

# What will come of the Grand Island land now owned by Seneca Nation?

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GRAND ISLAND, N.Y. ([WIVB](#)) — The Seneca Nation is set to take over a huge piece of land on Grand Island. Now, the question turns to, what's next?

The U.S. Department of the Interior gave the green light to the Seneca Nation to take over 207 acres of land located just off I-190 between Long and Bedell Roads. The nation was [notified the land will be placed in restricted fee status](#).

“It’s a great piece of land and a great location with a lot of potential,” said Seneca Nation of Indians President J.C. Seneca. “It’s a big move forward. Certainly, we’re so grateful to the Huntress’ for offering this land to us.”

The approval comes after Seneca leaders initially purchased the land in December 2025 for just one dollar.

One thing J.C. Seneca said not to expect on the land is a casino.

“It would be foolish to do another gaming facility,” said Seneca. “We’ve always talked about diversification. That’s what I’m about, trying to do things that are thinking outside the box.”

An idea that is floating around is a sports entertainment center or something directly connected to lacrosse.

“It’s not just a game; it’s a way of life for us. It has a lot of meaning,” said Seneca. “We call it the creators game. People may think it’s just a game that’s played but there’s a lot more to it. It’s all about bringing communities together, bringing people together, and working together.”

While nothing is set in stone, Seneca said he wants this to be a collaborative effort with the town and Grand Island leaders.

“As soon as I was elected president, we started engaging our people in regard to the different issues that were going on, our territory, bringing people together, brining ideas together,” said Seneca. “I think people have all different perspectives and may not be thinking of something that somebody else is.”

Seneca said he’s hopeful they will have an answer as to what will be developed on the land in the next six months.