

CHARLES RIVER

REGIONAL CHAMBER

Andrea Kelley, Chair Land Use Committee
Newton City Council
1000 Commonwealth Ave,
Newton Centre, MA 02459

July 7, 2025

Dear Chair Kelley,


The Charles River Chamber supports Echo Bridge Restaurant's request for a special permit to add Keno screens.

Echo Bridge Restaurant is a longstanding family-run establishment, and this modest addition could help draw more customers and provide a much-needed revenue boost. Like many small, independently owned restaurants, they continue to face persistent challenges post-pandemic. While inflation and workforce shortages persist, tariffs and broader economic uncertainty have exacerbated their situations. In response, some restaurants are turning to creative solutions to remain viable and stabilize their revenue.

This request reflects that reality. Echobridge has pursued this opportunity for several years and has only now been granted state approvals.

By granting this application, the council will acknowledge the challenging economic conditions facing our restaurants and reaffirm its commitment to supporting locally owned establishments.

Sincerely,



Greg Reibman
President & CEO
Charles River Chamber
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