

City of Taunton

Office of the Mayor

Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.
Mayor

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May 7, 2012

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick
Office of the Governor
State House – Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick,

I am writing regarding the traffic impact on Routes 140 and 24 due to the proposed Destination Resort Casino to be built at the Liberty and Union Industrial Park, within our City borders. Upgrades to the intersection of these two state highways are badly needed and have been discussed for many years. Six weeks ago, a much anticipated meeting was held at the MassDOT District 5 office to discuss potential upgrades.

Taunton's voters will have their voices heard on June 9th. If the referendum passes, I am eager to see this project come to fruition and provide much needed jobs to the area and revenue for both the Commonwealth and the City of Taunton. At the same time, however, the very legitimate concerns of the residents who live in close proximity of this project must be addressed.

As presently proposed, the main entrance to the project would be on Stevens Street, which is a narrow, two-lane road lined with homes and which leads directly to residential areas of East Taunton. Just a few hundred feet from the entrance to the project stands the East Taunton Elementary School, which is also on Stevens Street.

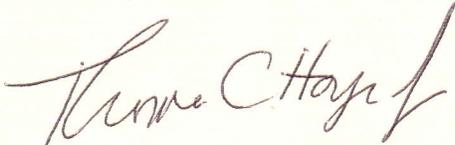
A City of Firsts

First Woman Town Proprietor- First Female Entrepreneur
First to Fly Liberty & Union Flag- First Major Silver Manufacturing Center

I feel strongly that the Commonwealth, through the compact negotiations with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, should insist upon two critical items: (1) long overdue upgrades to the Route 24/Route 140 intersection, and (2) minimizing the impact upon Stevens Street by facilitating a direct flow of traffic from the highways into the facility. Indeed, this project is an opportunity for the Commonwealth to receive assistance from the Tribe to complete these upgrades, which in large part were needed anyway, to the mutual benefit of the Tribe, the Commonwealth, and the City of Taunton.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I would like to schedule a meeting with yourself and Secretary Davies in the very near future to further discuss these issues. I look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.", written in dark ink.

Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.
Mayor

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