

RAINDROP:

The natural choice for improving near vision

ew Raindrop Vision Treatment for people who need reading glasses now available

What is Presbyopia?

Presbyopia is Greek for "aging eye"

It is the name of the condition that affects everyone's eyesight at some point after age 40. People find themselves constantly repositioning reading material to find the right focus.

Anyone - yes, everyone - will eventually develop presbyopia. It affects most people by the age of 40 and everyone by age of 51, making it difficult to read, do hobby work or even see the time on a watch without aid of reading glasses.



The LASIK procedure alone cannot correct the symptoms of presbyopia. LASIK corrects the outer curvature of the eye (cornea) to address near- and far-sightedness, but presbyopia is a condition of the lens. Raindrop can be performed in combination with LASIK to restore youthful vision and free you of the need for reading glasses.

The solution is Raindrop

Raindrop is a safe, painless and permanent way to rid yourself of reading glasses. The tiny inlay, about the size of a pinhead, can be applied during a LASIK procedure or in 10 minutes by itself.

Raindrop is the world's first permanent treatment for presbyopia. In fact, it is composed of approximately 80 percent water and placed just beneath the corneal surface of 1 eye in a 10-minute procedure.

ACTUAL SIZE OF RAINDROP
NEAR VISION INLAY

2 mm diameter, 3 times thinner
than this page

Is the Raindrop Procedure painful?

The majority of Raindrop patients indicate there is little or no discomfort during or following the treatment.

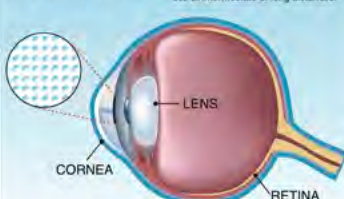
How long after the treatment will I be able to return to work and my normal functions?

Typically, patients return to their normal activities the day after their procedure.

The Raindrop Procedure

Raindrop is made of a soft, biocompatible material called hydrogel, which has similar properties and water content as the cornea, the clear part of the front of the eye.

Raindrop works by gently changing the central curvature of the eye. Only one Raindrop is needed and it is usually placed on the dominant eye. It does not interfere with the ability to see at intermediate or long distances.

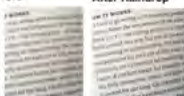


It simply makes everything that is close easier to see. Raindrop is:

- As transparent as natural tears, so there are zero cosmetic issues
- Well suited for low light, offering optimal performance
- 80 percent water - in place on the cornea.
- Raindrop resembles a tiny water droplet
- Bioengineered to facilitate the transport of nutrients and fluid to the eye
- Incredibly small - less than half the thickness of a human hair

Why 100% satisfaction

Before After Raindrop



Most people who try the Raindrop Near Vision Inlay see better almost immediately - patient satisfaction rates are near 100 percent. For those in their 40s or beyond who are suffering from an inability to see close-up, there's nothing to lose, except your reading glasses.

Source: REVISION OPTICS

NJ'S KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



INFRASTRUCTURE

Needed: Invest in transportation projects with the highest merit.

Being done: Governor proposed additional \$240M for NJ Transit, bringing total to \$1.9B.



SEA LEVEL RISE

Needed: Create a plan for coast on where to harden infrastructure and where to move inland.

Being done: Groups are studying parts of problems. No vision for a comprehensive plan has emerged.



WATER POLLUTION

Needed: Roll back weakening of the state's water protection rules by Gov. Chris Christie.

Being done: No action taken yet on groundwater standards. Flood Hazard Act and freshwater wetlands rules and more.



AIR POLLUTION

Needed: Address poor air quality. The American Lung Association gave it F to 11 of 21 counties.

Being done: State developing an energy master plan with a path to 100 percent clean energy by 2050.



CLIMATE CHANGE

Needed: Take climate change into account in all state planning and environmental regulation.

Being done: DEP is starting to update the state master plan, untouched since 1983. Will include sea level rise and climate change.



FOSSIL FUELS

Needed: Move away from fossil fuel use to cut carbon emissions.

Being done: Law signed for taxpayer support of offshore wind farms, more solar development.



OVERDEVELOPMENT

Needed: Abundance of habitat to help struggling species and keep common species healthy.

Being done: N.J. has strong open-space, farmland preservation and land conservation programs.



LOSS OF FUND

Needed: Stop raising environmental settlement funds for general spending.

Being done: Voters passed constitutional amendment to do such, but some funds pre-date the vote.



DEEP UNDERFINANCING

Needed: Increase budget to hire more staff.

Being done: Budget cut about 14 percent, but staffing has increased.



TOXICS

Needed: Public access to data about chemicals released, as required by federal, state laws.

Being done: Environmental groups have asked the state to make reports available.

THE HEAT IS ON!

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Betting on Atlantic City

The city's casino market is shrinking and the resort needs to make some bold moves.

IDEA: Theme park/water park

PROS: A water park or theme park would attract more families to the resort. An indoor park would attract them year-round.

CONS: The region already has a number of water parks along the shore — which, unlike inland water parks, already have competition from the beach. But, said Dennis Spiegel, president of Theme Park Associates, The Meadowlands American Dream project in Bergen County also includes the idea of a large water park and wave pool. Building a standalone water park from scratch can cost \$30 million to \$50 million, raising the issue of whether government-backed incentives would be necessary.

A theme park, meanwhile, would cost "north of \$50 million," Spiegel said, and would compete in the market with Six Flags Great Escape, which is less than 70 miles away. Smaller theme parks have been built inside casinos, including Tropicana's Tropicana Islands in the 1990s. "I test one of the parks along the shore — which, unlike inland water parks, already have competition from the beach. But, said Dennis Spiegel, president of Theme Park Associates, The Meadowlands American Dream project in Bergen County also includes the idea of a large water park and wave pool. Building a standalone water park from scratch can cost \$30 million to \$50 million, raising the issue of whether government-backed incentives would be necessary."

And, as Spiegel added, "People who come into the area for a theme park or water park usually spend the entire day there and don't really go gambling."

MAKING IT HAPPEN: "There's a real risk associated with doing that in that market," Spiegel said. The best option, he said, would be a smaller one.

See Park, A7

IDEA: Sports betting

PROS: Legal sports wagers are allowed in only four states, including Nevada, which saw \$202.8 million in bets in 2013. If sports betting were legal in New Jersey, the resort's casinos could tap into the market of interested gamblers.

Advocates such as state Sen. Ray Lesinski, D-Union, said sports betting would attract Atlantic City tourists during off-peak times for the world Series, Super Bowl and NCAA basketball championships. This would augment casinos' bottom lines beyond the summer, potentially bringing in millions of dollars of untapped revenue.

CONS: State politicians funded early Atlantic City's best chance to take sports betting in 1993 by helping to set up a special carve-out in federal legislation. The state has also unsuccessfully tried to legalize the game.

Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992, which would open sports book to all 50 states. Gov. Chris Christie vetoed lawmakers' most recent attempt, which was for the state to take a hands-off approach — neither formally authorizing nor banning sports wagering — and force a showdown with federal officials when a track or casino started taking bets. An override is unlikely, and Christie's term runs until January 2018.

That proposal would split sports book revenue between casinos and horse tracks, which have indicated greater willingness from the casino. Monmouth Park, for instance, offers card holders a VIP day at the races if they pick the winner of 10

See Sports, A7

IDEA: Skill-based gaming

PROS: The one-armed bandit has gone stale. Slot machines, those random games of chance that have long been the bread and butter of the Atlantic City casino industry, are losing appeal fast, particularly among young people, analysts say. Meanwhile, skill-based games — think Halo, Angry Birds and Candy Crush Saga — are astronomically popular. But you can't bet on them in casinos. Why not?

"It's partly just tradition," said J. Nathan Roke, a law professor who specializes in gaming matters. Casino has historically favored games of chance, not skill, he said.

Nevada, recognizing the inevitable rise of this new breed of casino play, and the massive vacuum in the market, is set to consider a proposal in 2015 to change state law and open the door to skill-based gaming.

But New Jersey can act now. State law already allows for skill-based betting in casinos, regulation says. The Division of Gaming Enforcement, known for working quickly to vet new machines and get them on the casino floor within weeks, is "eager to regulate skill-based game submissions for review," Director David Rabuck said.

CONS: Licensing intellectual property from game makers would be pricey. And the profit margin on skill-based betting could be lower than on traditional slot machine gambling.

MAKING IT HAPPEN: For the idea to proceed, an existing casino could create a skill-based gaming room. The property could offer a variety of products, including

See Skill, A7

IDEA: RV park

PROS: The RV industry collapsed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, but it has nearly doubled since then, says the Recreational Vehicle Association of America saying 521,100 units were sold last year. A 2011 University of Michigan study said 8.9 million households own an RV.

RV owners on average are 48 years old and married, with an annual income of \$42,000 — almost 25 percent higher than the 2011 average national household income. Another study by Indiana University, South Bend, found the baby boom generation is a key demographic for RVs, mirroring the casino demographic. By age 50, people tend to have more money to spend on recreational activities because of lessening family obligations, more sustained income and fewer required expenses.

CONS: An array of smaller parks for recreational vehicles dot the Peninsula, but Atlantic City lacks a facility that can handle them. For RV owners to find another way into the resort.

Finding a space for such a facility in town would be an issue. A well-designed campground should have about 200 spaces spread out over at least four lots of 100 to 120 lots, according to the campground owners handbook "Planning Parks for People." Parks typically need at least 125 spaces to break even.

Furthermore, Charles Hammarley, Northern Arizona University's parks and recreation management program coordinator, said the more upscale RVs clearly attract more money than the average ones. "You have to invest everything they need, including

See RV, A7

The AGENCIES that run ATLANTIC CITY

Atlantic City's casino and tourism industries are controlled by an alphabet soup of agencies and organizations. They form the public-private partnership created by Gov. Chris Christie in 2011 to revitalize the city's splintered economy.

CRDA: Formed in 1964, the state Casino Reinvestment Development Authority collects a 1.25 percent tax on gross casino revenue to finance a variety of housing, economic development and revitalization projects. In 2011, it took control of planning and zoning in Atlantic City's new Tourism District, including the casino zones, the boardwalk and the beaches.

DGE: The Division of Gaming Enforcement took on the role of the casino industry's chief regulatory agency in 2011. Christie placed the DGE in charge of the industry's day-to-day operations while enforcing changes that transformed New Jersey's gaming regulations into a less stringent, Las Vegas-style regulatory structure.

ACA: The state Casino Control Commission went through a dramatic downsizing in the 2011 deregulation of the gambling industry. The commission, once the state's primary casino regulatory agency, saw much of its power transferred to the Division of Gaming Enforcement. In 2011, its staff was slashed from nearly 200 employees to about 60 as the state ended the requirement for state gaming inspectors to be on the casino floor on a 24-hour basis.

The South Jersey Transportation

Created by the state in 1991, the control of Atlantic City International Airport and the Atlantic City Expressway was a key part of the deal that resulted in a dispersed transportation network. The plan was to transform the underserved airport into a "world-class facility," but Atlantic City International still struggles with limited airline service. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airports, was brought in last year to develop more air service. It persuaded United Airlines to start daily flights from its Chicago and Houston hubs in April, but airport supporters are eagerly awaiting even more air service.

IDEA: Retirement community

PROS: Thousands of Americans in their 50s and 60s retire every day. In that group, "there is a very definite, growing group" looking to live in an urban environment, said John Mullen, a senior fellow at the Urban Land Institute who's written extensively about housing and baby boomers.

Atlantic City has several things going for it when it comes to attracting city-seeking, recent retirees, he said. It's more affordable than Philadelphia and New York City, but still within easy reach of both cities. Plus, "you have the amenities of being on the coast."

The city should be pitched as offering "an affordable lifestyle that presents a real urban community," he said.

Baby boomers are "not just going to be sitting looking on the front porch or going to the park feeding the pigeons. They want to be doing stuff," he said.

CONS: New Jersey has some of the most burdensome taxes in the nation. That could be off-putting to baby boomers, particularly those living on fixed incomes.

See Retire, A7

Press photo by Dale Gehard

What YOU think

Here's what just a few of our readers said Atlantic City needs to reinvent itself. Join the conversation and present your own ideas at PressofAC.com/ReinventAC.

Pat DiPietro, Berkeley Heights

Sports betting, clean up Boardwalk, free parking, Steve Wynn take over Boardwalk, maybe a water park.

Glen Klotz, Atlantic City

Clean up Pacific Avenue and get rid of the nude bars, gold shops, hoodlums, drug dealers and decaying buildings. Fix the street top and make it a one-way street going into town. The jetties can run in on Pacific Avenue and out on Atlantic Avenue. This part of A.C. is a terrible eyesore. At least one of the failed casino should become a first-class medical museum. Another should become part of Blockland and a third could be the world's first Restaurant and Food museum and conference center. Tear down Revel though and turn from Boardwalk to the hotel into a huge seaside public park with parking, move the Boardwalk back 1,000 ft. to the pier and incorporate the Lighthouse park as part of it. Showboat could be the National Museum and the park. Add a water park to this and you have a wonderful new

attraction unlike any other on the Jersey shore. Make it FREE with FREE parking and they will come in droves.

David Weathers, Woodbridge

Make a far better first impression. Fix the entrance into Atlantic City (with their) rundown motels, empty theaters and abandoned buildings. If you fly into McCarran airport in Las Vegas, you are arriving in a world-class airport.

Tom Farkin, Atlantic City

The state MUST raise the luxury tax, room tax and parking tax to the city and earmark that revenue stream to pay for public safety in the Tourism District. 53% of the city's budget is paid safely, and once that is done then property taxes will be lowered. The powers that be must also get their heads around the fact that gaming is not an industry in and of itself but rather an amenity to the real industry at the shore: tourism.

Vic Agayian, Brigantine

Promote the area as a "luxury" paradise. Connect all the shore

other" base lines from Brigantine to Longport to families can safely and healthily sample all of the area's offerings, hold races year-round — high-gro, amateur, pro (cyclists are among the most passionate riders worth attracting).

John Boyle, Edgewater Park

Follow Wildwood's lead by embracing the old Atlantic City, rehabilitating the historic hotels to their original look and feel (like Disney World's Boardwalk Resort). Use form-based zoning to redevelop the nearby vacant land, requiring that any new development look like it is part of a seaside resort.

Jack Chesler, Toms River

It's time for a Miss America Pavilion to display pigment history and memorabilia, including videos, for the public. Similar to the Museum of Modern Art in Philly, it could be a stand-alone building or a new attraction inside a struggling casino.

Robert Boyce

What would happen if we started with little cultural hubs on

IDEA: Four-year college

PROS: The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey had expressed interest in using a casino property. When Stockton State College opened in 1971, it was at the Mayflower Hotel on the city's Boardwalk.

"It's a lot of opportunity for the arts, for employment, for business incubation to happen and the diversification of the local economy in a way that isn't quite as apparent," said David Bagnol, a Washington, D.C.-based design architect and planner who works with colleges and towns and lectures on the subject.

Universities can be economic anchors. New people within the community and serve as incubators for private/public partnerships, said Beth Bagwell, executive director of the International Town & Gown Association.

CONS: First is a college's willingness to expand and buy property. Then there are other issues. And there is no guarantee any will incorporate a college into a city, Bagnol said.

"You have to approach it with an open dialogue in mind. I will never be smooth," he said.

Questions should center on what the impact of student life on the community will be, where they will live and where they will spend their recreation time, Bagnol said.

In general, if students are living off campus, it can impact the availability of affordable housing in the community, he said.

MAKING IT HAPPEN: "I think Stockton can be a major part of an Atlantic City strategy, but Stockton has to have the demand," said Paul Shelly, director of op-

See College, A7

IDEA: Urban homesteading

PROS: Homesteading, in which a city gives away or provides incentives to people willing to invest in a property, has been tried before in many cities, including Philadelphia and Baltimore in the 1990s and 70s, said David Lutzkin, professor at the Rutgers University-Burlington School of Planning and Public Policy. "Cities continue to do those strategies. It just sort of really fell off the radar ... it has been done, and it has been a mixed success."

A proposal mentioned by Mayor Don Guardian would partner with the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority to give away plots of 2,500 square feet or less to anyone willing to build a home and live there as a primary residence for 10 years.

For "forgotten" lots, "you'd much rather have people living there, investing and developing it, than just an empty lot where it may or may not be maintained," he said.

CONS: Earlier urban homesteading plans mostly dealt with abandoned buildings, not the built, empty lots of parts of Atlantic City. Those able to accept the deal would have to then build there.

"You've got to have somebody with the resources to deal with contractors, etc., and that's not everyone," Lutzkin said.

Stephen Marmen, director of economic services at the National Association of Homebuilders, said builders themselves may be able to take advantage. "People who want to put something together themselves, usually a contractor or a single family

See Homes, A7

IDEA: More conventions

PROS: Conventions draw people. Potentially lots of people from out of town. And they can be lucrative for a region.

Apart from convention fees, attendees and families reserve hotel rooms, buy meals at restaurants, have bar tabs and do retail shopping, said Burt Banks, lecturer in the Department of Tourism, Conventions and Event Management at Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis.

CONS: Conventions are a very competitive market and have become more so in the United States in the past decade. More states and towns built or expanded their convention space with the lure of economic development, said Haywood Sanders, a professor at University of Texas, San Antonio, and author of the book "Convention Center Follies."

The result: In 13 years, convention hotel exhibit space in the United States grew nearly 37 percent, he said. Demand has not kept pace, and attendance at major conventions and trade shows was not significantly changed during that period, he said.

This region may become more competitive as other gaming towns, including Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, home of Sands Casino Resort, eye convention centers, he said.

"It's the same thing. It's a lot of olive looking for the silver bullet that will somehow fix everything about the local economy," he said.

See Cons, A7

IDEA: Museum

PROS: Successful casinos in Las Vegas have capitalized on their history — creating a Mob Museum in a former courthouse that was once the venue for mob-court hearings in the 1950s and 1960s and 70s, said David Lutzkin, professor at the Rutgers University-Burlington School of Planning and Public Policy. "Cities continue to do those strategies. It just sort of really fell off the radar ... it has been done, and it has been a mixed success."

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See Homes, A7

See Museums, A7

Greetings ATLANTIC CITY NEW JERSEY