

Final Frequencies (n=500)
BRIDGEPORT, CT SURVEY
The Mellman Group, Inc.
September 25, 2017

Hello. This is (caller name). I'm calling for _____. I would like to speak with (NAME ON LIST). (IF NOT HOME, SCHEDULE CALL BACK. YOU MAY NOT SPEAK TO ANYONE ELSE.) We are conducting a public opinion survey and I would like to ask you some questions. We are not selling anything, and I will not ask you for a contribution or donation.

Are you registered to vote? **[IF NO, TERMINATE]**

In which state are you registered to vote? **[TERMINATE IF NOT CONNECTICUT]**

[RECORD, BUT DO NOT ASK, GENDER:]

Male..... 44
 Female..... 56

1. As you may know, there is a proposal for MGM Resorts International to build a \$675 million-dollar waterfront destination resort casino in Bridgeport. Would you favor or oppose this plan to build a resort casino in Bridgeport? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK:]** Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?

Favor, strongly.....	59	74
Favor, not so strongly.....	16	
Oppose, not so strongly.....	5	
Oppose, strongly.....	13	18
[VOL] DK/refused.....	8	

Now I'm going to list several elements of the plan for MGM Resorts International to build a \$675 million-dollar waterfront destination resort casino in Bridgeport. After each one, please tell me how important that particular element of the plan is to you personally. Is it one of the most important parts, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? If you are not sure how you feel about a particular item, please say so and we will go on.

	One of most	Very impt	Smwt impt	Not too impt	Not at all impt	DK
[RANDOMIZE Q.2-Q.8]						
2. ___ MGM Resorts International will make an 8-million-dollar annual payment to the city, plus 4.5 million dollars in annual payments to the surrounding towns.....	31	44	16	3	5	1
3. ___ The casino will pay taxes to the state on revenue from both table games and slot machines.....	24	50	16	2	6	1
4. ___ This will create at least seven thousand direct and indirect jobs, including two thousand jobs at the casino itself, making it the second-largest employer in the city	37	49	7	2	4	0
5. ___ Bridgeport residents will have the first opportunity to fill 70 percent of the jobs at the casino	41	44	8	3	4	0
6. ___ MGM will build a \$675 million-dollar casino with entertainment venues, restaurants and shopping.....	17	47	21	7	7	1
7. ___ MGM will immediately make a one-time payment of \$50 million dollars to the state for the right to build the casino.....	24	43	20	5	8	1
8. ___ No tax dollars will be spent on the construction or operation of the casino	40	43	9	3	4	1
9. Now that you've heard a bit more, do you favor or oppose the proposal for MGM Resorts International to build a new \$675 million-dollar waterfront destination resort casino in Bridgeport? [IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK] Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?						
Favor, strongly.....	68	82				
Favor, not so strongly.....	14					
Oppose, not so strongly.....	4					
Oppose, strongly.....	11	15				
[VOL] DK/ref	3					

[SPLIT SAMPLE A]

Now I'm going to list some things that some people say could happen if a new casino is built in Bridgeport. After each, please tell me how likely each is to happen - is it almost certain to happen, very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not likely at all? If you are not sure, please say so and we will go on.

[RANDOMIZE Q.10-Q.20]

	Almost certain	Very likely	Smwt likely	Not too	Not at all	DK
10. __ The construction and operation of the new casino will create jobs.....	49	36	10	4	1	0
11. __The new casino will help the local economy	31	40	19	5	4	0
12. __The casino will bring visitors from the rest of Fairfield County, as well as from New York City and its wealthy suburbs and Long Island	33	43	17	4	2	0
13. __The new casino will bring top entertainment to Bridgeport	25	43	24	4	2	2
14. __A new casino will generate hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for state and local government	23	42	22	7	3	2
15. __Cars going to and from the casino will make traffic congestion even worse	29	29	23	11	5	2
16. __Crime will increase	12	11	33	26	12	6
17. __More people will become addicted to gambling	21	16	28	23	9	3
18. __Tax and licensing revenue from the casino will help balance the city's budget, preventing cuts to education and other important programs	18	37	28	11	4	2
19. __Tax and licensing revenue from the casino will help hold down local property taxes	13	35	25	13	6	8
20. __A new casino will bring more business to existing local restaurants and other businesses.....	26	43	18	9	4	0

[SPLIT SAMPLE B]

Now I'm going to list some things that some people say could happen if a new casino is built in Bridgeport. After each, please tell me how good or bad it would be if that particular thing did happen. Use a scale of zero to ten where zero means it is one of the worst things that could happen and 10 means it is one of the best things that can happen. 5 is neutral, neither good nor bad. You may select any number between zero and ten. If you are not sure, please say so. **[CODE ACTUAL NUMBER 0-10. DK=99]**

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

[RANDOMIZE Q.21-Q.31]

WORST BEST

- 21. __ The construction and operation of the new casino will create jobs..... 9.0
- 22. __The new casino will help the local economy 8.7
- 23. __The casino will bring visitors from the rest of Fairfield County, as well as from New York City and its wealthy suburbs and Long Island 7.8
- 24. __The new casino will bring top entertainment to Bridgeport 8.1
- 25. __A new casino will generate hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for state and local government 8.4
- 26. __Cars going to and from the casino will make traffic congestion even worse 3.7
- 27. __Crime will increase 3.0
- 28. __More people will become addicted to gambling 3.1
- 29. __Tax and licensing revenue from the casino will help balance the city's budget, preventing cuts to education and other important programs 8.3
- 30. __Tax and licensing revenue from the casino will help hold down local property taxes 8.1
- 31. __A new casino will bring more business to existing local restaurants and other businesses..... 8.4

[RESUME ASKING EVERYONE]

- 32. Which of the following comes closer to your point of view:

[ROTATE STATEMENTS]

__A new casino in Bridgeport will mostly attract people from the rest of Fairfield County, as well as New York City, its wealthy suburbs and Long Island, providing the local and state economy a boost

OR

__A new casino in Bridgeport will mostly compete with existing casinos in Connecticut, hurting jobs and the state economy

[AFTER RESPONSE, ASK] Do you feel that way strongly or not strongly?

- Attract from NYC, strongly..... 57 **74**
- Attract from NYC, not strongly..... 17
- Compete with CT, not strongly 6
- Compete with CT, strongly 13 **19**
- [VOL]** DK/ref 7

33. As you may know, Connecticut currently has two tribal casinos which are required to pay the state a portion of their revenue from slot machines. If a new casino is built in Bridgeport, then, according to their agreement with the state, the two existing casinos will stop making further payments to the state. However, there will be new payments to the state from of a gaming tax on the new Bridgeport casino. Now I'm going to read you what some people are saying about this. **[ROTATE BELOW]**

__(Some/Other) people say the payments under the old agreement have declined in recent years and will continue to decline as these existing casinos face increased competition from Massachusetts. To replace that revenue, Connecticut should allow a new casino in Bridgeport. This casino will pay taxes on its revenue from slots and table games to the state, which will give Connecticut more money than it would get from existing casinos.

__(Some/Other) people say the state cannot afford to give up the payments we are already getting from the tribal casinos and take a chance on an unproven casino in Bridgeport. A new casino in Bridgeport will give too much competition to the existing tribal casinos and cost jobs there, which is not fair to the tribes who run those casinos. They say Connecticut should not allow a new casino in Bridgeport.

Do you favor or oppose building this new casino in Bridgeport?

[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK] Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?

Favor, strongly.....	63
Favor, not so strongly.....	13
Oppose, not so strongly.....	8
Oppose, strongly.....	10
[VOL] DK/ref.....	6
NET FAVOR.....	76
NET OPPOSE.....	18

THANK YOU. THE FEW REMAINING QUESTIONS ARE FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY.

34. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or something else? **[IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT ASK:]** Do you consider yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not so strong (Republican/Democrat)? **[IF INDEPENDENT ASK:]** Would you say that you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats?

strong Republican.....	8	15
not so strong Republican.....	3	
independent leans Republican.....	3	
independent.....	23	
independent leans Democratic.....	8	
not so strong Democrat.....	6	
strong Democrat.....	40	54
dk/na/other.....	8	

35. Do you consider yourself very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative or very conservative? **[IF MODERATE, ASK:]** Do you tend to lean toward the liberal or conservative side?

very liberal.....	18	39
somewhat liberal.....	15	
moderate leans liberal.....	6	
moderate.....	28	
moderate leans conservative.....	6	
somewhat conservative.....	12	
very conservative.....	8	26
dk/na/other.....	7	

36. What is your age? **[CODE ACTUAL AGE. REFUSED=999]** _____

18-29.....	19
30-39.....	20
40-49.....	17
50-59.....	18
60+.....	26
na/ref.....	0

37. What was the last level of schooling you completed?

less than high school graduate.....	3
high school graduate.....	28
vocational training/vocational school.....	2
some college, but no degree.....	20
a 2-year or associate degree.....	11
a 4-year or bachelor's degree.....	23
a post-graduate degree.....	10
na/ref [VOL]	2

38. Do you have any children under the age of 18?

yes.....	29
no.....	69
[VOL] DK/ref.....	2

39. Are you Latino, Hispanic, or of Spanish or Mexican descent?

Yes.....	32
No.....	65
DK/refused.....	3

40. Are you black, white, Asian, Native American or some other race?

Black.....	30
White	37
Asian.....	2
Native American.....	1
Other	20
DK/refused	11

41. And may I ask your religious background -- is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim or something else? **[IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK]** Is that Christian or non-Christian?

Protestant	15
Catholic.....	30
Jewish	1
Muslim.....	2
Other Christian	26
Other non-Christian	10
Don't know/NA	16

42. How often do you attend religious services—more than weekly, weekly, a few times a month, seldom, or never?

more than weekly	9
weekly.....	28
few times a month	15
seldom.....	23
never	13
[VOL] dk/refused.....	12

43. If you were asked to use one of these names for the economic class you belong to, which would you say you belong in—upper class, upper middle-class, middle class, working class, or lower class?

upper class.....	3
upper middle-class	9
middle-class	43
working class	33
lower class.....	7
[VOL] don't know	2
[VOL] other	3

44. Have you visited a casino in the last 12 months?

Yes.....	42
No	56
Don't know/NA	2

45. And last, what is your zip code? _____

That completes our public opinion survey. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.