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## SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FIRST-CLASS ENTERTAINMENT & GAMING RESORT PROPOSED IN EASTERN ST. TAMMANY PARISH

Peninsula Pacific Entertainment Commits Additional \$75 Million to Original \$250 Million Project Proposal to Make Total Capital Investment \$325 Million

Mandeville, LA – Today, St. Tammany Parish officials, along with Peninsula Pacific Entertainment (P2E), announced a significant additional capital investment and infrastructure expansion to its original project proposal to invest more than \$325 million into developing a land-based entertainment and gaming resort destination in eastern St. Tammany Parish, just southeast of Slidell, worthy of one of the state's 15 gaming licenses.

Additionally, St. Tammany Corporation CEO Chris Masingill announced the approval of the Economic Development Host Agreement by the St. Tammany Parish Development District Board of Commissioners. The agreement referred to as the *Community Assistance Resiliency and Enhancement (CARE) Partnership Program* is a legally contractual instrument that provides a host of privately funded resources and operational commitments designed to invest in the quality of life in St. Tammany Parish and create long-term economic opportunity.

"This project provides a tremendous opportunity for our area," said Senator Sharon Hewitt. "Financial resources for flood protection, a new regional sports tourism complex, and funds available for community groups for everything from helping battle addiction to STEM education programs. I am proud of our local leaders for negotiating such a strong deal for St. Tammany Parish."

"I am proud of our entire legislative delegation standing united and working with our colleagues at the Capitol to make sure that the people of St. Tammany Parish have the opportunity to make this decision," said Representative Mary DuBuisson. "I really believe that our citizens should get to vote on opportunities like this one. That's why I was proud to carry the bill."

"We are honored to have led the facilitation of this process on behalf of our local partners on an agreement that we believe lays the groundwork for significant and long-lasting economic opportunity," said Chris Masingill, St. Tammany Corporation CEO. "The Economic Development Host Agreement represents a historic revenue share, hiring commitments for St. Tammany Parish workers, public safety enhancements including increased patrols and the construction of new Sheriff's district sub-station, and \$35 Million in guaranteed funds for the creation of a parish competitive sports tourism complex. On Thursday, June 17, the St. Tammany Parish Development District Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Economic Development Agreement as presented. This monumental vote sets a new precedent for economic development in St. Tammany."

The major commitments of the agreement include, but are not limited to:

- Public safety investments including increased neighborhood patrols and the construction of a new Sheriff's District Sub Station
- Employment and local vendor commitments for St. Tammany Parish Residents
- Local business support through the implementation of a Point Partner Program
- \$35 Million in guaranteed funding for the St. Tammany Parish Competitive Sports and Tourism Complex
- A historic 5% revenue share to reinvest into St. Tammany Parish (estimated \$7.5 Million)

St. Tammany Parish Council Chairman Mike Lorino said, "The Parish Council is glad to be at this stage and we are currently reviewing both the legislation and the Economic Development Host Agreement. Public engagement is essential and we look forward to hearing from the public at a forthcoming Special Called Meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Council, which will be advertised seven days in advance to ensure adequate participation from the citizens. The Parish Council will hear from community members, listen, and debate, then the Council will vote. If the resolution passes, the people of St. Tammany will participate in a referendum election in the fall. Today's project expansion announcement also showcases the importance of public feedback and engagement, as the enhanced project investment areas are the result of community feedback and discussions with parish leaders."

In addition to the proposed land-based complex featuring a premium hotel surrounded by exciting restaurant, food and beverage options, the project expansion will now include incorporated convention space, expanded entertainment options, exterior lakeside upgrades, and outside pool and event space after listening to and gathering input from parish residents.

Jonathan Swain, President of P2E, said the company is excited by the tremendous positive feedback from Slidell residents and all of St. Tammany Parish.

"Our specialty is developing new locations from the ground up. By working with our neighbors, we can create something special that St. Tammany Parish can be proud of. Through our conversations with the community, we learned how important it was for the property to incorporate Lake Pontchartrain in creative, responsible ways, while also highlighting the tremendous love for music across this region."

Swain explained that P2E is also working with local elected officials to ensure the safety and security of those near the proposed development.

"One of the first things we heard from local residents was concerns about public safety. We are proud to announce that If the project is approved by the voters, a new District Office for the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Department will be built on the property. This outpost will guarantee an increased law enforcement presence with around-the-clock dedicated patrols for the surrounding area."

Throughout the public launch, P2E worked with St. Tammany Corporation, the lead economic development organization for the parish, to validate and provide facts and information about the proposed project to the community.

"I am pleased to see the continued commitment from Peninsula Pacific Entertainment in this proposed economic development project for St. Tammany Parish," said Parish President Mike Cooper. "P2E has proposed 1,700 new jobs along with providing services addressing mental health, homelessness, and

programs for our youth and seniors, as well as supporting our local municipalities and law enforcement agencies. With a call for an election by the Parish Council, the voters of St. Tammany will decide the future of the proposed entertainment and gaming resort in Slidell."

Key economic projections of the proposal include:

- Specific Location: Southeast of Slidell City limits along Lake Pontchartrain
- Investment: Approximately \$325 Million Dollars

## Operational Commitments:

- o 5% guaranteed Minority and Veteran hires
- 50% guaranteed St. Tammany resident hires
- 5% of the monetary value of materials and equipment from minority or veteran owned vendors during construction and operations
- 20% of the monetary value of materials and equipment from St. Tammany Parish qualified vendors
- o 5% minority and veteran owned subcontractors during construction
- 30% St. Tammany Parish qualified subcontractors during construction

## • Economic Impact:

- 5% Gaming Revenue Share (Highest Negotiated Rate in Louisiana History)
- \$35 Million of Total Tax Dollars to Parish/City Government in First Five Years
- Nearly \$200 Million of Total Tax Dollars to State Government in First Five Years

## Jobs Impact:

- Nearly 1,700 jobs during construction
- Nearly 1,000 direct jobs during operations
- Prioritization of local parish businesses for vendor selection
- Ongoing local business partnerships during operations

Among the company's Louisiana successes was P2E's 2003 construction and opening of Evangeline Downs Racetrack and Casino in Opelousas. The site has developed into a significant economic boon for Opelousas and St. Landry Parish as a whole.

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**About Peninsula Pacific:** Peninsula Pacific Entertainment (P2E) operates premium gaming venues that focus on outstanding service and exceptional quality. Founded in 1999 by Brent Stevens, the company combines more than 20 years in the industry with its high-level managerial experience and investment expertise to pursue new development opportunities nationwide. Our goal is to invest in communities

where we can build long-term sustainability, as well as economic development opportunities. We also focus on providing tactical and strategical solutions to add value to the communities where we operate. This includes providing exceptional guest service and demonstrating a commitment to team member work-life balance. Using this framework, the P2E team has partnered with communities to create value across the United States. We want to work where we are a good fit, and the community, itself, wants us there. We are investing in communities and providing benefits that go well beyond what occurs within the walls of our properties. Our gaming portfolio includes properties across five states, lowa, Louisiana, Kansas, New York, and Virginia. Over our 25-year history we have completed 12 "greenfield" developments. To learn more about Peninsula Pacific Entertainment, please visit p2e.com. For more information on the public communications effort, please visit northshoreconversations.com.

**About St. Tammany Corporation:** St. Tammany Corporation is the economic development organization for St. Tammany. Our vision is to strategically align the economic landscape in St. Tammany to be the destination of choice for highly skilled talent, business formation, attraction, expansion, and retention. To support this vision, St. Tammany Corporation provides business and technical assistance in a variety of areas including financial and incentive services, site selection assistance, business intelligence and market research, marketing and communications, and workforce development. Since July 2018, St. Tammany Corporation has helped to directly facilitate multiple major expansions of existing businesses, representing over \$48 million in capital investment and the creation of approximately 374 new jobs.