, community members and leadership. This project has insignificant community benefit compared to the financial benefit Casino developers and operators will garner. It's not welcome, ill conceived and will not positively impact our community and region.  
Please DO NOT approve!  
Sincerely,  
Joann And Bob Dornich  
Patton Township residents