

For Immediate Release

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\$650 Million Palmer Water Park Resort-Spa and Sports Complex Announced

*World Class Destination at Palmer Turnpike Exit
Would Employ 2,000, Draw Visitors from Eastern Seaboard*

Palmer— A proposed \$650 million Water Park Resort-Spa and Sports Complex, featuring a massive year-round whitewater tubing river park, is being planned on 250 acres of land near the Palmer exit of the Massachusetts Turnpike. The complex featuring indoor/outdoor sports facilities, a resort hotel, and two indoor waterparks will draw individuals, teams, tournaments, exhibitions, entertainment, and athletes from the U.S. and around the world.

[[Click here](#) to view drone footage of the location of the proposed \$650 million Palmer Water Park Resort-Spa and Sports Complex. Attached is a rendering of the proposed complex.]

It was also announced that a world leading project development and construction group, Skanska USA — <https://www.usa.skanska.com/> — has joined as project manager. The company built Gillette Stadium, home of the New England Patriots, and has a global footprint. In the United States, Skanska operates within the commercial property, construction and public-private partnership arenas.

The project development team has also been announced. The Palmer Sports Group consists of Winthrop “Trip” Knox, who has been involved in the design and construction of more than 3,000 water-related facilities for water parks, resorts and deluxe hotels, including many of the water features at destination resorts in Orlando, Florida. Knox has also received recognition for designing the Luge Run and the Bobsled Run for the 1980 Winter Olympics held in Lake Placid, New York.

Also of the Palmer Sports Group, Michael J. D’Amato, managed the construction of the later phases of the Foxwoods Resort Casino development including the Grand Pequot Tower. A native of Connecticut, D’Amato also worked on the construction of Connecticut’s tallest building, City Place in Hartford, and oversaw many large-scale projects including the Phoenix Mutual Corporate Headquarters and Stamford Harbor Park.

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Palmer Water Park Resort-Spa and Sports Complex

According to Knox, “This destination water park, sports resort and spa will draw visitors from throughout the northeast. The strategic location of the resort near the confluence of the Massachusetts Turnpike and close in proximity Routes 84 and 91 will make it a convenient destination offering sports recreation to meet a growing demand for this kind of recreation.”

“We will be working diligently with the Town of Palmer and other leaders in the region to bring this game-changing project for Palmer and the Quaboag Valley to fruition. With the recent opening of the MGM Springfield casino, this represents a synergistic project that will draw even more visitors to the Valley, making Palmer the true gateway to all of Western Massachusetts,” D’Amato said.

In addition to the spa and outdoor action river ride, the sports resort complex will include an indoor hockey and basketball facility, an indoor sports bubble, a baseball complex, soccer and mixed-use fields, beach volleyball courts, restaurants and on-site townhomes on the property, all easily accessible off of the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Developers expect the one-of-a-kind resort to draw from a 300-mile radius, providing a destination resort for millions of potential visitors on the east coast.