



For Immediate Release
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Governor Whitmer Fails To Approve the Muskegon Casino Project

The following is a statement by Larry Romanelli, Ogema of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in response to the announcement by Governor Whitmer that she will not approve the Tribes \$200 million casino project in Fruitport Township in Muskegon County.

“Our Tribal members are absolutely devastated that Governor Whitmer has decided to not approve our casino development in Fruitport Township. This project would have created and supported 3,000 jobs for Tribal members and families in the community along with providing funds for healthcare and housing. Our tribe has worked hand-in-hand with the Muskegon Community for the past twelve years to gain approval from the Federal Government and State Government. Words cannot express how thankful we are for our community’s support and the disappointment we feel for them. Our tribe is proud that over the last 12 years, we did everything right. The project has been supported by the Obama, Trump and Biden Presidential administrations along with the Granholm and Snyder Gubernatorial administrations. We received approvals from the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We met all the criteria required for approval. And while we disagree completely with Governor Whitmer’s decision, we respect that she has the authority to make it. For now, The Muskegon Casino Project has concluded.”

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We have attached a sample list of supporters in the community you may like to contact for their reactions to the announcements.