



There is no local, state, or federal timeline requiring the IGAs to be fast tracked. This process has been cloaked in a cloud of secrecy and deception- and now City and County officials are rushing to approve Intergovernmental Agreements without time to fully understand and discuss this secretly negotiated deal. Below are a few of the concerns deserving a full and open public debate.

## Who's in Charge of Law Enforcement?

**It's Unclear.** Unlike the other tribes in Wisconsin, State criminal law does not automatically extend to the Menominee reservation lands. Therefore, it is very possible the state, county and city WILL NOT have jurisdiction over criminal conduct on the proposed Kenosha casino site. The potential lack of criminal jurisdiction by the state at the proposed Kenosha casino site was highlighted in a [2015 State Department of Administration review](#) of the prior Menominee and Florida Seminole casino proposal.

## Will We See a Spike in Violent Crime?

**Most likely.** According to a [panel study of Wisconsin Counties](#), **violent crime increases 30%** after the opening of a casino and **arrests increase 50%** in the community after the opening of a casino. In addition, in Wisconsin counties with a casino, arrests for forgery, fraud, embezzlement and receiving stolen property are about 50% above other counties. A [study](#) conducted by the National Bureau of Economic Research, shows counties surrounding a casino have seen a 10 percent increase in auto thefts, larceny, violent crime and bankruptcy after the opening of a casino.

## Will there be enough Police to Keep us Safe?

**Probably Not.** The total number of law enforcement officers in Wisconsin has [dropped to its lowest level](#) since the Department of Justice began tracking it. Coupled with a [near-record low unemployment rate](#), recruiting new officers would be increasingly difficult.

## Is the Market Oversaturated?

**It appears so.** Casino development has exploded in the US over the past few decades, making them more easily accessible and over-saturating the industry market. A [2022 economic brief](#) from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond examined the impact of casinos from a variety of social and economic perspectives. They found that, "despite tax revenues being a major motivator for state legalization of casinos, there is little evidence that they boost state taxes. We also find that the job gains from casino development are limited to those in lower density areas that lack nearby casinos."

## Will Taxpayers Take a hit?

**It certainly looks that way.** The Wisconsin Legislative Research Bureau recently released a report that said the financial impact on taxpayers is less than originally thought. Conveniently, the report failed to quantify "less" – which over a 10-year period could be nearly \$400M (\$250M per the [Potawatomi compact](#) and \$140M per the [Ho Chunk compact](#)). **This casino could cost Wisconsin taxpayers \$400M, with millions of dollars going to a Florida Tribe.**

## **Will a Casino Hurt Small Business**

**It seems likely.** Casinos not only have a negative impact on small local businesses such as restaurants, retail, and hotels, but they will also be a drain on an already over-taxed labor pool.

According to the economists at the National Association of Realtors, Casinos have an “unambiguously negative” impact on neighboring property values. Casinos also have a negative impact on surrounding businesses as they operate as a time-limited, self-contained entity that captivates its customers until they have exhausted their money rather than provide foot-traffic to nearby businesses.

## **Will a Casino Create Jobs or Addicts?**

Regional casinos leave behind far more gambling addicts than jobs. One of the primary rationales for regional casinos is to “create jobs” but facts show that casinos leave behind far more gambling addicts than jobs. Illinois has had an explosion of regional casinos in recent years. According to a [report](#) by the Illinois Gambling board, casinos create far more addicts than jobs.

According to the National Institute of Health, at least [1 out of every 20 citizens](#) have had their lives turned upside down because they became addicted to commercialized gambling, and [studies](#) reviewed by the Institute of American Values revealed that between 40 to 60 percent of casino revenue comes from problem gamblers, and those problem gamblers are increasingly drawn from the vulnerable elderly.

Paid for by Citizens Against Expanded Gambling, Inc.