

\*\*\*\*\* **NEWS ALERT** \*\*\*\*\*

WHAT: Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce honors the Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association with the Small Business Recognition Award for Business Assistance

WHEN: Friday, June 4, 2010

WHO: Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association.

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## **The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Recognizes the Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association as a valued small business**

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (MVCC) recognizes the importance of small business, as a major element of the region's economy. MVCC believes it is important to recognize those companies and individuals who contribute to the positive advancement of business in the Merrimack Valley.

Today, MVCC presented the Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association (TMA) with the valued small business award in the Business Assistance Category at a recognition breakfast at DiBurros's Function Hall in Haverhill, MA.

Special guest speakers at the awards breakfast: President Obama's National Small Business Administration Ombudsman, Ester Vassar; N.E. Regional Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration Jeanne Hulit; Mass. U.S. Small Business Administration Director, Robert Nelson; and Governor Patrick's Exec. Director, Mass Office of Business Development, Anne Struthers will inform us of new opportunities for small business.

"This is a wonderful honor. I am so excited that the MVCC has recognized the Merrimack Valley TMA in such a way. This award is a direct result of the leadership and guidance provided by the TMA's Board of Directors" said Andrea Leary, Merrimack Valley TMA Executive Director.

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**The Merrimack Valley TMA** is a non-profit organization of employers, property owners, developers, and municipalities who are working together to address employee transportation issues in the Merrimack Valley communities of Andover, Lawrence, North Andover, and Methuen. The Merrimack Valley TMA is part of a larger organization called MassCommute, which represents 300 companies and nearly 300,000 Massachusetts employees in Massachusetts.

### **Our objectives/goals and success**

- Work with its more than 85 member businesses to address issues such as: traffic congestion and access, road and bridge construction, support for compliance with state, federal and local regulations such as the Massachusetts Rideshare regulation, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and site plan Special Permit mitigation.
- Serve as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas that impact economic development in the greater Andover region.
- Provide strong advocacy for its members both with the state legislature and Congress for commuter-oriented legislation.
- Create personalized transportation programs for its member companies and their employees including: carpool/vanpool matching; promotional events; guaranteed ride home program; personalized commute planning; park and ride information; general transportation information; and links to public transportation (MVRTA, MBTA, and LRTA).
- Recently Merrimack Valley TMA Executive Director, Andrea Leary secured \$2 million dollars in funding for the next four years from MassDOT to be distributed amongst all 11 Massachusetts TMAs.

**You're invited to find us on both Facebook, [www.facebook.com/MVTMA](http://www.facebook.com/MVTMA) and on Twitter, <http://twitter.com/MerrimackVlyTMA>.**

### **Merrimack Valley TMA**

c/o Northeast Transit Planning & Management Corp.  
28 Brook Road, Marblehead, MA 01945  
[www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com](http://www.MerrimackValleyTMA.com)

**Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Small Business  
Award Recipients, Friday, June 4, 2010**



**On June 4, 2010, the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Recognizes the Merrimack Valley Transportation Management Association as a valued small business.**

Left Photo:

1st row from left to right (Kathy Rogers of Philips; Andrea Leary Executive Director of Merrimack Valley TMA; Holli Amenkowicz Communications Manager of Merrimack Valley TMA, Al Marone Outreach Manager of Merrimack Valley TMA)

2nd row from left to right (Kevin Lemire of Putnam Investments, Joe Bevilacqua of Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, Brian Powers of Putnam Investments, Steve Maffetone of Hewlett-Packard Corp. and Ken Pirro of Eisai Research Institute)