



City of Methuen

Office of the Mayor

41 Pleasant Street, Suite 306 • Methuen, Massachusetts 01844
TELEPHONE (978) 983-8505 • FAX (978) 983-8973

William M. Manzi, III
Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 22, 2010

CONTACT:
Matt Kraunelis
978-983-8505

METHUEN CITY WEBSITE WINS COMMON CAUSE AWARD WITH DISTINCTION *City's Informative Website Honored for Fourth Consecutive Year*

The Massachusetts Campaign for Open Government (www.commoncause.org), a project of the non-partisan group Common Cause, has long championed the cause of increased internet access to important governance public records. As part of this initiative, the group annually examines the internet presence of all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts to learn whether they post essential information in six major categories.

On March 16, 2010, Common Cause recognized the Official Website of the City of Methuen, www.cityofmethuen.net, with its Award with Distinction, the fourth consecutive year that Methuen has received this recognition.

In order to receive this special honor, communities must post several key civic records including the governing body's agenda and minutes, budget information, general by-laws, archived governing board agenda and minutes, zoning by-laws, school committee agendas and minutes, agendas and minutes for an additional board or committee, and a calendar with all public meetings.

On Tuesday, March 16th, Common Cause Massachusetts held its annual e-Government Awards in the Nurses' Hall in the State House. The group extended its congratulations to Methuen for its work in informing citizens and in maintaining an up-to-date website. Methuen has been recognized as a Common Cause "Superstar" community.

The City of Methuen website now features live and on-demand webcasts of City Council, Community Development Board, School Committee, Zoning Board and Historic District Commission meetings. In addition, www.cityofmethuen.net offers an audio listen link on all key pages to increase site accessibility. All of these current and future options have been implemented in-house by the City of Methuen Information Technology Department with no outsourcing, and are designed to increase access to local government in a convenient and user-friendly manner.

Citizens are encouraged to visit the award-winning www.cityofmethuen.net to take advantage of these exciting additions. For more information, contact the Mayor's Office at 978-983-8505.

###