

VIDEO GAMING

Illinois Video Gaming Stats for neighboring communities are as follows:

	1 year 6/2016-6/2017 Locations/Machines Municipality Share	5 years 6/2012-6/2017 Locations/Machines Municipality Share
Antioch	16/73 \$190,000	20/88 \$556,000
Fox Lake	27/128 \$329,000	30/143 \$1,064,000
Lake Villa	11/49 \$132,000	13/59 \$295,000
Lindenhurst	3/13 \$34,000	3/13 \$79,000
Round Lake Beach	10/46 \$141,000	10/46 \$243,000
Round Lake Heights	3/15 \$88,000	3/15 \$216,000
Round Lake Park	5/23 \$52,000	5/23 \$156,000
Third Lake	2/17 \$16,000	2/17 \$30,000

Revenue Split: 5% Municipality, 25% State, 35% Establishment, 35% Operator

1. What's the good and bad news regarding video gambling.

I could not find anything specific good or bad, of the Mayors I spoke to, none had any negative or crime related issues to video gambling in their establishments.

2. What communities have them and what has their experience been?

Antioch: Their concept behind gaming was to help the local establishments gain business, which it did. The negative side, there are numerous requests for licenses for gaming parlors, which at the present time, is impacting them negatively because there is no control over that portion. We should be prepared to respond to those requests.

Fox Lake: To date, there have been no negative experiences. We were concerned about petty theft increasing, but have not seen any appreciable increases.

Lake Villa: Very positive, no negative issues

Lindenhurst: Had one establishment close. Put together some guidelines. They do not want video game cafes - we're only interested in bars and restaurants where the majority of their income does not come from the video games. We look at a potential business's floor plan to ensure the majority of space is dedicated to bar and dining tables and not for the video gaming area.

RLHeights: all positive, no pushback from residents, extra income for the businesses

RL Park: Feel the gaming machines have actually saved our businesses from closing. For example, the American Legion was considering closing their doors. Once the gaming machines went in they were able to remodel their back room which has increased their rentals. Several of our bars have remodeled their establishments with the money they have taken in which has increased their business. Currently not considering gaming parlor's/cafes.

(Round Lake Beach and Third Lake did not respond to my request)

3. I would want to involve the community in the decision. How did other towns do that?

Fox Lake: It was discussed in two open meetings. They didn't want to put their businesses at a disadvantage, when there was gaming in towns that bordered them. The Police Chief was opposed. The Board voted to allow the gaming on a trial basis. If there were problems, they would have reconsidered allowing the gaming. Have received over 100 requests for liquor licenses. The requests have come from out of state, laundromats, nail salons, beauty shops, a car radio installer and even a car detail shop. They all have different ideas, but the reality is that they want the gaming. They not issued any new liquor licenses, in order to protect their existing businesses

Lindenhurst: discussed at a Board meeting and invited public comment. A few residents didn't want us to have any video games, but most were indifferent

4. This can be viewed as a moral issue. If the Board wants to permit gambling how do we "sell" it to the residents?

It has brought no negative issues to the surrounding communities that permit gambling. In fact, it has helped if not saved some business from closing by allowing them to incorporate gambling in their facility, in some cases it pays their rent and has allowed for them to make improvements in their establishment. It will allow for more revenue to be generated for our community, instead of our residents and others going to neighboring communities and generating revenue for to them instead of Hainesville.