



For Immediate Release

Construction Approved for Temporary Grand Island Casino

(Grand Island, NE) – Fonner Park’s plans for a racing facility remodel that will house the temporary Grand Island Casino was approved by the Nebraska Racing & Gaming Commission.

Construction of the [temporary Grand Island Casino](#) begins immediately in the concourse area of [Fonner Park](#). It will offer 300 slot machines, kiosks for horse betting, simulcasting, a small area with a snack bar, and Elite Casino’s Resort Club. Table games including blackjack, craps and roulette will be added in 2023.

“It’s great to have the Commission’s approval to get started on the temporary casino adding a great gaming experience to Grand Island,” said Vince Fiala, General Manager for Grand Island Casino Resort. “We look forward to being a part of the racing and gaming industry of Nebraska.”

“I am delighted that the Nebraska Racing & Gaming Commission voted unanimously to approve the temporary casino construction plans,” said Chris Kotulak CEO of Fonner Park. “This is a big win for Nebraska Thoroughbreds, the Thoroughbred horsemen and the Nebraska Agriculture industry. Revenue from casino operations can benefit Nebraskans in so many ways and we are now one stride closer to that reality.”

The temporary casino is projected to open in the coming months pending Nebraska Racing & Gaming Commission approval and will remain in operation until the full resort opens.

The full resort will offer 650 slot machines, multiple table games, sportsbook, 116-room hotel, several dining options including Ruthie’s Steak & Seafood and Draft Day Sports Lounge, luxury spa, indoor and outdoor pool, and a show lounge.

A career fair is scheduled for October 26-28 with information available on the Grand Island Casino Resort website.

Follow Grand Island Casino Resort on social media or the [website](#) for current project and employment information.

About Elite Casino Resorts

[Elite Casino Resorts](#) is a leading regional gaming operator in the Midwest and a privately owned U.S. company known for operating premier casino resort destinations, first-class guest service and amenities, great entertainment, exceptional food, and giving back to its communities. Elite Casino Resorts operates three casino resorts in Iowa including [Riverside Casino & Golf Resort](#)[®], located just south of Iowa City, IA; [Rhythm City Casino Resort](#)[®] located in the Quad Cities Davenport, IA; and [Grand Falls Casino & Golf Resort](#)[®] located in Larchwood, IA just minutes from Sioux Falls, SD. Elite is developing two new resorts: [Walker's Bluff Casino Resort](#) in Carterville, Illinois and [Grand Island Casino Resort](#) in Grand Island, Nebraska. Elite Casino Resorts, LLC also operates [ELITE Sportsbook](#) with retail and online operations in Iowa and Colorado.

About Fonner Park

Fonner Park is a 501(c)(4) organization that has been in operation since 1954. The primary function is to conduct Thoroughbred horseracing with an annual season that begins in February and concludes on Kentucky Derby Day. The 240-acre facility is also home to the 6,000-seat Heartland Events Center, Fonner Keno, The Hall County Fair and the Nebraska State Fair. The vast facility hosts several national livestock and trade shows and is home the Nebraska 4-H Horse Show.

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