

# City and Town

Arny Pitter, Commissioner • Robert G. Nunes, Deputy Commissioner & Director of Municipal Affairs



A Publication of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services

## **Community Innovation Challenge Grant Awardees Announced Tomorrow** Executive Office of Administration and Finance

Please join Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray and Administration and Finance Secretary Jay Gonzalez tomorrow, March 16th, for an event at the State House in Boston to announce the recipients of the 2012 Community Innovation Challenge Grants. The event will occur at 12:30PM in the Great Hall.

In the Fiscal Year 2012 budget, Governor Patrick proposed, and the Legislature supported, a \$4 million grant program to encourage and incentivize regionalization based upon the belief that the most crucial and visible interactions between government and citizen occur locally. One hundred applications were received, spanning Massachusetts from the town of Savoy to the city of Boston and totalling over \$20 million with requests ranging from \$2,000 to \$500,000. Of the 100 applications, 64 were for regionalization initiatives and 34 were for individual community internal efficiencies. These proposals address many local government services and functions, including initiatives to improve municipal performance management, modernize technology to coordinate and streamline service delivery, upgrade energy efficiencies, consolidate regional schools, enhance regional service delivery, tackle regional approaches to environmental challenges, create group purchasing to leverage buying power, consolidate back-end operations and establish private-public partnerships.

We hope you will be able to join us. For directions to the State House, please click [here](#).

## **DLS Announces Dates for New Officials Finance Forum and What's New in Municipal Law**

### **New Officials Finance Forum**

The Department of Revenue's New Officials Finance Forum will be held on Tuesday, May 29th at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. This course is intended for recently elected or appointed local municipal finance officials. Further information on this training opportunity can be found [here](#). The Bulletin including instructions on how to register will be issued within the next few weeks.

### **What's New in Municipal Law**

The Division of Local Services Legal Staff offers its "Recent Developments in Municipal Law" seminars for local officials every fall. Presentations include new legislation and recent court decisions pertaining to local government. This year's seminars will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at The Log Cabin Banquet & Meeting House in Holyoke and Friday, October 5, 2012 at The Lantana in Randolph. Registration information will be posted [here](#) in mid-summer.

Any specific inquiries regarding this training opportunity should be directed to Training Coordinator Donna Quinn at 617-626-3838.

## March and April Municipal Calendars

### **March 1: DOR/MDM-TAB Notification of Cherry Sheet Estimates for the Following Year (pending action taken by the Legislature)**

The Cherry Sheet is an estimate of: 1) Receipts — local reimbursement and assistance programs as authorized by law and appropriated by the General Court; and 2) Assessments — state and county assessments and charges to local governments. All amounts listed on the Cherry Sheet are estimates. Actual receipts and charges are determined based on detailed formulas or guidelines for each program. Cherry Sheets are posted on the DLS website and updated at each juncture of the state budget process.

### **March 1: Personal Property Owner Submit Form of List**

This is a listing of all personal property filed by the owner with the Assessors each year for the purpose of determining taxes in the next fiscal year.

### **March 1: Non-Profit Organization Final Filing Date for 3-ABC Forms**

These must be filed on or before March 1 (this deadline may be extended by the Assessors). In no event may the extension granted be later than 30 days after the tax bill is mailed.

### **March 1: DOR/BLA Filing Deadline for Telecommunications Forms of List**

### **March 31: State Treasurer Notification of Quarterly Local Aid Payment on or Before March 31**

## **APRIL**

### **April 1: Collector**

Mail 2nd Half Semi-Annual Tax Bills. In communities using a regular semi-annual payment system, the 2nd half actual tax bill, or the actual tax if an optional preliminary bill was issued, should be mailed by this date.

### **April 1: Taxpayer**

Deadline for Payment of Semi-Annual Bill Without Interest. According to M.G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 57C, this is the deadline for receipt of the actual tax payment in communities using the annual preliminary tax billing system on a semi-annual basis, unless the bills were mailed after December 31. If mailed after December 31, payment is due May 1, or 30 days after the bills were mailed, whichever is later.

**City & Town** is published by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services (DLS) and is designed to address matters of interest to local officials.

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